

# Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (from May 2012)

## **Section 1: Your details**

**EIA lead Officer:** Bill Cooper

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**Head of Section:** Mary Worrall

**Chief Officer:** Mark Smith

**Department:** Parks and Countryside

**Date:** 13/01/14

## **Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?**

Consultation Draft of the Wirral Green and Open Space Strategy 2014-2024

## **Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?**

**Yes**

**If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date**

It is anticipated that this EIA will accompany a report to Cabinet on the Green and Open Space Strategy in September 2014.

**Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website (see your Departmental Equality Group Chair for appropriate hyperlink)**

To be confirmed, once future meeting date is finalised.

**Section 3:** Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- √ **Services**
- √ **The workforce**
- √ **Communities**
- √ **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)  
Partners such as Parks Friends Groups, Environmental Groups, VCAW and NHS.

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 4:** Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council ..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- √ Advances equality of opportunity
- √ Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 5:**

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

<b>Which group(s) of people could be affected</b>	<b>Potential positive or negative impact</b>	<b>Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact</b>	<b>Lead person</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - partnership working through delivery of the Green and Open Space Strategy could result in increased opportunities with healthcare partners, including DASS and the NHS, to increase services available to people with physical or mental health conditions.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2024	Partnership working could help to increase external funding. This is subject to partner funding being sustained.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - investment in new plant and equipment will contribute to good standards of site maintenance, making parks as welcoming and safe places as possible -	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014	Funding has been secured to purchase the new

	for example through maintenance of surfacing and pruning overhanging branches.				machinery
All nine protected groups	Potential for positive and negative impacts - new performance standards, supported by the Buildings programme and Infrastructure Capital Programme will contribute to making parks as welcoming and safe places as possible, depending on what funding is available.	Ensure that the Service is adequately funded to deliver on standards.	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2024	Adequate funding of parks is required to ensure that standards are maximised.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - user surveys will improve understanding of user needs and inform service delivery.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2024	While much consultation can be achieved through the website some resources will be needed for delivering consultation events, paper questionnaires and publicity material.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - addressing key issues raised by users e.g .dog control and fouling, provision of toilets and personal safety will help encourage use of parks and countryside by protected groups.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2024	Adequate resourcing of parks is required to ensure that standards are

					maximised.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - review of communications and marketing will help communication channels be as inclusive as possible both in terms of methods and information content - for example signage, site interpretation and the website.	Take account of the needs of 'harder to reach' groups in review of communication methods.	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2014	Adequate resourcing of parks is required to ensure that standards are delivered.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact - addressing and mitigating climate change impacts through sustainable drainage and providing shading in hot weather will have health and wellbeing benefits.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2014	Adequate resourcing of parks is required to ensure that standards are delivered.
All nine protected groups	Positive potential impact – access to nature and wildlife can provide positive therapeutic and educational benefits.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2014	Adequate resourcing of parks is required to ensure that standards are delivered.
Socio-economically disadvantaged people	Positive potential impact - training and development will improve workforce and volunteer skills and employability.	N/A	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2014	This is subject to training budgets, both internal and partner being available.

All nine protected groups	Positive or negative potential impact — consultation methods for the Strategy need to be inclusive in order to reach as wide range of people including people under 25, older people, disabled users and staff.	Take account of the needs of 'harder to reach' groups in consultation methods.	Service Manager: M Worrall	2014-2014	Adequate resourcing of parks is required to ensure that standards are delivered.
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**Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?**

In the Annual Performance Report to the Parks and Countryside Partnership and Performance Board.

**Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?**

N/A

**Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?**

Natural England – Green Space Access Research Summary  
Natural England – Health and Wellbeing Position Statement  
Wirral Council Parks and Countryside User Survey 2012

**Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?**

**Yes**

There will be public consultation on the draft Wirral Green and Open Space Strategy.

**If 'yes' please continue to section 8.**

**If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:**

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?**

Methods will include a questionnaire on the Council's website and meetings with stakeholders such as the Parks Friends Steering Group, Parks and Countryside Partnership and Performance Board and notification via the Council's consultation database. The detail of this consultation is being finalised in conjunction with the Council's Community Engagement Team. The consultation will take place between February and March 2014.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) for re-publishing.

**Section 9: Have you remembered to:**

- a) **Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2b)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 5)
- c) **Send this EIA to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to [equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**