

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit

(April 2014)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Bryan Lipscombe

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Head of Section: Jeff Sherlock

Chief Officer: David Armstrong

Directorate: Universal and Infrastructure Services

Date: 12 August 2014

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Wirral Climate Change Strategy 2014-2019

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Policy & Performance Committee?

Yes **Regeneration and Environment Policy and Performance 22
September 2014**

**Hyperlink to where your EIA will be published on the Council's
website** <http://bit.ly/CXEIA>

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

x **Services**

- x **The workforce**
- x **Communities**
- x **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any 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.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Disabled/ people with existing health conditions / children/ older people/ People on low incomes/ Socially isolated	Weather episodes already impact on Wirral and affect vulnerable groups (Wirral Council, 2010). Looking ahead climate projections (UKCIP, 2009) suggest we can expect hotter summers and milder winters; drier summers and wetter winters and an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as heavy rainfall, droughts and heat-waves. Whilst these changes will have impacts for everyone, the impacts are likely to be more severe for particular sections of the community (Bates, G., Chadborn, N., Jones, L. and McVeigh, J., 2011; Marmot, M.G., 2010). The presence of a climate change strategy to promote adaptive actions is therefore anticipated to have a positive impact for the vulnerable groups identified.	The proposal is considered to have positive impacts on vulnerable groups. However, this will depend on how successful the strategy is implemented. It will thus be important to implement the strategy and review progress	Bryan Lipscombe	Annual reports. Strategy Review commencing 2018.	

	<p>Many actions to promote a reduction in emissions also have potential positive benefits. For example, more sustainable transport systems (improvements in public and non motorised transport) can improve physical and mental health and reduce pollution; and more energy efficient buildings can help reduce fuel poverty.</p>				
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Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

The Wirral Climate Change Group will oversee the implementation of the strategy with annual reports made to Regeneration and Environment Policy and Performance committee.

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

The proposal is considered to have positive impacts on vulnerable groups. However, this will depend on how successful the strategy is implemented.

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Climate and Health paper

<http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/ourjsna/climate&health.html>

[Report of Cutting Climate Pollution Workshop](#)

[Report of Adapting to Climate Change Workshop](#)

[Report cutting climate pollution survey](#)

[Report adapting to climate change survey](#)

Summary of comments on the Wirral Climate Change Strategy Consultation Draft, response and modifications proposed

Rapid Sustainability Appraisal of the Wirral Climate Change Strategy – July 2014

Bates, G., Chadborn, N., Jones, L. and McVeigh, J. (2011) *The Impact of climate change upon health and health inequalities in the north west of England* Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK.

Defra (2012) *UK Climate Change Risk Assessment: Government Report*, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London, UK.

Marmot, M.G., (2010) *Fair society, healthy lives: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post-2010*. The Marmot Review, London UK.

Northwest Climate Change Partnership (2012) *A Summary of Climate Change Risks for North West England - To coincide with the publication of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) 2012* The Northwest Climate Change Partnership, Warrington, UK.

UKCIP (2009) *The UK Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09)*

Wirral Council (2010) *Local Climate Change Impact Profile Media Trawl*. Sustainability Unit, Wirral Council, Birkenhead, UK

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

No – The proposal develop a climate change strategy was subject of a ‘phase 1’ equality impact assessment. This set out the planned consultation process which has now been implemented. The consultation involved:

(i) An online survey on cutting climate pollution (July –August 2012)

(ii) A public workshop on cutting climate pollution (November 2012)

(iii) An online survey on adapting to climate change (October –December 2012)

- (iv) A public workshop on adapting to climate change (April 2013)
- (v) The preparation of a strategy 'working' draft taking into consideration the outcome of the earlier consultation surveys and workshops
- (vi) Consultation between partners within the Wirral Climate Change Group on this 'working' draft (summer 2013) and the preparation of a consultation draft
- (vii) Publication of a consultation draft for public comments via the Council's website (December 2013-February 2014)
- (viii) Preparation of a final draft on the basis of comments received and further discussions with the Wirral Climate Change Group

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

N/A

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**