Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Robert Oates

Email address: robertoates@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: David Ball

Chief Officer: Kevin Adderley

Directorate: Regeneration and Environment

Date: 19/03/2015

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Proposed designation of Birkenhead & Tranmere Neighbourhood Planning Forum, as the statutory Neighbourhood Planning Forum for the Neighbourhood Area of Birkenhead and Tranmere.

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

Yes

If ‘yes’ please state which meeting and what date

Delegated Decision by the Cabinet Member for the Economy – March 2015

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council’s website

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)

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 engage@ wirral.gov.uk for publishing)
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Which group(s) of people could be affected</th>
<th>Potential positive or negative impact</th>
<th>Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact</th>
<th>Lead person</th>
<th>Timescale</th>
<th>Resource implications</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All groups</td>
<td>The stated object of the Forum, to promote or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Birkenhead and Tranmere area, has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2 refers).</td>
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<td>All groups</td>
<td>The aim of engaging with the LPA and all statutory agencies, business, voluntary sector groups and community associations with an interest in the area, in order to collaborate for mutual benefit has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2(b) refers).</td>
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<tr>
<td>All groups</td>
<td>Fostering the goodwill and involvement of the whole community through equal treatment of all, regardless of age, belief, ethnicity, gender, impairment, sexual orientation or any other difference, has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2(c) refers).</td>
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<td>All groups</td>
<td>Fostering community spirit and encouraging civic pride has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2(d) refers).</td>
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<td>All groups</td>
<td>Planning for the provision of decent and adaptable residential, commercial and community buildings and spaces that meet the needs of people who live or work in the area has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2(e) refers).</td>
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<td>All groups</td>
<td>Working towards a more sustainable, prosperous and secure future for the area and its people has a potential positive impact upon all groups (Constitution, section 2(f) refers).</td>
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<td>All Groups</td>
<td>Securing open membership with an equal right to vote on any emerging neighbourhood planning proposals has a potential positive impact on all groups (Constitution, section 4; section 9(i) and (j); and section 10(a) refer).</td>
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<td>All Groups</td>
<td>Ensuring that all neighbourhood plan consultations shall be open to anyone who lives or works in the area, whether members of the Forum or not, has a potential positive impact on all groups (Constitution, section 10(b) refers).</td>
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<td>All Groups</td>
<td>Publicising the neighbourhood plan process, to seek to involve everyone who lives or works in the area and make an accurate record of the outcome of all consultations, has a potential positive impact on all groups (Constitution, section 10(c) refers).</td>
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<td>All groups</td>
<td>Statutory provisions requiring open membership, statutory consultation on any emerging neighbourhood planning proposals, publication and independent examination of the final proposals and a vote of local Electors in a local referendum, as set out in the body of the accompanying Delegated Report, will also have a potential positive impact on all groups.</td>
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Section 5: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Membership of the Forum and the preparation of neighbourhood planning proposals will be monitored by the Birkenhead and Tranmere Neighbourhood Forum under the provisions of their proposed constitution.

The Council will also have a role in ensuring that any statutory requirements have been complied with before any neighbourhood planning proposals are submitted to statutory public examination and local referendum.

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

The proposed constitution for the proposed Neighbourhood Forum contains the objectives which have been assessed under Section 4 of this EIA. The objectives focus on positive involvement of all members of the community and it is therefore considered that no negative impacts are likely to result from the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum, if confirmed by Cabinet.

This assessment will need to be reviewed within a subsequent EIA, to be prepared when the content of the emerging Neighbourhood Planning proposals are available.

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


Formal application for designation of a Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area for Birkenhead and Tranmere, to meet the requirements of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 No. 637).

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

Yes

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 engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)
Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

There is a statutory requirement for the Council to publish valid applications from local community groups that wish to have more control over planning and development within their local area by seeking designation as a Neighbourhood Planning Forum.

Consultation must take place over a period of not less than 6 weeks to bring the application for designation to the attention of those who live, work or carry on business in the area to be affected, before the designation of a Neighbourhood Forum and associated Neighbourhood Area can be confirmed.

Consultation will begin following the approval of the Cabinet Member for the Economy, probably during early April. The results of consultation will be reported to Cabinet before any final recommendation on designation is made.

The application documents will be placed for public inspection on the Council’s website, at Birkenhead Central Library and at the North Annexe at Wallasey Town Hall.

The other proposed arrangements are set out in section 6.0 of the accompanying Delegated Decision Report.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it’s legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to 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 engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 9: 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 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?