

# Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

## **Section 1: Your details**

**EIA lead Officer:** Ray Squire

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**Head of Section:** Sally Shah

**Chief Officer:** Alan Evans

**Directorate:** Regeneration and Place

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

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

**Wirral Growth Company: Final Site Development Plan (SDP) for Birkenhead Town Centre (Phase 1)**

## **Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?**

**Yes**

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

**Economic, Regeneration and Development Committee 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

**Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website**

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

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

- Services**
- The workforce**
- √ **Communities**
- √ **Other** (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](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 4:**

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

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
All protected groups, including neighbouring communities.	Positive. The implementation of the Phase 1 Site Development Plan for Birkenhead Town Centre will see the construction of circa 150,000 sq.ft (13,935 sq.m) of new office accommodation on a sustainable brownfield location in the heart of the Town. Further phases of the plan, which will be delivered over a 15-year period, will result in further office developments, potentially a hotel and retail space being constructed adjacent to new mix tenure homes on Europa Boulevard. The vision is to create an inter-generational community open to all with provision of at least 20% affordable homes. The office and commercial floorspace will sit beside a re-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

	<p>provide market within a new quality public realm incorporating improved pedestrian and cycle facilities to, from and within the regenerated centre. The development will also be served by Conway Street Bus Interchange and Conway Park Railway Station. Future population change in Wirral will be driven by a significant increase in the number and proportion of older residents, with the population aged 65+ expected to increase by 30% from 70,000 in 2019 to 91,900 in 2035, placing specific pressure on delivery of accommodation within sustainable locations with immediate and easy access to amenity and services. The plans for a regenerated Birkenhead Town Centre will ensure that it is well placed to help meet this demand.</p> <p>Accessibility will be an important consideration from the project's inception to delivery and the Growth Company's chosen construction partner, Morgan Sindall will ensure that equality implications are an integral part of their plans.</p> <p>Equality implications were a key part of the procurement process when MUSE was chosen as the Council's Growth Company delivery partner.</p> <p>During the course of developing this Site Development Plan a wide-ranging consultation exercise was undertaken. These were held in accessible locations and</p>				
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	targeted to as many stakeholder groups as was possible. It is recognised that the Public Sector Equality Duty is an on-going consideration and this EIA will be reviewed and amended when necessary. The Council will also work with chosen partners to ensure that equality implications are considered at all stages.				

**Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?**

The project will be overseen by the Regeneration and Place Board and Wirral Growth Company JV Board.

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

N/A

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

Avison Young Delivery Action Plan 2020.

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

No –

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

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

The plans for the redevelopment of Birkenhead Town Centre have been extensively consulted upon via Wirral Growth Company led public exhibitions, presentations and Q&A sessions. The Growth Company also deployed web-based information and the use of social media channels to publicise and receive feedback on the emerging plans.

If any further consultation is needed the event would be held in an accessible venue and made available in different languages and formats upon request and within a reasonable timeframe.

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

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

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto: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 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**