

RMBC - Equality Analysis Form for Commissioning, Decommissioning, Decision making, Projects, Policies, Services, Strategies or Functions (CDDPPSSF)

<p>Under the Equality Act 2010 Protected characteristics are Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity. Page 6 of guidance. Other areas to note see guidance appendix 1</p>	
<p>Name of policy, service or function. If a policy, list any associated policies:</p>	<p>Revised Draft Statement of Community Involvement</p>
<p>Name of service and Directorate</p>	<p>Planning Policy Regeneration & Environment</p>
<p>Lead manager</p>	<p>Ryan Shepherd Senior Planning Officer</p>
<p>Date of Equality Analysis (EA)</p>	<p>15 March 2019</p>
<p>Names of those involved in the EA (Should include at least two other people)</p>	<p>Andy Duncan, Acting Head of Service - Planning and Building Control</p> <p>Helen Sleigh, Senior Planning Officer</p>
<p>Aim/Scope (who the Policy /Service affects and intended outcomes if known) See page 7 of guidance step 1</p> <p>The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out the Council's approach to consulting the local community and other stakeholders on planning matters. The production of a SCI is a requirement of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and should explain how the Council will engage local communities and other interested parties in producing their Local Plan and determining planning applications. It is a legal requirement that any consultation on Local Plans is undertaken in accordance with the adopted SCI.</p>	
<p>What equality information is available? Include any engagement undertaken and identify any information gaps you are aware of. What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics? See page 7 of guidance step 2</p> <p>Information on the protected characteristics of planning applicants or consultees (either in relation to planning applications or to the preparation of planning documents) is not collected by the Council.</p> <p>The Local Plan is subject to an annual monitoring report prepared by the Council: https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/200074/planning_and_regeneration/729/monitoring</p>	
<p>Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>This is a revision of a document which was adopted in 2015. It was previously subject to community consultation prior to it being finalised and subsequently adopted in 2015.</p> <p>Comments received during the public consultation were taken into account in finalising the SCI.</p>

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	<p>There is no requirement for Council's to consult on draft SCI documents; however it is good practice. This revised draft will be subject to a four week consultation period, with notifications being sent to those people and organisations on the Local Plan consultation database. A notice will also be posed in the local press. Any comments received will be taken into account in preparing the final SCI.</p>
<p>Engagement undertaken with staff about the implications on service users (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>The revised draft SCI has been prepared following internal consultation with other colleagues within the planning service and in Information Management.</p>
<p>The Analysis</p>	
<p>How do you think the Policy/Service meets the needs of different communities and groups? Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity . Rotherham also includes Carers as a specific group. Other areas to note are Financial Inclusion, Fuel Poverty, and other social economic factors. This list is not exhaustive - see guidance appendix 1 and page 8 of guidance step 4</p> <p>Overall Rotherham's communities will benefit from having an up-to-date SCI. They will have a better understanding of the consultation processes involved in planning applications and preparing planning documents. It promotes efficient plan making and decision making which lead to wider community benefits, in that planning is undertaken in the public interest and sets the context for the delivery of sustainable development that is the foundation of sustainable communities.</p>	
<p>Analysis of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service: See page 8 of guidance step 4 and 5</p> <p>Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Group? Identify by protected characteristics Does the Service/Policy provide any improvements/remove barriers? Identify by protected characteristics</p> <p>The delivery and implementation of the SCI is not determined by any individual protected characteristic. The SCI would allow increased electronic communication (such as email or use of the Council's website) in the notification and consultation process. This would in-turn facilitate a move towards more efficient and modern ways of working and communicating.</p> <p>What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? Identify by protected characteristics</p>	

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The SCI identifies that the Council will be inclusive by providing information in an accessible format and giving clear advice on how the planning system works, and encourage involvement from those groups that are not usually involved in the planning process.

The delivery and implementation of the SCI is not determined by any individual protected characteristic. A neutral impact is expected with the exception of age, race and disability, where potential negative impacts are identified.

Age - Under the revised SCI, there is greater emphasis on notification via email, rather than letter. There is potential that this may affect older age groups who may have lower digital skills. In Rotherham 2011 Census data indicates that 16.4% of the population were aged over 65. For those who are not digitally enabled, the Council will continue to use other forms of communication such as making documents available the Council's offices and, publicity through the local press. If for reasons of age a person is unable to view documents online or at the Council's offices, then alternative arrangements may be made on a case by case basis.

Disability – It is recognised that persons with disabilities may have difficulty accessing information digitally or at the Council's offices. Where this is the case then alternative arrangements may be made on a case by case basis.

Race - It is recognised that there may be challenges in engaging all racial groups due to language barriers, or cultural differences and that alternative arrangements may be required on a case by case basis. For example, provision of documents or summaries of information in alternative languages.

Please list any **actions and targets** by Protected Characteristic that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment and ensure that they are added into your service plan.

Website Key Findings Summary: To meet legislative requirements a summary of the Equality Analysis needs to be completed and published.

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Equality Analysis Action Plan - See page 9 of guidance step 6 and 7

Time Period 2019 - 2021

Manager: Ryan Shepherd, Senior Planning Officer Service Area: Planning Policy, R&E Tel:01709 823888

Title of Equality Analysis: Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic.

List all the Actions and Equality Targets identified

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics (A,D,RE,RoB,G,GI O, SO, PM,CPM, C or All)*	Target date (MM/YY)	
Monitor the implementation of the Statement of Community Involvement	All	12/21	
Name Of Director who approved Plan	Paul Woodcock	Date	16 th April, 2019

*A = Age, C= Carers D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, O= other groups, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage.

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Website Summary – Please complete for publishing on our website and append to any reports to Elected Members SLT or Directorate Management Teams

Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
<p>Directorate: Planning Policy, Regeneration and Environment</p> <p>Function, policy or proposal name: Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement</p> <p>Function or policy status: Revision to existing document (new, changing or existing)</p> <p>Name of lead officer completing the assessment: Ryan Shepherd, Planning Policy</p> <p>Date of assessment: 15 March 2019</p>	<p>Overall Rotherham’s communities will benefit from having an up-to-date SCI.</p> <p>A neutral impact is expected on protected characteristics with the exception of age, race and disability, where potential negative impacts are identified. However mitigations are identified which would allow for alternative arrangements to be made.</p>	<p>Monitor the implementation of the Statement of Community Involvement</p>