

Appendix 2b PART B - Equality Analysis

Rotherham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Expansion



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Rotherham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Expansion	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA):09/06/2023	
Directorate: Finance & Customer Services	Service area: Asset Management
Lead Manager: Louise Preston	Contact number: 07717423494
Is this a:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Name	Organisation	Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)
Andy Wilson	RMBC	Service Specialist
Louise Preston	RMBC	Manager
Steve Cope	RMBC	Manager

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)

Strategy which sets out how the provision of EV charging infrastructure available to all EV users in Rotherham will be delivered.

EV charging brings added difficulties for less able users including difficulties of egress / entry from vehicles at the charge point, handling heavy charging cables, manipulating awkward connectors into vehicle sockets, including potentially by wheelchair users. Those with cognitive or sensory difficulties or with mobility issues may have difficulties viewing electronic displays, and those for whom English is not the first language may have difficulty understanding how to operate the device.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

[The Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulations 2017 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

PAS 1899:2022 Electric Vehicles – Accessible Charging – Specification. This publicly available specification was sponsored by the charity Motability and Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) involving consultation and engagement with over 20 organisations, agencies and user groups.

Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?

No local information included – a national standard has been developed.

What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

- Inclusion of accessibility and usability questions in the planned ongoing consultation exercise.
- Respondents will be encouraged to suggest locations where accessible EV charging infrastructure is needed.
- This being a permanent extension of previous consultation to provide a growing quantitative and qualitative analysis of the service to review this program and inform future programs.

Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)

Reliant upon professional engagement in conjunction with BSI Standards Limited, and outcomes / recommendations set out in PAS 1899:2022

Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)

Consultation with Equality Team to focus on key challenges faced by users, how these would be addressed, and monitored to inform future programs.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)

How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups?

Service will be designed to meet the needs of motorists of all communities and groups, with adaptations particularly aimed at enabling disabled access, addressing the needs of those with reduced sensory or cognitive ability, and those for whom English is not the first language.

According to site limitations, accessible EV Charging bays will be best located for less able users, for instance on flat parking areas and as close as possible to facilities expected to be visited.

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?

Disabled users need additional space for vehicle entry / egress (as per disabled parking bays) and additionally space to manipulate charging equipment, of which the plugs and cables can be heavy and difficult to handle.

Charger displays need to be at a height suitable for wheelchair users, offering alternative languages and clear graphic displays to assist those with reduced sensory or cognitive ability, and those for whom English is not the first language.

The service cannot influence specific car manufacturer plug / socket types or locations on the vehicle which will be part of the users purchasing decision but will allow for all known designs to be used with the service.

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

Charging infrastructure will have the option to operate the key controls via an app which may be more convenient for some users. It is a general requirement that charging providers allow roaming so users with specific difficulties will be able to use their favourite and familiar app to address specific needs.

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations?

There is a risk that the provision of infrastructure will seem irrelevant to those who don't drive or cannot afford to own a car.

The Council has a duty to promote EVs and the charging infrastructure as a decarbonisation measure, a positive air quality intervention, and therefore of benefit to all members of the community.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

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 - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Rotherham Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy
Directorate and service area: Finance & Customer Services, Asset Management
Lead Manager: Jonathan Marriott
Summary of findings:
Specification for program procurement will include reference to meeting PAS 1899:2022 recommendations.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Procurement specification for future installations to include the meeting of PAS 1899:2022 for installation.	A, D, RE, PM, C, O	As needed.
Establish formal route to consultation / data collection following installation to review for impact and inform future programs.	A, D, RE, PM, C, O	Q4 2024

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

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.

Name	Job title	Date
Rob Mahon	Assistant Director – Financial Services	
Judith Badger	Strategic Director of Customer Services and Finance	28 th February, 2024
Cllr Chris Read	Leader of the Council	

7. Publishing

The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date Equality Analysis completed	18/01/24
Report title and date	Rotherham Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy
Date report sent for publication	04/03/24
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	02/02/24