

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

TITLE:

Equality Impact Assessment for the Cheshire East Brownfield Land Register 2021

VERSION CONTROL

Date	Version	Author	Description of Changes
09.11.2021	1	Benjamin Vickers	

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL - EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Stage 1 Description: Fact finding (about your policy / service /

Department	Environment and Neighbourhood Services Department		Lead officers responsible for assessment		<i>Benjamin Vickers, Senior Planning Officer and Claire Coombs, Principal Planning Officer</i>	
Service	Strategic Planning		Other members of team undertaking assessment		n/a	
Date	09.11.2021		Version		1	
Type of document (mark as appropriate)	Strategy No	Plan No	Function Yes	Policy No	Procedure No	Service No
Is this a new/ existing/ revision of an existing document (please mark as appropriate)	New No		Existing No		Revision Yes	
Title and subject of the impact assessment (include a brief description of the aims, outcomes, operational issues as appropriate and how it fits in with the wider aims of the organisation) Please attach a copy of the strategy/ plan/ function/ policy/ procedure/ service	<p>This assessment relates to the Brownfield Land Register 2021</p> <p>It is a legal requirement for local planning authorities to prepare, publish and update a brownfield land register (BLR) at least once a year. The purpose of the BLR is to provide up-to-date, publicly available information on brownfield land that is suitable for housing.</p> <p>The council published its first Brownfield Land Register in December 2017 and it has been updated annually since.</p> <p>The way that the Brownfield Registers are prepared and published is governed by statutory requirements.</p> <p>A copy of the latest published Brownfield Land Register is available to read at: https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/spatial_planning/brownfield-register.aspx</p>					
Who are the main stakeholders and have they been engaged with? (e.g. general public, employees, Councillors, partners, specific audiences, residents)	<p>Developers and landowners have been able to submit sites to the Council for consideration – through a form available on the Council’s web site. No public consultation is required where Councils prepare only a Part 1 brownfield land register. All the sites included on the Council’s Register have already been subject to public consultation – through the planning application process, Local Plan preparation or Local Development Order process.</p>					
What consultation method(s) did you use?	Please see above					

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Stage 2 Initial Screening

<p>Who is affected and what evidence have you considered to arrive at this analysis? (This may or may not include the stakeholders listed above)</p>	<p>The Brownfield Land Register, <u>in itself</u>, does not give rise to any additional impacts or outcomes for groups with protected characteristics. The Register is a list of brownfield sites that are considered suitable, available and achievable. Brownfield sites will be more numerous in the built-up parts of the borough; however they may also exist in villages and the rural area. The development of land more generally may affect a wide range of people – including residents and others in proximity to development sites; those wishing to find a home; those employed within the development sector or supply chain businesses.</p>
<p>Who is intended to benefit and how?</p>	<p>In general terms, the provision of new homes (a headline national planning policy priority) can have a positive impact on people needing a new home – in providing enough housing and housing of the right type to meet particular needs such as people with disabilities and the elderly.</p>
<p>Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups?</p>	<p>New development can affect the demand for local services and can result in additional traffic with possible air quality implications. Where relevant these impacts however are assessed in determining planning applications. This can also include the consideration of measures to mitigate such effects. These effects may be more problematic for certain groups with protected characteristics – young people, older people, pregnancy and disability. However, the Brownfield Land Register, <u>in itself</u>, does not give rise to any additional impacts or outcomes for groups with protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Does it include making decisions based on individual characteristics, needs or circumstances?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Are relations between different groups or communities likely to be affected? (eg will it favour one particular group or deny opportunities for others?)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality? Is there a history of unequal outcomes (do you have enough evidence to prove otherwise)?</p>	<p>Not in terms of the Brownfield Land Register. However, planning applications, by law, have to be determined in accordance with the statutory development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Council's Local Plan has been informed by its own EqIA. There are many policy examples within the Local Plan which seek to assist the well-being of people with protected characteristics. Examples include addressing Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs, the application of accessibility standards, consideration of air quality in determining planning applications, the provision of children's outdoor play facilities.</p>
<p>Is there an actual or potential negative impact on these specific characteristics?</p>	

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Age	Y	N	Marriage & civil partnership	Y	N	Religion & belief	Y	N
Disability	Y	N	Pregnancy & maternity	Y	N	Sex	Y	N
Gender reassignment	Y	N	Race	Y	N	Sexual orientation	Y	N
What evidence do you have to support your findings? (quantitative and qualitative) Please provide additional information that you wish to include as appendices to this document, i.e., graphs, tables, charts							Consultation/ involvement carried out	
							Yes	No
Age	<i>The Brownfield Land Register largely lists sites that already have planning permission. The Register, in itself, does not change the planning status of any of the sites contained within it. It is intended to bring together, in one place, a list of brownfield sites that are suitable for housing or housing-led development.</i> <i>In itself the Brownfield Land Register does not give rise to any additional positive or negative impacts outcomes for groups with protected characteristics.</i>						x	
Disability							x	
Gender reassignment							x	
Marriage & civil partnership							x	
Pregnancy & maternity							x	
Race							x	
Religion & belief							x	
Sex							x	
Sexual orientation							x	
Proceed to full impact assessment? (Please tick)	Yes			No x			Date 09.11.2021	

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Lead officer sign off	Jeremy Owens 	Date	11/11/21
Head of service sign off	David Malcolm 	Date	11/11/21

If yes, please proceed to Stage 3. If no, please publish the initial screening as part of the suite of documents relating to this issue

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Stage 3 Identifying impacts and evidence

This section identifies if there are impacts on equality, diversity and cohesion, what evidence there is to support the conclusion and what further action is needed

Protected characteristics	Is the policy (function etc....) likely to have an adverse impact on any of the groups? Please include evidence (qualitative & quantitative) and consultations <i>List what negative impacts were recorded in Stage 1 (Initial Assessment).</i>	Are there any positive impacts of the policy (function etc....) on any of the groups? Please include evidence (qualitative & quantitative) and consultations <i>List what positive impacts were recorded in Stage 1 (Initial Assessment).</i>	Please rate the impact taking into account any measures already in place to reduce the impacts identified <i>High: Significant potential impact; history of complaints; no mitigating measures in place; need for consultation</i> <i>Medium: Some potential impact; some mitigating measures in place, lack of evidence to show effectiveness of measures</i> <i>Low: Little/no identified impacts; heavily legislation-led; limited public facing aspect</i>	Further action (only an outline needs to be included here. A full action plan can be included at Section 4) <i>Once you have assessed the impact of a policy/service, it is important to identify options and alternatives to reduce or eliminate any negative impact. Options considered could be adapting the policy or service, changing the way in which it is implemented or introducing balancing measures to reduce any negative impact. When considering each option you should think about how it will reduce any negative impact, how it might impact on other groups and how it might impact on relationships between groups and overall issues around community cohesion. You should clearly demonstrate how you have considered various options and the impact of these. You must have a detailed rationale behind decisions and a justification for those alternatives that have not been accepted.</i>
Age				
Disability				
Gender reassignment				
Marriage & civil partnership				
Pregnancy and				

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maternity				
Race				
Religion & belief				
Sex				
Sexual orientation				
<p>Is this change due to be carried out wholly or partly by other providers? If yes, please indicate how you have ensured that the partner organisation complies with equality legislation (e.g. tendering, awards process, contract, monitoring and performance measures)</p>				

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Stage 4 Review and Conclusion

Summary: provide a brief overview including impact, changes, improvement, any gaps in evidence and additional data that is needed			
Specific actions to be taken to reduce, justify or remove any adverse impacts	How will this be monitored?	Officer responsible	Target date
Please provide details and link to full action plan for actions			
When will this assessment be reviewed?			
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?			
Lead officer sign off	Jeremy Owens 	Date	11/11/21
Head of service sign off	David Malcolm 	Date	11/11/21

Please publish this completed EIA form on the relevant section of the Cheshire East website

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