

Housing Chesterfield Borough Council

Equality Impact Assessment - Full Assessment Form

Service Area: Housing
Section: Private Sector Housing
Lead Officer: Jane Thomas

Title of the policy, project, service, function or strategy the preliminary EIA is being produced for:

Is the policy, project, service, function or strategy:

Existing
Changed
New/Proposed

STEP 1 – MAKE SURE YOU HAVE CLEAR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

What is the aim of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?

To authorise the new powers given to local authorities under the Mobile Homes Act 2013 relating to licensing and enforcement of licensing standards on residential caravan sites. And to introduce a Fees Policy which enables the local authority to recover its costs in respect of these functions

Who is the policy, project, service, function or strategy going to benefit and how?

The Act is intended to provide greater protection to residents on residential caravan sites – many of whom are elderly or retired.. The new powers

- allow the local authority to set and enforce reasonable standards on residential caravan sites
- introduce an annual inspection regime
- regulate the power of the site owner to set site rules, and
- limit the power of the site owner to obstruct the sale of owner occupied homes.

The local authority is able to recover the cost of carrying out its main duties under the Act through the imposition of fees to be paid by the site owner/licence holder in accordance with the local authority's published Fee Policy.

There are two residential park homes within the borough one of which requires a revision and updating of licensing conditions – this will be possible under the new legislation. Both the site owner and residents will benefit from this revision. The new legislation introduces a regime of proactive annual inspection. Occupiers on both sites will benefit from this proactive regime.

What outcomes do you want to achieve?

Effective regulation of residential caravan sites resourced from the proposed Fees Policy

What barriers exist for both the Council and the groups/people with protected characteristics to enable these outcomes to be achieved?

The only barrier to achieving these outcomes will be the failure of the Council to adopt the powers now made available. Licensing of residential caravan sites falls within the remit of the Private Sector Housing team. Officer already have the knowledge and expertise required to carry out these new function.

STEP 2 – COLLECTING YOUR INFORMATION

What existing data sources do you have to assess the impact of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?

Officer understanding of the new legislation and knowledge of existing licensed mobile home parks within the borough.

STEP 3 – FURTHER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Please list any additional engagement activities undertaken to complete this EIA e.g. met with the Equalities Advisory Group, local BME groups, Employee representatives etc. Could you also please summarise the main findings.

Date	Engagement Activity	Main findings
	None planned	

STEP 4 – WHAT’S THE IMPACT?

Is there an impact (positive or negative) on some groups/people with protected characteristics in the community? (think about race, disability, age, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and other socially excluded communities or groups). You may also need to think about sub groups within each equalities group or protected characteristics e.g. older women, younger men, disabled women etc.

Please describe the potential impacts both positive and negative and any action we are able to take to reduce negative impacts or enhance the positive impacts.

Group or Protected Characteristic	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action
Age – including older people and younger people.	Residential caravan sites (mobile home parks) are disproportionately occupied by elderly and retired people many of whom have impaired mobility and/ or suffer from chronic other health conditions. The new legislation will improve the regulation of mobile home parks in relation both to site standards and contractual issues.	None After 2015 the site owner cannot pass the cost any of the fees charged by the local authority, onto the site residents	none
Disabled people – physical, mental and sensory including learning disabled people and people living with HIV/Aids and cancer.	Comment as above	none	none
Gender – men, women and transgender.	n/a	none	none
Marital status including civil partnership.	n/a	none	none

Pregnant women and people on maternity/paternity. Also consider breastfeeding mothers.	n/a	none	none
Sexual Orientation – Heterosexual, Lesbian, gay men and bi-sexual people.	n/a	none	none
Ethnic Groups	n/a	none	none
Religions and Beliefs including those with no religion and/or beliefs.	n/a	none	none
Other groups e.g. those experiencing deprivation and/or health inequalities.	Comment as above	none	none

From the information gathered above does the policy, project, service, function or strategy directly or indirectly discriminate against any particular group or protected characteristic?

Yes
 No

If yes what action can be taken to stop the discrimination?

n/a

STEP 5 – RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISION MAKING

How has the EIA helped to shape the policy, project, service, function or strategy or affected the recommendation or decision?

No this is a statutory duty with no negative impacts on groups/people with protected characteristics in the community

How are you going to monitor the policy, project, service, function or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?

The fee policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that it complies with legislative requirements and reflects real costs.

STEP 6 – KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLICATION

Please note the draft EIA should be reviewed by the appropriate Head of Service/Service Manager and the Policy Service before WBR, Lead Member, Cabinet, Council reports are produced.

Reviewed by Head of Service/Service Manager

Name: Alison Craig

Date:

Reviewed by Policy Service

Name:

Date:

Final version of the EIA sent to the Policy Service

Decision information sent to the Policy Service