

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Service Area - Arts Development, Legal services, Environmental Health services, Human Resources. etc.

Finance (but is a Corporate responsibility)

Detailed activity –

New Capital Strategy

Lead Officer –

Val Cradock, Financial Consultant

Provide a broad description of the detailed activity and explain what the main aims of the activity are

1 What are the aims of the activity?

This strategy is a high level summary of the Council's approach to Capital Investment. It describes how the deployment of Capital resources, and those the Council can influence, contributes towards improving the economic, social and environmental well being of the area incorporating the aims and priorities set out the Community Strategy and Corporate Plan.

The objective of the Capital strategy is threefold. Namely, to ensure that: -

- physical assets and related resources are efficiently and effectively used to support the corporate objectives.
- issues related to property and other assets are fully reflected in the Council's planning,
- the strategy itself is in a format that can be readily understood.

The Capital Strategy provides the policy framework for the operational work of asset management as detailed in the Asset Management Plan (AMP).

2 Which sections of the community will this activity have an impact on? eg. general population, young people, older people, people with disabilities, ethnic minority groups:

General population, people in need of affordable homes, people interested in the arts. If the Council does spend all its capital by 2013 (as predicted in the Strategy) this will impact on all Council Tax payers rather than currently being an opportunity direct cost, as the interest from our current capital investments supports our revenue service budgets.

3 How and where will information be disseminated about: a) the need for the activity?

The Capital Strategy is a required document of the Council, as part of its budget and policy framework (linked to the Use of Resources assessment). Consultation on the Strategy is internal as it is about asset management. Consultation on the change or use of particular assets may be appropriate if particular groups of people are likely to be affected by any proposed change. Consultation on the capital programme forms part of the budget

b) Collecting views of particular groups and/or the public?

As above, consultation on the capital programme forms part of the budget consultation.

c) Details of the activity?

As above, consultation on the capital programme forms part of the budget consultation.

4 Has any research or consultation been carried out into the need for the activity AND the ability of various community groups to access it?

N/a

5 Has any evidence of access or compliance difficulties emerged as a result of previous monitoring?

N/a.

6 Does the activity have the potential to lead to:

a) direct or indirect discrimination

Yes

No

How? Only through specific capital programme schemes, not as a direct impact of this Strategy.

b) an adverse effect or other negative impact upon any community group?

Yes

No

How? If the Capital Strategy directed the Capital Programme in such a way as to allow inequality. However, the Capital Strategy does not do this.

c) a disproportionately positive impact on one community group over another?

Yes

No

How? Only through specific capital programme schemes, not as a direct impact of this Strategy. For example through affordable housing schemes targeting particular needs (e.g. teenage parents, young single people)

- 7 If there is likely to be direct or indirect discrimination, or a disproportionately positive impact on any particular group, can this be justified? Please state how (eg statutory, results from monitoring, other evidence etc)

Not as a direct impact of the Capital Strategy.

- 8 If (in 7) it cannot be justified, please state what measures, and/or reasonable adjustments (eg the DDA), will be put into place to address the in-equality

N/a

- 9 Is there an opportunity to promote equality of opportunity and good community relations through the activity?

Not through the Strategy itself but through the capital schemes within the capital programme. Ensure that equality and diversity implications are addressed in all asset decisions (and capital programme budget bids). Where the decision is made by a member body, these implications will be set out in the report. Where a decision is made under delegated powers by an officer, a record of the equality and diversity implications addressed will be made and kept with the details of the decision.

- 10 Will there be a requirement for equality/diversity training to equip staff to deliver the activity?

No.

- 11 Does the information available about this activity need to be revised? (eg literature, website, internal documents, etc)

This is the revised strategy.

- 12 Please explain what forms of consultation you will be using or have used to inform the answers you have given above?

Budget consultation linked to specific schemes within the Capital Programme.