

Initial equality impact assessment screening form

This form is an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to an activity, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.

Directorate:	Services
Service Area:	Transport and Capital Projects
Activity being screened:	Darlington Transport Plan Darlington Town Centre Transport Plan Parking Strategy
Officer(s) carrying out the screening:	Kay Gamble
What are you proposing to do?	Produce the following documents for adoption by Council - Darlington Transport Plan Darlington Town Centre Transport Plan Parking Strategy
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>The Tees Valley Strategic Transport Plan (STP) 2020-2030 was developed by Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) in partnership with all Tees Valley local authorities. The strategy was published in 2020 and sets out the strategic direction for transport in the Tees Valley. The STP is supported by other strategies developed by TVCA including the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and the Tees Valley Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP).</p> <p>The Darlington Transport Strategy sets out how the priorities set out in the STP will be delivered in Darlington. It takes account of local priorities and sets a delivery framework to ensure that these priorities are delivered.</p> <p>The Darlington Town Centre Transport Plan will support the Town Centre Strategy 2019-2030 and the Towns Fund Investment Plan. Good quality transport into and within the</p>

	<p>town centre is important to support the transformation its transformation and growth and management of movement within the town centre will help to make it a more attractive place to live, work and visit.</p> <p>The Darlington Parking Strategy sets out a framework for the provision and control of parking within the borough in order to meet the aspirations of the Darlington Transport Strategy and the Darlington Town Centre Transport Plan.</p>
<p>Does the activity involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details</p>	<p>Significant officer time for development, design, consultation and taking through to the process of adoption by Council.</p>

Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or any other socially excluded groups?


As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:

- **To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?**
- **Does the activity relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?**
- **Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the activity relates to?**

If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate.

Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/ Info not available
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex (gender)		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual Orientation		✓	

Religion or belief		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
Other			
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	
Low Income		✓	
Rural Location		✓	
Does the activity relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people’s access to public transport)? Please give details.	The three plans relate to the Borough of Darlington, Darlington Town Centre and parking throughout the Borough. These are high level strategies for Darlington and the policies and schemes that will come from these documents are likely to require EIA’s of their own. The needs of all people are addressed within the strategies, as far as is practicable for a high level document, and will be also addressed within any further documents that come from the strategies.		
Will the activity have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	The strategies themselves and the policies and schemes that come from them will potentially have an impact of different organisations, which may then include people with protected characteristics. However, as stated previously any scheme or policy may require an individual EIA. The needs of all people are addressed within the strategies and will be also addressed within any further documents that come from the strategies. Where a scheme is likely to have an impact on particular protected characteristic groups further consultation will be carried out via the EIA process.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for Decision	A consultation has been carried out with regard to the Darlington Transport Plan, Darlington Town Centre Transport Plan and Parking Strategy. This consultation was carried out over a period of four weeks. As part of the consultation a number of groups were contacted with regard to protected characteristics, these included - DAD, RNIB, MIND, transport operators, Police, and all		

	<p>residents throughout the Borough. The consultation was also widespread across the Borough of Darlington, with it being available online and publicised through social media, paper copies of the consultation were also available upon request from officers and also from collection at the Town Hall, Crown Street Library and Cockerton Library. The consultation has raised little concern and most are in agreement with the details within the three plans. One consultation response highlighted the need for ongoing EIA work on particular projects, which will be done to ensure no potential impacts on people with protected characteristics are missed. The three plans will continue to take into account the needs of disabled people and those with protected characteristics, through the plans themselves and through schemes and policies that come from the plans. The aim of all three plans is to make travel within the borough easier and more sustainable for everyone, and we will work to make sure this includes all protected characteristics.</p>
Signed (Assistant Director)	
Date	18/11/2022