

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Development and Regeneration Services	Service: Strategic Planning & Implementation
Completed by: Neil Macfarlane	Date: 4/9/17
Subject Title: Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Public Consultation	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cut back:	No
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No. However, a budget will be required for future stages of producing the Neighbourhood Plan.
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	The Council's proposed response to being consulted by Burscough Parish Council on the draft Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan.
<p><i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i> <i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i></p>	
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	Yes/No*
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups:	

<p><i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i></p>	
<p>3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION</p>	
<p>Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?</p>	<p>The Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan will impact primarily upon those living or having an interest in land or property within the designated Burscough neighbourhood area (equivalent to Burscough Parish).</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will inform decisions on planning applications for development in the neighbourhood area. These could potentially have direct impacts on the general public living, working, travelling, or spending leisure time in Burscough Parish.</p> <p>The Council is seeking to support and provide advice to Burscough Parish Council regarding the content of draft Neighbourhood Plan by responding to the public consultation upon it.</p>
<p>If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?</p> <p>Age Gender Disability Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity</p>	<p>No No No No No No No No No No</p>
<p>4. DATA ANALYSIS</p>	
<p>In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?</p>	<p>Previous engagement with the community and general public in relation to planning policy matters and consultation exercises across the Borough (for example for the Local Plan between 2008 and 2013) show that it tends to be those of a white-British ethnic background and those of older age groups who most actively engage in the process of preparing planning policy. Completed equality questionnaires from those consultation exercises bear this out, but the limited number of such questionnaires completed does not provide sufficient statistical robustness to analyse and use this data meaningfully.</p>

	Once "made", it is envisaged that the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan will be used primarily by landowners / developers (i.e. commercial interested parties) seeking to submit a planning application, or by individual property owners in Burscough Parish. Such people can potentially be of any age, gender, disability (or otherwise), belief, sexual orientation and ethnic background.
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	The Council's proposed response to the draft Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan will have no immediate impact on usage or stakeholders. The future "making" of the Neighbourhood Plan could potentially impact on a range of stakeholders, most notably landowners and their neighbours, as well as those who live in, work in, who travel through or spend leisure time in the Burscough Parish.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	The Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan is not a "service" as such. The current public consultation, being undertaken by Burscough Parish Council, is seeking views upon the content of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	At present no sources of data have been used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users / stakeholders with protected characteristics as this is the first stage of public consultation upon a document that has not been produced by the Borough Council. The extent to which this impact can be analysed will depend upon the collection of statistical data in relation to respondees by the Parish Council through the current public consultation.
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	There will be a further opportunity for the Council and stakeholders to respond to the content of the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan at the next stage of production when it is submitted to the Council as local planning authority. This will be followed by independent examination of the Neighbourhood Plan and a subsequent referendum to consider whether the Plan should be adopted as planning policy for the area.
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	The Council's proposed response to the draft Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan will have no immediate impact on people with particular protected characteristics. As stated above, the future "making" of the Neighbourhood Plan could potentially be of relevance to, or affect, a range of stakeholders,

	<p>most notably landowners and their neighbours, as well as those who live in, work in, who travel through or spend leisure time in the Burscough Parish.</p> <p>Such people could potentially be of any age, gender, disability (or otherwise), belief, sexual orientation and ethnic background, and there is no reason to assume that the implementation of the policy should have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected characteristic groups.</p>
<p>6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT</p>	
<p>If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).</p>	<p>There is no identified clear-cut negative impact on any particular protected characteristic as a result of the Council's proposed response to the draft Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
<p>What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?</p>	<p>No actions.</p>
<p>7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING</p>	
<p>When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?</p>	<p>This assessment will be reviewed by WLBC at the next stage of the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan being produced in order to assess the consequences of any changes to the Plan.</p>