

Update on 'Community Impact Assessments'

PURPOSE

The Purpose of this Appendix is to provide Members of the Cabinet with an update on the Council's Community Impact Assessments.

BACKGROUND

At the beginning of 2009 the Council reviewed the way in which Equalities is addressed in decision making processes. As a result of the review the Council developed new 'Community Impact Assessments' (CIA's) to replace the old 'Equality Impact Assessments'.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT?

A Community Impact Assessment (CIA) is a systematic way of deciding whether an existing or proposed policy, procedure, practice or project does or may affect certain sections of our community differently and, if so, whether there is an adverse impact on any group.

CIA's should be carried out in relation to policies, projects, procedures or strategies relating to both service provision and employment.

It is used to:

- a) improve our ability to understand and meet the needs of existing and potential customers
- b) identify actual and potential inequalities in service delivery and outcomes and in employment related practices and outcomes
- c) develop plans to mitigate any adverse impact e.g. by changes in policies, services or employment practices and
- d) ensure that the needs of all local residents are met
- e) ensure that all actual and potential employees are treated fairly
- f) contribute to the development of a perception that the Council is seeking to engage all its citizens.

COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCRUTINY GROUP

The purpose and role of the Group is to monitor the Council's widened focus on the impact of Council decision making. The Group reviews and scrutinises Community Impact Assessments from across the Council on decisions, functions, policies, strategies, projects, initiatives and procedures as and where appropriate.

The purpose of the group is to

- Challenge constructively .
- Ensure CIAs are fit for purpose and provide feedback and recommendations back to authors of CIA's.
- Group members are also required to feedback to their own teams/areas where appropriate on any specific messages/actions.

Overleaf is a table of the Community Impact Assessments that the group has scrutinised throughout the financial year 2009/10.

Community Impact Assessment Scrutiny Group 2009/10 Review

CIA	Comments	Agreed	Date
Pennine Lancashire Squared		Yes	19.06.09
Rossendale Against Recession		Yes	19.06.09
Markets Review	Full Policies will need CIA's.	Yes	19.06.09
LDF Evidence Base Update		Yes	19.06.09
Reuse of Buildings in the Countryside		Yes	19.06.09
Hot Food Takeaway Interim Policy	Need to carry out consultation with representative groups. CIA then needs updating and brought back to group.	No	19.06.09
Street Trading	Should be reviewed annually	Yes	04.08.09
Converted Vehicles at Hackney Carriage	Further consultation with DDA Groups is required the CIA should be returned to group at a later meeting.	Yes	04.08.09
Transfer of Civic Suite to Futures Park	Full CIA required for each stage of the transfer.	Yes	04.08.09
Updated Procurement Strategy	The group suggested that there is a need for consultation with local businesses and local communities.	No	04.08.09
Open Space and Play Equipment Contribution Supplementary Planning Document	Group suggested a number of amendments needed to be made before the CIA could be agreed. Suggestions fed back to CIA Author.	No	17.09.09
Noise	Group suggested some amendments be made to CIA before being agreed.	No	17.09.09
Statement of Principals (Gambling)		Yes	28.10.09
Data Quality Strategy		Yes	28.10.09
Housing Market Renewal	More information is needed in the Action Plan and supplied to the group.	No	28.10.09
Noise	Amendments had been made and CIA subsequently agreed.	Yes	28.10.09
Memorials Policy	Group suggested some amendments be made to CIA before being agreed.	No	28.10.09
Consultation of the Rossendale Core Strategy	Initial CIA on the Core Strategy implementation will be needed at a later date.	Yes	10.12.09
Hot Food Takeaways	CIA agreed subject to minor amends.	Yes	10.12.09
Organisational Development		Yes	10.12.09
Memorials	CIA not agreed. Consultation needed with Portfolio Holder, Members, the Community, Neighbourhood Forums and Faith Groups.	No	10.12.09
Integrating Equality and Diversity into Procurement Strategy		Yes	10.12.09
Public Speaking at Committees & DC Committee		Yes	10.12.09
Members Planning Code of Good Practice		Yes	10.12.09
CRB Policy and Procedure	Legal to check implications of someone outside the EU applying for a post who does not have a CRB check in place. Arrangements to be included in final policy.	Yes	10.12.09

Pay and Workforce Strategy	Needs to be amended and reviewed at the Policy Steering Group.	No	10.12.09
Disciplinary Procedure		Yes	10.12.09
Recruitment & Selection Procedure		Yes	10.12.09
Equalities Strategy		Yes	10.12.09
Whistle blowing Policy		Yes	10.12.09
Member Development Strategy		Yes	10.12.09
Persistent Complaints Procedure		Yes	10.12.09
Committee Services Access to Information		Yes	28.01.10
Harassment & Bullying Policy		Yes	28.01.10
Anti Fraud Strategy		Yes	28.01.10
Equal Opportunities Policy	The Group agreed that the Policy had a positive impact on all equality groups.	No	28.01.10
Procurement	Some minor amends required	No	28.01.10
Valley Centre	CIA needed to be broken down for the various sites included in the CIA	No	28.01.10
Leisure Review		Yes	28.01.10
Equalities Cohesion		Yes	28.01.10
Draft Equality Scheme		Yes	28.01.10