



**Basingstoke
and Deane**

Equality Impact Assessment Validation Decision Notice

EIA Reference Number	78
Service, policy, or strategy	Design Quality Initiative
Element(s) assessed	
Names of Assessors	Principal Estates Surveyor, Contracts Officer, Principal Urban Designer

Consider:

	Yes	No
Was discrimination or disadvantage identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was the service promoting equality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Could the service be improved in promoting equality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the customers' needs understood and met?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there good evidence and/or reasoning to support the decisions on whether groups are/aren't affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the summary report properly reflect the key findings of the assessment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the summary report clear and easy to understand?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If improvements have been identified, do they reflect and deal with the key findings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The decision is to: **Validate** **Not validate**

The reason/s for the decision are: *please give details below*

- Validation given – information correct
- Not validated – decision not to proceed as EIA incorrect
- Not validated - screening error
- Not validated – research/consultation error
- Not validated – improvement error

Signed

Designation
Corporate Director

Name
Karen Brimacombe

Date
26 May 2011

Stage 1

STAGE 1 – Briefing Note: Design Quality Initiative	
EIA ID (Sinbad reference number)	78
Date of meeting	18 April 2011
Job Titles of assessors	Principal Estates Surveyor Contracts Officer Principal Urban Designer

The Assessment

The Design Quality Initiative comprises a Charter and Action Plan. The Charter is a policy document indicating the council's commitment to achieving a high standard of design quality and sets out the principles that are needed to ensure that appropriate delivery mechanisms are in place to achieve this.

The Action Plan provides a basis for the council to deliver a range of strategies that are aimed at improving the quality of design within the built environment. It identifies the specific team or business unit that will assume responsibility for each action and sets out the anticipated resource implications.

Both of these documents have been subject to extensive consultation with Members and other key stakeholders. It is recommended that Cabinet at its meeting on 31 May 2011 notes the content of the proposed Charter and Action Plan and refers them to the council for adoption.

Assessment Findings

No negative impacts of the Guidance were identified. The Charter is a high level document which does not directly impact on the groups. The Action Plan, which implements the Charter, includes a number of potential policies and measures. Any draft policies and measures arising out of the Action Plan will be subject to consultation as appropriate involving specific organisations who represent some of the customer groups, such as the elderly and those with disabilities. It is concluded that the scoping and screening has shown that no full EIA is required.

Justification

The aim of improving the quality of design within the built environment, is of benefit to all groups. This recognises that the outcome of the implementation of the Charter and Action Plan will be to an improved quality of design of the built environment both in its appearance and how it functions.

Stage 6

EIA ID (Sinbad ref number)	78 - Design Quality Initiative
Date of assessment	18 April 2011
Job titles of assessors	Principal Estates Surveyor Contracts Officer Principal Urban Designer

The Assessment

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The Urban Designer and Principal Urban Designer in the Neighbourhood Development Unit prepared the Charter and Action Plan.

The evidence used to make judgements and draw conclusions was the Design Quality Initiative Charter and Action Plan being prepared for approval by Cabinet on 31 May 2011.

The Customer/Customer Group

A consultation on the draft Charter and Action Plan was undertaken in December 2010 – January 2011 inviting comments from residents associations, community organisations, developers, architects and Members of BDBC council. In addition, public consultation will be undertaken on any documents or policies as appropriate which emerge out of the Action Plan. This consultation will involve consulting specific organisations who represent some of the customer groups as appropriate, such as the elderly or those with disabilities.

Consultation and Research

See above under “Customer/Customer Group”.

Key Individuals and Organisations

N/A

Actions Arising

None.

Stage 6

Assessment Findings

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Recommendations

Public consultation will be undertaken on any documents or policies as appropriate which emerge out of the Action Plan. This consultation will involve consulting specific organisations who represent some of the customer groups as appropriate, such as the elderly or those with disabilities. It is concluded that the scoping and screening has shown that no full EIA is required.