



*Basingstoke
and Deane*



Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Proposed Modifications following Local Plan Examination Hearings

Equalities Impact Assessment Addendum

December 2015

Equalities Impact Assessment on the Local Plan

Note:

This statement reviews the impact of the proposed modifications following the Local Plan examination hearings.

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- CD15 – Equality Impact Assessment of Revised Pre-submission Local Plan
- CD16 – Equality Impact Assessment Update (updated with changed submission policies)
- PS/02/22 – Equalities Impact Assessment Addendum (considering changes proposed in Mid Examination consultation, May 2015)

If you would like to see these documents please contact the Planning Policy team by emailing local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk or telephoning 01256 845464.

The Assessment

This assessment considers the impact of the new and revised Local Plan policies (with proposed modifications following the Local Plan examination hearings, December 2015), on the protected characteristics groups (Equality Act 2010) and other potentially vulnerable groups, and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Upon adoption, the Local Plan will replace the current Local Plan and will contain:

- a long term vision for the borough and objectives for future development up to 2029 linked to a spatial strategy that builds upon the vision/objectives and describes how key issues that have been identified will be tackled and how the borough will evolve over the course of the plan period;
- site allocations to deliver that development; and
- more general development-focussed policies.

New and revised Policies

The consultation on the proposed modifications following the Local Plan examination hearings includes the addition of one new policy (Policy SD1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development), and main modifications to a further 19 policies. The impacts of these changes have been considered through the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Process.

Assessment Findings

The assessments identified that the Local Plan policies promote equality and eliminate discrimination by covering a number of areas:

- improved access for all;
- promoting good relations between different groups;
- support the development of future housing according to local needs;

- facilitate the provision of jobs;
- support the retention of existing community facilities and the provision of new facilities.

No negative impacts were identified upon any of the groups considered.

For completeness, the new and revised policies were re-assessed, regardless of the extent of change proposed to the policies. Of the new and revised policies, the following were identified as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on any of the groups considered. The assessment of these policies was therefore not taken beyond Stage 1 (of the Equality Impact Assessment Process).

- SD1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development
- SS3 – Greenfield site allocations
- SS4 – Ensuring a supply of deliverable sites
- SS5 – Neighbourhood Planning
- SS6 – Housing in the Countryside
- CN4 - Housing for older people/specialist housing
- EM1 - Landscape
- EM4 - Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Nature Conservation
- EM6 - Water Quality
- EM7 - Managing Flood Risk
- EM8 - Commercial Renewable/Low Carbon Energy Development
- EM9 - Sustainable Water

The following revised policies were identified as having potentially positive impacts (no negative impacts) on certain groups, so were considered at Stage 2:

- SS3.1 – SS3.12 - Site allocations
- SS8 - Basing View
- CN1 - Affordable Housing
- CN3 - Housing Mix for market housing
- CN5 – Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People
- CN6 - Infrastructure
- CN9 - Transport
- EP1 - Economic Growth and Investment
- EP4 - Rural economy

The table below summarises how specific groups would be positively impacted upon by these policies, as modified. Please note that the table only lists those protected groups where there are specific positive benefits. Therefore not all groups are shown in the table.

Groups that would be differentially positively impacted upon by the Local Plan policies (with proposed modifications following the Local Plan examination hearings, December 2015)

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>SS3.9</i>	<i>SS3.10</i>	<i>SS3.11</i>	<i>SS3.12</i>	<i>SS8</i>	<i>CN1</i>	<i>CN3</i>	<i>CN5</i>	<i>CN6</i>	<i>CN9</i>	<i>EP1</i>	<i>EP4</i>
Age	Over 80	X	X	X	X		X	X		X			
	Over 65	X	X	X	X		X	X		X			
	22-64											X	
	16 to 21												
	Under 16	X	X		X								
Race	Gypsies/ Travellers	X	X	X	X				X				
Disability & Health	Physical Impairment	X	X	X	X		X	X		X			
	Sensory Impairment	X	X	X	X								
	Long-Term Health Problem												
	Mental Illness												
	Learning Disability												
Religion & Belief	Faith Groups												
	Atheist, Agnostic or other belief												
Other	Unemployed					X						X	X
	Living in rural area												X
	Low Income	X	X	X	X		X				X		
	On Benefits	X	X	X	X		X						
	Caring Responsibilities												
	Pregnancy or Maternity												

Further detail on the positive benefits is set out in the Stage 1 briefing note and the stage 2 scoping and screening report.

Recommendations

1. To progress the Local Plan to adoption so that it carries the weight of the adopted development plan in the plan-led planning system to enable the positive impacts identified.
2. To monitor the implementation of the policies with regards to any differential impact on the protected groups.
3. To note that as specific developments/proposals come forward that the applicant/developer takes into account equalities and any implications of the proposal on the protected groups.