



*Basingstoke
and Deane*



Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Mid-Examination Local Plan 2011 to 2029

Equalities Impact Assessment Update

May 2015

Equalities Impact Assessment on the Local Plan

Note:

This statement reviews the impact of the minor changes to the Local Plan following consultation on the Submission Local Plan (October 2014) and additional evidence base work. This document should be read in conjunction with:

- CD15 – Equality Impact Assessment of Revised Pre-submission Local Plan
- CD16 – Equality Impact Assessment Update

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 (Mid-Examination document), on the protected characteristics groups (Equality Act 2010) and other potentially vulnerable groups, and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty.

The Local Plan will eventually 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 Mid-Examination Local Plan includes the following additional policy:

Policy Reference	Policy Name	Purpose of policy
SS3.12	Hounsome Fields	To allocate site for approximately 750 dwellings and supporting infrastructure

The following policies have been revised:

Policy Reference	Policy Name	Principal change
SS1	Scale and Distribution of New Housing	Overall housing number increased from 13,464 to 15,300
SS3	Greenfield Site Allocations	To include reference to new policy SS3.12 (Hounsome Fields, Basingstoke to provide 750 homes)
SS3.11	Basingstoke Golf Course	Amendments include requirements for joint masterplanning with adjoining strategic sites, including issues related to access and movement. Requirement for on-site primary school removed.
CN5	Gypsies, Travellers and	Updated with references to new policy SS3.12

	Travelling Show People	(Hounsomes Fields)
EP1	Economic Growth and Investment	Jobs target added to policy.

Assessment Findings

The assessments of the Submission Core Strategy identified that the policies included within the Local Plan 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 on 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).

- Policy SS1 – Scale and Distribution of New Housing
- Policy SS3 – Greenfield Site Allocations

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

- Policy CN5 – Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People
- Policy EP1 – Economic Growth and Investment; and
- Policy SS3.11 – Basingstoke Golf Course
- Policy SS3.12 – Hounsomes Fields

The table below summarises the information concerning the specific groups that are differentially positively impacted upon by these policies (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).

Issue	Group	CN5 (Gypsies and Travellers)	EP1 (Economic Growth and Investment)	SS3.11 (Basingstoke Golf Course)	SS3.12 (Hounscome Fields)
Age	Over 80			X	X
	Over 65			X	X
	22-64		X		
	16 to 21		X		
	Under 16				X
Race	Gypsies/ Travellers	X		X	X
Disability & Health	Physical Impairment			X	X
	Sensory Impairment			X	X
	Long-Term Health Problem				
	Mental Illness				
	Learning Disability				
Religion & Belief	Faith Groups				
	Atheist, Agnostic or other belief				
Other	Unemployed		X		
	Living in rural area				
	Low Income			X	X
	On Benefits			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 for the general Local Plan policies and the specific site allocation policies.

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.