Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment - Initial Screening

Assessor(s) Name(s):	Rebecca Tuck (Integrated Transport Officer) Ian Middleton (Integrated Transport Technician)
Directorate:	Economy and Environment
Date of Completion:	15 th October 2012

Name of Strategy Proposal

Local Sustainable Transport Fund - Sustainable transport access to tourism.

The intent of the project is to upgrade and improve sustainable transport infrastructure, travel information, and promote the sustainable transport network in order to grow the Island's increasingly popular green tourism market.

The Aims, Objectives and Expected Outcomes:

In order to achieve an increase in the number of tourists travelling to and around the island sustainably, the project has four key delivery strands:

- 1. Public Transport Hubs establishment of strategic transport hubs providing live transport and tourism information and walking, cycling and public transport interchange facilities including:
 - i) Interactive display boards providing up-to-date travel and tourist information to give travellers the opportunity to make informed decisions on destinations, travel options and arrival time.
 - ii) Signage showing walking and cycling directions to local facilities (e.g. town centre, seafront, National Cycle Network)
 - iii) Improvements to transport infrastructure to increase and improve interchange accessibility
 - iv) Cycle hire installation of cycle hire facilities at rail stations/other locations to enable visitors to collect a pre booked cycle and return it to the same or other Island facilities at any time during their stay.
 - v) Cycle shelters and racks to enable travellers to leave cycles safely and securely to facilitate convenient onward travel. CCTV coverage at all hubs to promote safety linked to either the Highways Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Control Room or third parties operators systems.

- 2. Public transport information and support delivery of an Islandwide public transport Real Time Information (RTI) system consisting of:
 - i) Rail RTI provision of RTI at the five main Island rail stations (St Johns, Brading, Sandown, Lake and Shanklin) with links to the existing systems at Ryde Esplanade and Pier Head. Information will also be made available at interactive Island/mainland display boards, via the web and new mobile phone application.

ii) Bus RTI – installation of RTI infrastructure on all Island buses with information provided at interactive Island/mainland display boards, via the web and mobile phone app.

iii) Ferry RTI – utilizing in of Solent website information to enable ferry times to be included within the new information system.

iv) Application development – compilation of mobile phone application (two versions for use on android and iphone platforms) comprising of three elements: network management and public transport RTI, walking and cycling routes (location, information and interpretation) and tourist information (linking into application currently being developed by Isle of Wight Tourism).

This element of the project will also support the introduction of new and enhanced tourism related bus routes including the introduction of one new and two enhanced tourism bus services providing a new direct route from Ryde to Alum Bay; and enhancing services and frequency on 'Island Coaster' and route 12 including adaptation of vehicles to accommodate surfboards and bicycles.

- 3. Walking and cycling infrastructure improvements This element seeks to deliver a high quality walking and cycling infrastructure to encourage tourists to visit the Island for walking and cycling breaks. All works will focus on;
 - i) Filling in key 'missing' network links (new and upgraded walking and cycling infrastructure), where land acquisition and formal consents can be secured and to be maintained in the long term by the PFI provider as part of the accrual process.
 - ii) Improving access to tourist and leisure destinations including the countryside and coast.
 - iii) Access to/from walking/cycling routes via public transport.
 - iv) Increasing access for mobility impaired.
 - v) Creation of 'circular' routes.
 - vi) Provision for a variety of graded routes e.g. child friendly to challenging
 - vii) Signage.
 - viii) Route mapping including provision of 'facility' and grading information.
 - ix) Interpretation boards (including making use of new 'quick response' codes, near-field technology and augmented reality).
 - x) Development of mobile phone application showing routes, destinations, facilities, public transport links and general information.
 - xi) Provision of cycle racks at key destinations.
- 4. Marketing and promotion initiatives to promote the Island to 'green' tourists. The overall success of the project will require an appropriate marketing campaign encouraging tourists to choose the Island as a 'green' holiday destination by promoting the sustainable transport opportunities (including walking and cycling routes), encouraging visitors to travel to/around the Island car free and improving our green tourism offer. This element comprises of several components:
 - i) Promotion partnership with the Isle of Wight Tourism Partnership (comprising of Isle of

Wight Tourism, transport operators and attractions) and emerging 'Destination Management Organisation' to encourage tourists to visit the Island by promoting the accessibility and quality of our green transport infrastructure, utilizing new marketing techniques (e.g. social media) for promotion.

- ii) Internet development the development of a website (either stand alone with links or as part of the Island Breaks/GoWight/other existing sites) with access to public transport information (including RTI), walking and cycling routes, information on 'walker and cyclists welcome' and 'baggage transfer' schemes and initiatives to encourage car-free visitors.
- iii) Sustainable Travel Coordinator (Tourism) the establishment of a new Isle of Wight Council appointed post for a fixed term contract, terminating on 31st March 2015.

Please delete as appropriate:

• This is a new strategy proposal

Key Questions to Consider in Assessing Potential Impact	
Will the policy, strategy, service or council function proposal have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics or other reasons that are relevant issues for the local community and/or staff?	No
Has previous consultation identified this issue as important or highlighted negative impact and/or we have created a "legitimate expectation" for consultation to take place? A legitimate expectation may be created when we have consulted on similar issues in the past or if we have ever given an indication that we would consult in such situations	No
Do different groups of people within the local community have different needs or experiences in the area this issue relates to?	Yes
Could the aims of these proposals be in conflict with the council's general duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not?	No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how services or a council function/s s/are delivered?	No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?	No
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment of resources?	No
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities?	No

If you answer **Yes** to any of these questions, it will be necessary for you to proceed to a full Equality Impact Assessment after you have completed the rest of this initial screening form.

If you answer **No** to all of these questions, please provide appropriate evidence using the table below and complete the evidence considerations box and obtain sign off from your Head of Service.

Profected Characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reasons
Age	X			By widening, reprofiling and resurfacing a number of cycling and walking routes, accessibility and safety will be improved for the elderly and younger people, in particular young families with children in prams and pushchairs and people with mobility impairments.
				By introducing real time information and undertaking infrastructure improvements at transport hubs, there will be a great benefit to bus and train users of all ages, but particularly older people who make up a significant number of public transport users on the Island. Printed literature will also still be available alongside the information provided by the new technologies.
Disability	Х			By widening, reprofiling and resurfacing a number of Islandwide cycling and walking routes, accessibility and safety for the mobility impaired will be improved.
				Infrastructure improvements at transport hubs will also aid accessibility for the mobility impaired. The technology and information provided at hubs will seek to be mobility inclusive and include audio and visual messages so they are as accessible as possible.
Gender Reassignment			Х	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their gender reassignment status.
Marriage & Civil Partnership			Х	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their marriage or civil partnership status.
Pregnancy & Maternity	Х			By widening, reprofiling and resurfacing a number of cycling and walking routes, and making improvements to transport hubs; safety and accessibility will be improved for young families.

Race	X	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their race or ethnic/cultural background.
Religion / Belief	x	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their religion or belief.
Sex (male / female)	X	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their gender.
Sexual Orientation	X	The outputs of this project will be a benefit to all people irrespective of their sexual orientation.

Are there aspects of the proposal that contribute to or improve the opportunity for equality?

Yes

The council is meeting its public sector equality duty as required by the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and foster good relations by introducing the package of measures in this project. In particular the proposals will allow many more people of all ages and abilities; including the mobility impaired, safe access to the countryside, attractions and facilities across the Island.

Evidence Considered During Screening

In February 2012, the council's bid was submitted to the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund. In June 2012, the council was awarded a grant of £3.95 million from this fund to deliver the project titled 'Sustainable Access to Tourism'.

The bid was developed in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure all elements of the project can be delivered to meet the needs of tourists and local residents. However, due to the uncertainty of the success of the bid, work to progress the finer details of exactly how each of the elements will be delivered has not yet been finalised.

Although at this stage it is anticipated that none of the diversity strands will be adversely affected as a result of the package of measures implemented through this project, it will be necessary to undertake full equality impact assessments on each element once more detailed project plans have been developed.

All infrastructure works delivered through this scheme will be done so to the standards set out by the

Government, it is essential that the following pieces of legislation are adhered to:

- Traffic Management Act 2004
- The Transport Act 2000
- Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Road Traffic Regulation Act 1980
- Highway Act 1984
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007
- Department for Transport's Inclusive Mobility Guidance

In addition to the further, more detailed equality impact assessments that will be undertaken; the Isle of Wight Council has set up an Equality Group that represents the 9 protected characteristics of the Equality Act. This group has now been included on the internal noticing distribution list, giving them the opportunity to make comment when the notices are sent out. These notices will be sent out for all of the construction elements of this project. Any response to this consultation will be given due consideration.

Head of Service Sign off:	Pelana
Advice sought from Legal Services (Name)	BEN GARD
Date	17/10/12

A signed version is to be kept by your team and also an electronic version should be published on the council's website (follow the link from the EIA page on the intranet)

Stage 2 Full Equality Impact Assessment

Assessor(s)Name(s):	Rebecca Tuck (Integrated Transport Officer) Ian Middleton (Integrated Transport Technician)
Directorate:	Economy and Environment
Date of Completion:	15 th October 2012

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- iii) Sustainable Travel Coordinator (Tourism) the establishment of a new Isle of Wight Council appointed post for a fixed term contract, terminating on 31st March 2015.

The scheme will contribute to the delivery of targets under Theme 1 of the Community Strategy (guaranteeing the quality of life and sustainability) and particularly target 1.41, to cut the number of short car journeys being made.

Scope of the Equality Impact Assessment

To assess the impact on persons that may be affected by the overarching Sustainable transport access to tourism project.

Analysis and assessment

The Isle of Wight Council has already identified the need to consult with the established equality group which represents the 9 protected characteristics to inform the detailed design of Integrated Transport accessibility schemes, stand alone EIA's will be developed for each of the separate schemes taken forward as part of this project.

A mobility Impaired Consultation Group has been formed and this same group will become a stakeholder in this project and a consultee on the infrastructure elements of the project. Specialists groups who are experts in particular elements of the project will also form stakeholders in the project working groups to ensure a wide range of people are consulted.

The widening, reprofiling and resurfacing of the cycling and pedestrian routes will improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, especially the mobility impaired, elderly and young families.

By introducing real time information and undertaking infrastructure improvements at transport hubs, there will be a great benefit to bus and train users of all ages, but particularly older people who make up a significant number of public transport users on the Island. Printed literature will also still be available alongside the information provided by the new technologies.

Infrastructure improvements at transport hubs will also aid accessibility for the mobility impaired. The technology and information provided at hubs will seek to be mobility inclusive and include audio and visual messages so they are as accessible as possible.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the cabinet report is signed off and work progresses to further develop the project to a stage where individual equality impact assessments can be undertaken for each element within it.

Action/Improvement Plan

The table below should be completed using the information from your equality impact assessment to produce an action plan for the implementation of the proposals to:

- Remove or lower the negative impact, and/or
 Ensure that the negative impact is legal under anti-discriminatory law, and/or
 Provide an opportunity to promote equality, equal opportunity and improve relations within equality target groups, i.e. increase the positive impact

Area of impact	Is there evidence of negative positive or no impact?	Could this lead to adverse impact and if so why?	Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group or any other reason?	Please detail what measures or changes you will put in place to remedy any identified impact (NB: please make sure that you include actions to improve all areas of impact whether negative,
	Positive	No	N/A	N/A
	Positive	No	N/A	N/A
Gender Reassignment	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
Marriage & Civil Partnership	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
Pregnancy & Maternity	Positive	No	N/A	N/A
	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
Religion / Belief	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
Sex (male or female)	No impact	No	N/A	N/A

Area of impact	Is there evidence of negative positive or no impact?	Could this lead to adverse impact and if so why?	Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group or any other reason?	Please detail what measures or changes you will put in place to remedy any identified impact (NB: please make sure that you include actions to improve all areas of impact whether negative, neutral or positive)
Sexual Orientation	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
HR & workforce issues	No impact	No	N/A	N/A
Human Rights implications if relevant	No impact	No	N/A	N/A

Please remember - actions should have SMART targets and be reported to the Diversity Board (this should be done via your Directorate representative) and incorporated into your service/team Plans and /or objectives of key staff

Summary	
Date of Assessment:	15/10/12
Signed off by Head of Service/Director	12/2
Review date	17/10/12
Date published	

Publishing checklist	Yes	No
 Plain English – will your EIA make sense to the public? Acronyms – check you have explained any specialist names or terminology Evidence – will your evidence stand up to scrutiny; can you justify your conclusions? Stakeholders and verification – have you included a range of views and perspectives to back up you analysis? Gaps and information – have you identified any gaps in services or information that need to be addressed in the action plan? Success stories – have you included any positive impacts that have resulted in change for the better? Action plan – is action plan SMART? Have you informed the relevant people to ensure the action plan is carried out? Review have you included a review date and a named person to carry it out? Challenge – has your equality impact assessment been taken to Diversity Board/Call Over for challenge? Signing off – has your Head of Service/Director signed off your EIA? Basics – have you signed and dated your EIA and named it for publishing? A signed version to be kept by your team for review and electronic version to be uploaded on to the council's website 		

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