

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA378080880

Submitted: 17 November 2021 15:38 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: An updated process to ensure that ECC maximises the design quality of its own development proposals.

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): To establish a clear planning policy position for ECC in relation to the use of design guidance to help improve the quality of development, especially school development, ECC is responsible for.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Strong, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy, High Quality Environment, A good place for Children and Families to Grow

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Infrastructure, Future growth and investment, Green growth

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Transport and built environment, Green communities

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less: Safety, Outcomes for vulnerable children

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a change to an existing policy, practice or project

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqlA relates:

www.essexdesignguide.co.uk; www.essexdesignguide.co.uk/qualitypanel;
www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code;
www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqlA, for example decision documents:

www.essexdesignguide.co.uk; www.essexdesignguide.co.uk/qualitypanel;
www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code;
www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): The proposed changes / adoption of new ways of working would overall promote and lead to better design that would have a positive impact on Essex communities as a whole, especially children/schools.

We have considered the proposed changes to this internal process and do not feel that any one community/protected group would be adversely effected, in fact the group 'age' would be positively impacted in terms of school-aged children benefitting from better designed schools.

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: No

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: Yes

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: All Essex

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: No

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: No

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: No

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank. You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: Age

I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics: I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: This group would be positively impacted in terms of school-aged children benefitting from better designed schools.

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Better designed schools lead to better education and could positively influence generations of children to come.

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqIA completed: 17/11/2021

Name of person completing the EqIA: Rebecca Rushmer

Email address of person completing the EqIA: Rebecca.Rushmer@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Place and Public Health

Your service area: Planning Service

Your team: County Planning

Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: Yes

Name of person completing the EqlA: Rebecca Rushmer

Function: Place and Public Health

Service area: Planning Service

Team: County Planning

Email address of Head of Service: graham.thomas@essex.gov.uk