

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA222290799

Submitted: 29 June 2020 20:58 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Digital Connectivity Strategy

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): Decision to create a Digital Connectivity Strategy for Essex with a focus on driving faster deployment and further reach of digital connectivity to support the adoption of digital technology and accelerate economic growth. This forms part of ECC's Covid 19 recovery work.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Enable inclusive economic growth, Help people get the best start and age well, Help create great places to grow up, live and work, Transform the council to achieve more with less

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Help people in Essex prosper by increasing their skills, Enable Essex to attract and grow large firms in high growth industries, Target economic development to areas of opportunity

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential, Enable more vulnerable adults to live independent of social care, Improve the health of people in Essex

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help create great places to grow up, live and work: Help secure sustainable development and protect the environment, Facilitate growing communities and new homes

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less: Limit cost and drive growth in revenue, Develop the capability, performance and engagement of our people, Re-imagine how residents' needs can be met in a digital world

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

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): As part of the Strategy development, the impact on the population and any specific groups will be assessed

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: Yes

Employees: Yes

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?: Yes

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?: Yes

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: Yes

Please describe the steps you have taken to meet the digital accessibility requirements: this is a strategy - no direct accessibility requirements

Please describe the steps you have taken to test the accessibility of the website, system or application: this is a strategy - no direct requirements

Please describe the steps you have taken to maintain accessibility once it has gone live: this is a strategy - no direct requirements

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: No impact on any of the above groups

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

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: While the proposed strategy will potentially impact the whole population of Essex, there is no specific impact on specific protected groups.

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqlA 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 EqlA completed: 29/06/2020

Name of person completing the EqlA: Connie Kerbst

Email address of person completing the EqlA: Connie.Kerbst@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Economy, Localities & Public Health

Your service area: Economic Growth

Your team: Superfast Essex

Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: Andrew.Burgess2@essex.gov.uk