

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA187676726

Submitted: 25 March 2020 15:46 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Coronavirus Outbreak – Temporary Closure of Park and Ride services

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): The Coronavirus outbreak is a major public health emergency. The Government's current advice is for the population of the United Kingdom to travel only when it is essential to do so.

As a result the number of passengers using the Park and Ride services has dropped significantly.

In addition, the number of critical workers available to run passenger transport services is dropping. Closing these sites will allow these critical workers to be re-deployed onto other bus services providing transport to hospitals.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Help people get the best start and age well

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Improve the health of people in Essex

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 EqIA relates:

https://essexcountycouncil.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/PRreducedserviceandclosureCMA/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B7C256233-C1B2-4910-8306-66D31D77C97E%7D&file=PR%20Covid%20CMA%20v1.1.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true

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

https://essexcountycouncil.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/PRreducedserviceandclosureCMA/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B7C256233-C1B2-4910-8306-66D31D77C97E%7D&file=PR%20Covid%20CMA%20v1.1.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true

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 United Kingdom is having to respond to the coronavirus outbreak. As of Monday 23 17 March the Government advised residents to practice social distancing and on 20 and 23 March announced further restrictions to be backed by regulations made under the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984.

As a result the number of passenger using the park and ride services has dropped significantly.

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?: Yes

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: 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

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: The number of passengers using the service has dropped significantly since the Covid 19 outbreak. Therefore the number of people affected is low.

Age

Nature of impact: Adverse

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Currently older people choose to use the park and ride rather than drive into town and park.

If older people continue to travel, they can still do so, they have access to a car.

They will now have to drive into the town or city centres or to the hospital sites.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Due to the Covid 19 outbreak congestion is low and the number of parking spaces available in towns and cities has increased.

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: 25/03/2020

Name of person completing the EqIA: Rachael Price

Email address of person completing the EqIA: Rachael.Price@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Economy, Localities & Public Health

Your service area: Highways and Transportation

Your team: IPTU

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

Email address of Head of Service: helen.morris@essex.gov.uk