

Equality Impact and Needs Assessment Form

Section One – Screening

Name of strategy, policy or project:
Community Planning Database
Directorate and service area:
CEX
Name and contact details of officer completing assessment:
Matthew Bell
1. What is the main purpose of the strategy/policy/project (or the changes you want to make to it)?
To provide greater access to information contained within community plans.
2. What are the main activities of the strategy/policy/project?
To provide an online IT solution to record, manage and report on information contained within community plans.
3. Who is intended to benefit from the strategy/policy/project, and how?
All communities that have written or are thinking about writing a community plan. All agencies wishing to understand what the community aspirations are.
4. Is the strategy/policy/project consistent with the Council's equality policies?
Yes.
5. Is responsibility for the strategy/policy/project shared with another department, authority or organisation? If so, what responsibility and which bodies?
The Devon Strategic Partnership Strategic Partnerships group have taken strategic accountability for the project.

6. What impact is the strategy/policy/project likely to have on different sections of the community? You may wish to use the table below as a prompt.

	Positive impact – it could benefit ✓ (check box)	Negative impact – it could disadvantage ✓ (check box)	Reason	Are there additional factors that could contribute to the experience of isolation¹? If so, what are they?	Evidence
Gender					
• Women	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Ethnic Group					
• Asian or Asian British people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Black or Black British people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Chinese people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Gypsy or Roma People	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Irish People	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• People of Mixed Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• White People	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• People of other ethnic backgrounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Asylum Seekers and Refugees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
People with physical, sensory or learning disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Deaf People who use British Sign Language	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
People with mental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

¹ Refer to section 3 of the EINA guidance.

	Positive impact – it could benefit ✓ (check box)	Negative impact – it could disadvantage ✓ (check box)	Reason	Are there additional factors that could contribute to the experience of isolation¹? If so, what are they?	Evidence
health issues					
Lesbians, gay men and bisexual people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Trans people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Age					
• Older people (60 +)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Younger people (17-25) and children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
People of different faith groups or beliefs including non-believers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Travellers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

	Positive impact – it could benefit ✓ (check box)	Negative impact – it could disadvantage ✓ (check box)	Reason	Are there additional factors that could contribute to the experience of isolation¹? If so, what are they?	Evidence
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This project will increase access to information for any person with access to the internet. It will be designed to meet with accessibility standards. However, it could result in any individual or community without access to the internet being disadvantaged. Devon County Council invested in the infrastructure to provide access to the internet which in some places still exists. This provision mitigates some of the possible disadvantage.		
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Notes:

- Faith groups cover a wide range of groupings, the most common of which are Muslims, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, Sikhs and Hindus. Consider faith categories individually and collectively when assessing positive and negative impacts.
- The categories relating to ethnicity include those used in the 2001 census. Consideration should be given to the needs of specific communities within the broad categories such as Bangladeshi people and to the needs of other communities such as Turkish/Turkish Cypriot, Greek/Greek Cypriot and Polish that do not appear as separate categories in the census.
- An adverse impact does not necessarily require action to be taken. Actions must remain in proportion with the benefits that could be achieved and resources available to complete them. If adverse impacts are identified and actions for improvement are not proportionate, the reasons for not taking action should be detailed and open to challenge.

7. If you have indicated there is a negative impact on any group, is that impact:		
Legal?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>(i.e. it is not discriminatory under anti-discriminatory legislation – refer to the Council's website or your Directorate Equality Representative if guidance is needed)</i>		
Intended?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Level of impact	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>	LOW <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the negative impact is possibly discriminatory and not intended and/or of high impact you must complete section two of this form. If not, complete the rest of section one below and consider if completing section two would be helpful in making a thorough assessment.		
8. a) Could you minimise or remove any negative impact that is of low significance? Explain how: By designing the website to meet the e-GIF access standards.		
b) Could you improve the strategy, project or policy's positive impact? Explain how: Not currently. In the future, there may be further development to make. However this is a first step. Additionally, the database will gather data about what groups of people community projects target. This will be able to be used to record how well minority or disadvantaged groups benefit directly from projects. <i>You may wish to use the action sheet at the end of Section Two.</i>		
9. If there is no evidence that the strategy, policy or project promotes equality, equal opportunities or improved relations – could it be adapted so that it does? How?		

Please sign and date this form. Keep one copy, send a copy to your Directorate Equality Representative and publish the results on the Council's website.

Signed: Matthew Bell

Date: 29/05/07