

Equality Impact and Needs Assessment Form

Section One – Screening

Name of strategy, policy or project:
Exmouth and Seaton Visitor Gateway Centres Feasibility Studies
Directorate and service area:
Environment - Development, Countryside and Heritage
Name and contact details of officer completing assessment:
David Andrew Ext'n: 2175 email:david.andrew.devon.gov.uk
1. What is the main purpose of the strategy/policy/project (or the changes you want to make to it)? The proposed visitor gateway centres will provide world class interpretation facilities commensurate with the national and international significance of the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site and Exe Estuary, but will also provide interpretation and links to other key themes, sites and visitor experiences in the local and wider area.
2. What are the main activities of the strategy/policy/project? To date, economic feasibility studies have been undertaken which included a site options appraisal, recommended size and scope for viability, capital and revenue costings, funding sources, and wider economic impacts.
3. Who is intended to benefit from the strategy/policy/project, and how? Long term, the Visitor Gateway Centres has three key audiences for interpretation: 1. The 'lay audience' - proposed facilities and resources will provide simple, good quality information to both local residents and visitors; 2. Education Markets 3. Tourists who have special or scientific interest in the Site. Interpretation will be accessible to all, in particular groups with specialists needs including people with disabilities (sensory or mobility) or other groups who have have particular barriers to accessing the World Heritage Site.
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?

Yes - The Feasibility Studies have been produced on behalf of the East Devon Visitor Centres Feasibility Steering Group comprising the funders which were South West Regional Development Agencies, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council, Exmouth and Seaton Town Councils, the Exe Estuary Partnership through the Cycleau Project, and Seaton Tramway. These organisations, together with the two community groups, Exmouth Projects Promotion Group and Seaton Development Trust, and RSPB and the World Heritage Team, formed a Steering Group to guide the work of the consultants.

At present responsibility for the future leadership and governance of the projects has yet to be determined.

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"/>	Enhanced opportunities for understanding and awareness		
• Men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced opportunities for understanding and awareness		
Ethnic Group					
• Asian or Asian British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Black or Black British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Chinese people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Gypsy or Roma People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Irish People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• People of Mixed Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• White People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• People of other ethnic backgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Asylum Seekers and Refugees	<input 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
People with physical, sensory or learning disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced opportunities for access to understanding and awareness		
Deaf People who use British Sign Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
People with mental health issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Lesbians, gay men and bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Trans people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Age					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Older people (60 +) 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced opportunities for understanding and awareness		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger people (17-25) and children 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced educational and learning opportunities		
People of different faith groups or beliefs including non-believers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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 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 type="checkbox"/>
Level of impact	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>	LOW <input 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: It is the intention that the World Heritage Site Steering Group will prepare an Access Policy and a Social and Ethnic Inclusion Policy. The Interpretation Action Plan which recommends development of these visitor centres at the primary gateways along the WHS states that consideration of access and inclusion issues will be mainstreamed into the development of all WHS interpretation, from website accessibility, through multi-language or spoken guides, to all mobility access. Access and inclusion will be central to all developments. The Feasibility Studies are written in English. An offer should be made to translate it to other languages, large print or tape and should be given in English, Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Gujarati, Turkish and Urdu.		
b) Could you improve the strategy, project or policy's positive impact? Explain how: The detailed planning stage of these projects, which is subject to external funding and is unlikely to take place until 2006/07 at the earliest, will fully consider access and inclusion issues and the detailed plans will be subject to individual Equality Impact and Needs Assessment. <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: David Andrew

Date: 3rd October 2005

Section Two – Full assessment

Name of strategy, policy or project:

Date:

Part A

1. Looking back at section one of the EINA, in what areas are there concerns that the strategy, policy or project could have a negative impact?

2. Summarise the likely negative impacts.

3. What previous or planned consultation or research on this topic / policy area / project has taken place / will take place with groups / individuals from different sections of the community? If there has already been consultation or research what does it indicate about negative impact of this strategy, policy or project?

Section of the Community	Summary of consultation or research carried out or planned

4. What consultation has taken place/or is planned with DCC staff/DCC staff group including staff that have, or will have, direct experience of implementing the strategy / policy / project?

5. If there are gaps in your previous or planned consultation and research, are there any experts/relevant groups that can be contacted to get further views or evidence on the issues.

YES (*Please list them below and explain how you will obtain their views*)

NO

6. Has the strategy / policy / project been through legal vetting for compliance?

YES

NO

Note: This will only be necessary in conditions where the strategy / policy / project is entirely driven by legislative duties **and/or** where there is doubt about the legal interpretations in relation to the outcomes / service being provided.

Part B

Complete this section when consultation and research has been carried out

7. a) As a result of this assessment and available evidence collected, including consultation, state whether there will need to be any changes made / planned to the policy, strategy or project.

b) As a result of this assessment and available evidence is it important that DCC commission specific research on this issue or carry out monitoring / data collection?

(You may wish to put this information directly onto the action plan at the end of this form)

8. Will the changes planned ensure that negative impact is:

Legal? YES NO

(not discriminatory, under anti-discriminatory legislation)

Intended? YES NO

Low impact? YES NO

9. a) Have you set up a monitoring / evaluation / review process to check the successful implementation of the strategy, project or policy?

YES NO

b) How will this monitoring / evaluation further assess the impact on different sections of the community/ ensure the strategy/ policy / project is non-discriminatory?

Details:

10. What is the final policy decision for this assessment?

11. There is a legal requirement to publish the outcome of an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment. Please outline how / where this will happen:

Please complete the action plan below, sign the EINA, retain a copy and send a copy of the full EINA, including the Action Plan, to your Directorate Equality Representative.

Signed:

Date:

Equality Impact and Needs Assessment Action Plan

Please list below any recommendations for action that you plan to take as a result of this impact assessment.

Issue	Action required	Lead officer	Timescale	Resource implications	Comments

NOTES: