

Equality Analysis

Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

EA Name	Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan
Directorate	Economy
Service Area	P&R Planning And Development
Type	New/Proposed Policy
EA Summary	The Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan sets out a vision and development principles that will guide the future redevelopment of Birmingham Smithfield to deliver a new place for the City at the heart of the city centre. An 8 week public consultation was undertaken on the masterplan following which it is to be adopted by the City Council to guide future planning and investment decisions.
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Introduction

The report records the information that has been submitted for this equality analysis in the following format.

Overall Purpose

This section identifies the purpose of the Policy and which types of individual it affects. It also identifies which equality strands are affected by either a positive or negative differential impact.

Relevant Protected Characteristics

For each of the identified relevant protected characteristics there are three sections which will have been completed.

- Impact
- Consultation
- Additional Work

If the assessment has raised any issues to be addressed there will also be an action planning section.

The following pages record the answers to the assessment questions with optional comments included by the assessor to clarify or explain any of the answers given or relevant issues.

1 Activity Type

The activity has been identified as a New/Proposed Policy.

2 Overall Purpose

2.1 What the Activity is for

What is the purpose of this Policy and expected outcomes?	Birmingham Smithfield covers 14 hectares of land in the heart of the city centre bringing together a comprehensive site including the wholesale markets, the Bull Ring Markets and Moat Lane gyratory. The city council owns the majority of the site. It is an Enterprise Zone site that is identified in the Big City Plan and the Birmingham Development Plan as a major location for growth in the city. The wholesale markets will be relocated in April 2017 to new premises within the city at The Hub, Witton. The relocation provides the opportunity to create an exciting new place for the city that will reconnect the area with its surroundings creating new activities and environments. A detailed masterplan has been prepared for the site to realise this opportunity which will be used to inform all future planning and investment decisions. The first stage in the masterplan's preparation was the launch of the Visioning Document in March 2015. The Visioning Document presented the development opportunity and set out concepts for how the area could be developed in the future. It proposed four 'Big Moves' that could be at the heart of any future redevelopment: (1) a vibrant market and family leisure quarter; (2) a market square; (3) a pedestrian spine; and (4) integrated public transport. The Visioning Document underwent an 8 week public consultation which enabled ideas to evolve and develop. There was a positive response to the proposals with the main issues being the call for a green park and the secured future of the retail markets. This consultation, along with a series of baseline and technical studies, has informed the production of the masterplan. The masterplan sets out the following: (1) the vision for the area including details of the five 'Big Moves' to bring about major transformation; (2) principles for redevelopment that will be central to creating a high quality, sustainable place; and (3) a strategy for delivery. Birmingham Smithfield will radically transform the City's visitor economy creating a major cultural and leisure destination that extends the existing offer with new vibrant retail markets, family entertainment, museums and galleries. As an exemplar sustainable development it will create a distinctive place with high quality architecture, public spaces and squares and a dynamic mix of uses including a new residential offer. It will reconnect this part of the city centre through new streets, public transport accessibility and pedestrian and cycle priority. The five Big Moves that will realise the vision and maximise this once in a lifetime opportunity: (1) vibrant markets and leisure; (2) Festival Square, a major public space; (3) a pedestrian boulevard to reconnect the area; (4) integrated public transport that will bring the Metro into the area and (5) an exemplar residential neighbourhood. The masterplan also highlights the need for sustainable and high quality development which is reflected in its core development principles; (1) sustainability; (2) connectivity; (3) uses and (4) design. These core principles will help Birmingham Smithfield stand the test of time and become a successful place. The site is also one of the World Business Council for Sustainable Developments (WBCSD) Zero Emissions Cities which sets out to create a zero carbon city through the use of smart technology, efficient buildings and integrated waste and energy infrastructure. It was launched at MIPIM, an annually held international property conference, and in Birmingham in March 2016 for an 8 week public consultation. There was a positive
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For each strategy, please decide whether it is going to be significantly aided by the Function.

Public Service Excellence	No
A Fair City	No
A Prosperous City	Yes
A Democratic City	No

2.2 Individuals affected by the policy

Will the policy have an impact on service users/stakeholders?	Yes
Will the policy have an impact on employees?	No
Will the policy have an impact on wider community?	Yes

2.3 Analysis on Initial Assessment

The Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan is primarily a strategic document which sets out proposals for the future development of the Birmingham Smithfield site. The overall purpose is to promote the regeneration of this area of the City Centre, increasing employment, providing housing and enhancing public transport and connectivity links. Additional benefits include public health and visitor satisfaction. These benefits are not specific to a particular group, and are unlikely to have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected groups.

The masterplan contains proposals to integrate the markets and improve access which would be expected to have a positive impact. However, the masterplan does not consider the detail of the future operation of the markets, the services it offers and access arrangements. The masterplan also contains proposals to enhance public transport and connectivity which would be expected to have a positive impact on disabled persons in particular. However, the masterplan does not consider the detail of these improvements and enhancements which will be brought forward as separate projects. As such it is neither possible or appropriate to assess their impact on the protected groups at this stage. It is proposed therefore that the equalities assessment will be reconsidered at each project's design stage.

In light of the above it is not considered that a Full Equality Assessment is required for the Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan. However, for consistency and to promote the consideration of equalities the masterplan will state that a key benefit of the site's redevelopment will be enhanced accessibility. This position has been reviewed and confirmed following the public consultation on the Visioning Document and the Masterplan.

3 Concluding Statement on Full Assessment

The analysis considered that the Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan is primarily a strategic document which sets out the vision and principles for the development of the site. The overall purpose is to promote the regeneration of the area, increasing employment providing housing and enhancing transport and connectivity links. Additional benefits include public health and visitor satisfaction.

These benefits are not specific to a particular group, and are unlikely to have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected groups. The masterplan's vision will be brought forward as separate projects and equalities assessment will be undertaken at the design stage of these projects.

In light of the above it was not considered that a Full Equality Assessment is required for the Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan. This position has been reviewed throughout the masterplan's preparation and following the two periods of public consultation. No additional equalities impacts were identified through consultation and as such it is not considered that a Full Assessment is required.

4 Review Date

22/09/17

5 Action Plan

There are no relevant issues, so no action plans are currently required.