

Equality Analysis

Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

EA Name	Snow Hill Growth Strategy
Directorate	Economy
Service Area	Transportation Services Growth And Transportation
Type	New/Proposed Policy
EA Summary	This Equalities Assessment reviews the recommendation to accept 2 million pounds revenue funding from the Government (via the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP)) to support the progression of the Snow Hill Masterplan, and to produce a Snow Hill Growth Strategy.
Reference Number	EA001514
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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

<p>What is the purpose of this Policy and expected outcomes?</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy is to produce a Snow Hill Growth Strategy, which seeks to create a development proposition focussed upon the successful transformation of Snow Hill Station and its immediate environs.</p> <p>The expected outcomes are that the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepts grant funding of 2 million pounds Government revenue funding via the GBSLEP to support the progression of the Snow Hill Masterplan and the development of the Snow Hill Growth Strategy; Approves the proposal to procure external professional services in respect of detailed work around the Snow Hill Station, Regeneration, Wider Transportation and Delivery Advice and Models; and authorises the Strategic Director for Economy to commence Single Contractor Negotiations with Network Rail to undertake feasibility and design development activities associated with the Snow Hill Station specific work package of the strategy; Authorises the Acting City Solicitor to negotiate, execute and complete any necessary legal documentation to give effect to the above recommendations. <p>Internally, consultation has been undertaken with the Deputy Leader, the Strategic Director (Finance and Legal), the Assistant Director (Development) and the Assistant Director (Transportation and Connectivity), who support the proposals. Officers from City Finance, Procurement and Legal and Democratic Services have been involved in the preparation of the proposals.</p> <p>Externally, a work specification for the Snow Hill Growth Strategy has been developed in conjunction with the Cities and Local Growth Unit, which cross cuts a number of Government departments including HM Treasury, the Department for Transport (DfT) and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). Initial engagement has taken place with Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), the GBSLEP, adjacent land owners, Network Rail, London Midland and franchise bidders for the new West Midlands Rail Passenger Franchise.</p> <p>The development of a Snow Hill Growth Strategy aligns with the Snow Hill Masterplan, the Big City Plan, the Birmingham Development Plan and the Councils Birmingham Connected Transport strategy. Additionally, the proposals support the Council Business Plan and Budget 2016+ and the citys vision A City for Growth; and key priorities around Jobs and Skills (a city to succeed in) and Housing (a great city to live in). Work is also set in the context of the Midlands Engine, Midlands Connect, West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Strategic Economic Plan and the GBSLEP Strategic Economic Plan.</p> <p>The Snow Hill district is identified in the Big City Plan (2010) as one of five areas for major transformation in the city centre, with significant potential to deliver sustainable growth, improved connectivity, environmental quality, new residential communities and a diversified economic base. In October 2015 the Council adopted the Snow Hill Masterplan that identifies the key interventions required to enable the above transformation over the period 2015 to 2035. In addition, the Masterplan sets out a framework to guide infrastructure investment and future development in the area. Key proposals within the Masterplan comprise: the major transformation of Snow Hill Station; reconfiguration of the A38 Great Charles Street Queensway; extension of the office core around Snow Hill Station; revitalisation of the Steelhouse Lane area; and substantial improvements to the public realm, integrated transport, air quality (noting the now mandated Clean Air Zone) and walking and cycling provision.</p> <p>In the 2016 Budget HM Treasury committed to providing 2 million pounds revenue funding (via GBSLEP) to support the progression of the Snow Hill Masterplan, adopted by the Council in October 2015, with the objective of maximising inclusive economic growth and realising the development potential of Snow Hill Station and the surrounding business district area.</p>
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For each strategy, please decide whether it is going to be significantly aided by the Function.

A Strong Economy	Yes
Safety And Opportunity For All Children	No
A Great Future For Young People	No
Thriving Local Communities	No
A Healthy, Happy City	Yes
A Modern Council	Yes

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?	Yes
Will the policy have an impact on wider community?	Yes

2.3 Analysis on Initial Assessment

All schemes proposed within the Snow Hill Growth Strategy will be provided as a public good and will be available for all members of the community and visitors alike to use.

Individual scheme proposals will be further screened for equalities analysis as part of standard Council governance and approval processes. The initial screening for the acceptance of the revenue funding has indicated no adverse impacts or discrimination, and it is concluded that a full EA is not necessary at this time.

The facilities and measures proposed are for all users and none are excluded. No measures are considered to discriminate against protected groups in terms of age, race, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, sex, pregnancy or maternity or disability.

This position will be reviewed for individual scheme Product Definition Documents / Full Business Cases as they progress through standard Council governance and approval processes.

Initial engagement in preparation of the Snow Hill Growth Strategy has taken place with key delivery partners including with TfWM, the GBSLEP, adjacent land owners, Network Rail, London Midland and franchise bidders for the new West Midlands Rail Passenger Franchise.

Any new projects that would be funded as part of the Snow Hill Growth Strategy would be subject to individual EAs.

3 Concluding Statement on Full Assessment

All schemes proposed within the Snow Hill Growth Strategy will be provided as a public good and will be available for all members of the community and visitors alike to use.

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4 Review Date

23/10/17

5 Action Plan

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