




Title of proposed EIA	Enhanced Partnership – Amendments to Plan and Scheme Extents
Reference No	EQUA861
EA is in support of	New Function
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	17/05/2023
Directorate	Inclusive Growth
Division	Transport and Connectivity
Service Area	Transport Planning and Network Strategy
Responsible Officer(s)	 Peter A Bethell
Quality Control Officer(s)	 Jaswinder Gandham
Accountable Officer(s)	 Mel Jones
Purpose of proposal	to assess the proposed benefits of expanding the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme area for improving bus travel in Birmingham City Centre, in readiness for the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.
Data sources	
Please include any other sources of data	
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Not Applicable
Age details:	
Protected characteristic: Disability	Not Applicable
Disability details:	
Protected characteristic: Sex	Not Applicable
Gender details:	
Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment	Not Applicable
Gender reassignment details:	
Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not Applicable
Marriage and civil partnership details:	
Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity	Not Applicable
Pregnancy and maternity details:	
Protected characteristics: Race	Not Applicable
Race details:	
Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs	Not Applicable
Religion or beliefs details:	
Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation	Not Applicable
Sexual orientation details:	
Socio-economic impacts	
Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.	
Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended	NO
What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?	

Consultation analysis

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

What data is required in the future?

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

A previous Cabinet report dated 17th December 2019 entitled "Enhanced Partnership for Sprint", authorised the developing and making of an Enhanced Partnership (EP) Plan and Scheme in the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area to enable improved bus travel, primarily through the introduction of two Sprint bus rapid transit routes, on the A34 and A45 corridors in readiness for the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games (CWG).

The report summarised in that any future EP Schemes for other routes, would be subject to further scheme agreements and Full Business Cases (FBCs) through reports to Cabinet. To that end, the existing Birmingham City Centre Advanced Quality Partnership Scheme (BCCAQPS) expires on 9th July 2022 and it is proposed to expand the EP Plan and Scheme area to include that presently covered by the BCCAQPS (as an EP and AQPS cannot cover the same area), to ensure that high quality bus infrastructure and service provision is available in Birmingham City Centre in time for the CWG.

It is proposed to amend the EP to include Birmingham City Centre which would increase the geographical area (and therefore increase the numbers of people with protected characteristics) covered by the EP Plan and Scheme.

TfWM are preparing the amended EP with, and on behalf of, the local authorities. Birmingham City Council is being asked to approve the amendment of the EP to include Birmingham City Centre. An initial Equality Impact has been carried out, and it has been decided that a full assessment is not required; as this concerns the approval of an external TfWM proposal.

TfWM have carried out their own equalities impact assessment for the original EP, and they have determined that there are no equality implications specifically in relation to the original EP, and the amendment of the EP to incorporate Birmingham City Centre is considered to not change this conclusion.

The Vision for Bus highlights the important role that bus plays in addressing key strategic equality and inclusion challenges. Young people, BAME groups, disabled people and other protected groups, as well as lower socio-

economic groups, are more likely to rely on the bus network to access education, employment and other opportunities. Affordable, accessible and well connected services are vital in ensuring these groups are not excluded and marginalised.

The amended Enhanced Partnership Scheme will introduce measures in Birmingham City Centre that are likely to help promote equality of opportunity for a number of protected groups – namely those who are more likely to be reliant on public transport and those who face increased barriers to using public transport.

Measures include:

- Higher quality, accessible vehicles
- Higher quality, RTI enabled stops/shelters
- RTI/audio-visual information and free wi-fi on board
- Enhanced information provision on board and in stops/shelters
- Faster services through the implementation of bus priority facilities and bus lane enforcement

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

TfWM have carried out their own equalities impact assessment for the original EP, and they have determined that there are no equality implications specifically in relation to the original EP, and the amendment of the EP to incorporate Birmingham City Centre is considered to not change this conclusion.

QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

Yes

Quality Control Officer comments

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

No

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

03/03/2022

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

Content Type: Item

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