

Title of proposed EIA	NEC Masterplan
Reference No	EQUA1188
EA is in support of	New Function
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	22/08/2024
Directorate	Inclusive Growth
Division	Investment and Valuation
Service Area	
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Carwyn Beswick
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jaswinder Gandham
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eden Ottley
Purpose of proposal	Facilitation of property transaction
Data sources	Other (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Not Applicable
Age details:	As a property transaction that does not include an individual there will be no impact on age related characteristics.
Protected characteristic: Disability	Not Applicable
Disability details:	<p>The property transaction which does not include an individual is currently a surface car park with accessible spaces provided. However the Council has no control on these spaces or the car park operation.</p> <p>The proposed new development will be Disability Discrimination Act and Equality Act compliant but the Council has no control on these elements.</p>
Protected characteristic: Sex	Not Applicable
Gender details:	The property transaction does not include an individual that has a gender. There is no gender impact.
Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment	Not Applicable
Gender reassignment details:	The property transaction does not include an individual with a gender.

	There are no impacts for gender reassignment involved in the transaction.
Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not Applicable
Marriage and civil partnership details:	The property transaction does not include an individual that can get married or enter into a civil partnership. There are no impacts for marriage and civil partnerships.
Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity	Not Applicable
Pregnancy and maternity details:	The property transaction does not include an individual which is, or could get pregnant, or has any interest in, or impact on, motherhood. There are no impacts for pregnancy or maternity involved in the transaction.
Protected characteristics: Race	Not Applicable
Race details:	The property transaction does not include an individual with a race. Nothing in the transaction is conducted on the basis of a race.
Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs	Not Applicable
Religion or beliefs details:	The property transaction does not include an individual with a religion or a belief. No part of the transaction is involves religion or any other beliefs.
Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation	Not Applicable
Sexual orientation details:	The property transaction does not include an individual with a sexual orientation. No part of the transaction involves sexual orientation.
Socio-economic impacts	
Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.	Continue to monitor.
Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended	NO
What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?	None.
Consultation analysis	Not consulted.
Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.	No adverse affect or discrimination against any protected characteristic.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact? No.

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

Informal monitoring plus formal review.

What data is required in the future?

None.

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

The process has demonstrated that there are no negative or unlawful impacts or discrimination based on any protected characteristic.

This assessment considers the potential equalities impacts of the decisions to endorse and implement the NEC Masterplan, and to amend leases between BCC and NEC Ltd such as to support the continued success of the NEC Group's operations.

The NEC Masterplan has been produced to establish both the scale of the opportunity, and the principles to guide development and connectivity, in order to fully realise the potential of the site including the development potential of the existing surface car parking areas.

The Masterplan document sets out a vision for the future of the NEC site as "nec•city" – an internationally unique destination with global appeal that fuses entertainment, leisure, exhibition space, commercial and residential offers across a 175ha campus with the existing NEC at its heart.

The purpose of the Masterplan is to deliver sustainable growth. The NEC Group is a significant local employer and a significant contributor to the local economy; as such the sustainable growth of the business is beneficial to all groups. The location of the NEC at UK Central makes it one of the most accessible locations in the country and therefore a location able to support



the level of growth proposed. The proposals in the Masterplan will deliver opportunities for new employment, education and training, new housing, sustainable travel, and enhanced public spaces. The economic benefits of the growth will be felt across the region.

In implementing the proposals in the plan due regard will be had to opportunities for local employment, and where appropriate to realising benefits through public sector procurement or charters to deliver social value outcomes. Schemes will be designed with accessibility for all groups in mind.

The endorsement and delivery of the Masterplan will, therefore have the potential to benefit all groups across the city and region, and will not have a negative differential impact on any group or protected characteristic. There will be opportunities to test these assumptions as part of the development and approval of individual schemes.

The NEC Masterplan is in line with the aims of Solihull MBC (the Local Planning Authority for the site), the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP, and the West Midlands Combined Authority. On a macro scale the impact of growth here will be addressed and monitored through the Sustainability Appraisal for the Solihull Local Plan – this will include impacts on the community.

These decisions follow on from and enable the implementation of decisions previously made by Cabinet, for which assessments of the potential equalities impacts were also provided:

- An initial screening was carried out in July 2013 on the decision to sell NEC Ltd and enter into leases on the operational sites. This found that the approach

had potential equalities benefits, and that the needs of different groups would be considered during the implementation of the project.

- An initial screening was carried out in April 2016 on the decision to prepare a Masterplan for the NEC site. This focused on the potential impacts of preparation rather than implementation, and found that, as this would be delivered as 'business as usual' for the Council, there was limited opportunity for negative differential impacts.
- A further review was undertaken in summer 2023 which concurred with the April 2016 and earlier work.
- Further review is planned as the project progresses.

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

It is considered that the proposals will contribute to equality of opportunity for all through creating the conditions for growth and job creation. In addition it is considered that the proposals do not have the potential to have a differential impact on any group or protected characteristic. The overall conclusion is that at this stage a full assessment is not required and that the assumptions and conclusions of this assessment will be robustly tested during the development and approval of individual schemes. The appropriate monitoring will be carried out in the implementation of the decisions – through planning applications, procurement approach, the gateway/assurance frameworks of the City and its partners, and through the NEC Group's management of the business – that should any potential negative differential impact arise these will be appropriately addressed.

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

No

Quality Control Officer comments

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

Yes

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

22/08/2023

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

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