



Equality Analysis

Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

EA Name	HS2 Curzon Station Public Realm Programme
Directorate	Economy
Service Area	Economy - P&R Planning And Development
Type	New/Proposed Function
EA Summary	To assess any potential equality implications arising from delivering the public realm around the planned HS2 Curzon Station.
Reference Number	EA001989
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Date Approved	2017-08-22 00:00:00 +0100
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Introduction

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

Initial Assessment

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 Function.

2 Initial Assessment

2.1 Purpose and Link to Strategic Themes

What is the purpose of this Function and expected outcomes?

The purpose of this proposal is to seek funding to design and develop viable, costed urban design proposals to support the design of the HS2 Curzon Station environment. The designs will be to scheme design standard and sufficient to secure planning permission as part of the overall Curzon Station planning process led by HS2 Ltd. The designs will then be used to submit full business cases to the EZ for funding to deliver the projects.

For each strategy, please decide whether it is going to be significantly aided by the Function.

Children: A Safe And Secure City In Which To Learn And Grow	Yes
Health: Helping People Become More Physically Active And Well	Yes
Housing : To Meet The Needs Of All Current And Future Citizens	No
Jobs And Skills: For An Enterprising, Innovative And Green City	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?	No
Will the policy have an impact on wider community?	Yes

2.3 Relevance Test

Protected Characteristics	Relevant	Full Assessment Required
Age	Not Relevant	No
Disability	Not Relevant	No
Gender	Not Relevant	No
Gender Reassignment	Not Relevant	No
Marriage Civil Partnership	Not Relevant	No
Pregnancy And Maternity	Not Relevant	No
Race	Not Relevant	No
Religion or Belief	Not Relevant	No
Sexual Orientation	Not Relevant	No

2.4 Analysis on Initial Assessment

Enterprise Zones are areas which through a combination of financial incentives (retention of business rate uplift) and reduced planning restrictions will encourage private sector growth and generate jobs. Originally established in 2012 the Birmingham City Centre Enterprise Zone was expanded in 2016 to incorporate the site of HS2 Curzon Station and the surrounding area, which is set to benefit from the growth and regeneration opportunities unlocked by the arrival of High Speed Rail. The vision for this transformation was set out in the Curzon Masterplan launched in 2015.

In 2016 the Council launched the Curzon Investment Plan which sets out how a £724m infrastructure programme to deliver growth for the period 2016/17 to 2037/38. This forms part of the delivery of the Enterprise Zone initiative and as such will help secure the delivery of the objectives and contribute to the positive impacts.

It is expected that a number of economic benefits will be delivered over the lifetime of the programme:

36,000 jobs

600,000sqm commercial floorspace

4,000 new homes

£1.7bn private sector investment

Key to the delivery of the Curzon Masterplan are 5 Big Moves;

HS2 Station Design

Paternoster Place

Curzon Promenade and Curzon Square

Curzon Metro Stop

Moor Street and Station Square

The Curzon Public Realm programme includes the Big Moves of Paternoster Place, Curzon Promenade and Curzon Square, as well as the integrated tram stop at New Canal Street. Paternoster Place will be the pedestrian gateway to Digbeth, providing a wide and attractive route connecting Shaw's Passage and Bordesley Street, maximising connectivity and the regeneration opportunities of HS2.

Curzon Promenade will form an extension to the existing Eastside City Park as a pedestrian plaza lined with active frontages built into the station facade. Landscaping will echo and provide suitable replacement for the green environment at Park Street Gardens that will be lost to the new station.

Curzon Square will provide an expansion to the civic event space at Eastside City Park and provide an appropriate setting for the Grade I listed Curzon Street Station building.

The Birmingham Eastside Extension to the Midland Metro will connect the HS2 Curzon Station with the wider city network and will be the first phase of the eastern extension that will see the line go down into Digbeth and out through northern Solihull to UK Central, the NEC and Airport. The integrated tram stop at New Canal Street will provide seamless connections between transport modes and act as an arrival space in its own right, animating this part of the viaduct.

In addition to the projects outlined above the programme also includes the Curzon Canal environment. Whilst now a 'Big Move' the area of canal between Curzon Street and the existing railway viaduct has landmark development opportunities, and to maximise these high-quality public access points and public realm improvements are required to bring further activity to the area and animate the space.

Once the detailed designs for the Big Moves projects are determined in 2018, individual business cases will be presented to the EZ, WMCA and Council to confirm the full cost of delivery. These will be supported by Development Agreements, which set out the responsibilities for each party in delivering the projects alongside construction of the station which is due to start in 2020. Each scheme will be subject to its own Equality Assessment and consultation will be carried out on a scheme by scheme basis to ensure all public realm works will meet the needs of people with disabilities.

The Public Realm Programme study area is within the boundary of the HS2 Hybrid Bill Scheme, which was subject to a full assessment that found the Scheme to be leading to positive effects on equality considerations through the promotion of economic activity, job creation, and improving skills that will benefit local people.

The Programme will be subject to ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure any equality issues that arise post-implementation are addressed/reviewed.

3 Full Assessment

The assessment questions below are completed for all characteristics identified for full assessment in the initial assessment phase.

3.1 Concluding Statement on Full Assessment

Once the detailed designs for the Big Moves projects are determined in 2018, individual business cases will be presented to the EZ, WMCA and Council. Each scheme will be subject to its own Equality Assessment and consultation will be carried out on a scheme by scheme basis to ensure public realm works will meet the needs of people with disabilities.

In overall terms, the HS2 Public Realm Programme has been assessed as leading to a positive effect on the equality considerations through the promotion of economic activity, job creation and improving skills that will benefit local people.

It has been assessed that the Public Realm Programme will advance equality of opportunity as a result of its promotion of development and regeneration activity. Since the Hybrid Bill Scheme was approved in February 2017, no equality issues have been raised as yet on the broad approach taken.

4 Review Date

28/09/17

5 Action Plan

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