

Equality Analysis

Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

EA Name	Design Guide SPD
Directorate	Economy
Service Area	Economy - P&R City Centre Team
Type	New/Proposed Policy
EA Summary	The Design Guide SPD provides guidance on the design of new residential development to deliver sustainable neighbourhoods
Reference Number	EA001292
Task Group Manager	mark.gamble@birmingham.gov.uk
Task Group Member	
Date Approved	2017-05-26 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 Policy.

2 Initial Assessment

2.1 Purpose and Link to Strategic Themes

What is the purpose of this Policy and expected outcomes?

The Birmingham Design Guide Vision Document is the first stage in the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document, which will be subject to public consultation prior to adoption. The SPD will be a strategic document setting out guidance for securing the highest quality of sustainable design for all developments across the city ranging from household-residential to large-scale city centre developments.

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	Yes
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

The Birmingham Design Guide Vision Document is the first stage in the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document, which will be subject to public consultation prior to adoption. The analysis has concluded that, because the Vision Document in itself does not set policy or affect decision making it is unlikely to have any impact on Equalities.

An initial analysis of the scope of the proposed Birmingham Design Guide SPD concluded that it will be primarily a strategic document setting out guidance for securing the highest quality of sustainable design for all developments across the city ranging from household-residential to large-scale city centre developments. The Birmingham Design

Guide SPD is supplementary to the Birmingham Development Plan which was subject to a full Equalities Assessment. With the exception of certain considerations, which were assessed in the EA of the Birmingham Development Plan, it is considered that the document is unlikely to have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected groups.

However, in order to ensure that equalities considerations are fully addressed this position will be reviewed during Stage 3 (as set out above) when a 6-week consultation and engagement will take place on the Draft SPD. Should any equalities impacts be identified through consultation the EA will be revisited and a Full Assessment carried out.

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

The Birmingham Design Guide Vision Document is the first stage in the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document, which will be subject to public consultation prior to adoption. The full process is outlined below:

Steps in delivering the Design Guide

. Stage One - Detailed audit of the existing planning guidance. This stage is currently underway and will complete in March 2017.

. Stage Two (Part A) - March 2017 - will see the launch of the Vision Document. This document will set out the City Council's ambitions, emphasising the importance of design and stimulating a debate on the approach. It will introduce the five "Big Design Themes" as the basis for developing the detailed design guidance.

. Stage Two (Part B) - March 2017 - at the same time as launching the vision document the intention to create a Birmingham Design Review Panel (BDRP) will be announced. The panel will bring a bespoke approach to guiding, promoting and challenging design in the City offering additional resource and capacity to support the City Council.

. Stage Three - Summer 2017 - publication of the Birmingham Design Guide. The Birmingham Design Guide will expand on the Vision Document and set out the detailed design guidance based around the five "Big Design Themes". The Design Guide will be subject to a period of publication consultation. Consultation will enable ideas on how we shape our living and working environments. Formal public consultation will take place on the Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This will feed into any subsequent revision of the SPD.

. Stage Four - 2018 - following the outcome of public consultation the Birmingham Design Guide will be adopted by the City Council as a Supplementary Planning Document.

The analysis has concluded that, because the Vision Document in itself does not set policy or affect decision making it is unlikely to have any impact on Equalities.

An initial analysis of the scope of the proposed Birmingham Design Guide SPD concluded that it will be primarily a strategic document setting out guidance for securing the highest quality of sustainable design for all developments across the city ranging from household-residential to large-scale city centre developments. The SPD will promote the city councils position on good urban design, provide clear guidance for negotiating and decision making, clear design basis for future Masterplans and development frameworks shaping Birmingham's neighbourhoods, urban centres, streets and green spaces. The Birmingham Design Guide SPD is supplementary to the Birmingham Development Plan which was subject to a full Equalities Assessment.

The document will set out an approach to design for all types of development to meet the needs of all citizens living, working and visiting the city including 'protected groups'. In addition, the document stresses the importance of health, safety and quality of life for a successful city and meeting the changing needs of society including the elderly and those with disabilities. Guidance for the provision of new streets and open spaces specifies that proper consideration is given to accessibility and that these spaces are useable to all, including those with restricted mobility or other disabilities. This is in line with BDP Policy; TP3, TP9, TP26, TP29, TP30, TP31, TP36, TP38, TP39, TP40, TP44. With the exception of the above considerations, which are derived from the Birmingham Development Plan, it is considered that the document is unlikely to have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected groups.

However, in order to ensure that equalities considerations are fully addressed this position will be reviewed during Stage 3 (as set out above) when a 6-week consultation and engagement will take place on the Draft SPD. Should any equalities impacts be identified through consultation the EA will be revisited and a Full Assessment carried out.

In light of the above, it was not considered that a Full Equality Assessment is required for the Birmingham Design Guide SPD Vision Document at this stage.

4 Review Date

31/05/16

5 Action Plan

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