




Title of proposed EIA	HM Treasury Levelling Up Fund – Tranche 1 Bids
Reference No	EQUA690
EA is in support of	New Function
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	28/06/2022
Directorate	Inclusive Growth
Division	Transport and Connectivity
Service Area	Transport Planning and Network Strategy
Responsible Officer(s)	 Peter A Bethell
Quality Control Officer(s)	 Janet L Hinks
Accountable Officer(s)	 Mel Jones
Purpose of proposal	To review the application by Birmingham City Council for first tranche of the HM Treasury's Levelling Up fund.
Data sources	
Please include any other sources of data	
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Wider Community
Age details:	<p>The bids submitted for Levelling Up Funding will deliver benefit for users of all age groups, including the very young and the old.</p> <p>Public realm design will specifically consider the needs of all users, including surfacing and street furniture layout to support improved access for those with dementia and specific mobility issues associated with older age.</p> <p>The proposed pedestrianisation of Erdington High Street will benefit all pedestrian users, including the very young and the old. Improved safety measures between the station and the High Street will benefit all users, including the old, by improving access to a range of key health,</p>

Protected characteristic: Disability

Disability details:

employment, leisure, education, retail and transport services and facilities, which will act to improve quality of life for local residents.

The provision of the Toucan crossings on the Dudley Road and Winson Green Road will benefit all pedestrians, including the very young and the old. The crossings will enable all pedestrians to cross the road safely.

Wider Community

The bids submitted for Levelling Up Funding will benefit all users, and will take into account the needs of disabled users,

The design standards for each scheme will ensure that the needs of the mobility impaired are catered for.

Pedestrianisation of Erdington High Street and the addition of disabled access to St. Barnabus churchyard will benefit disabled users, including wheelchair users, by ensuring all new features are designed to the latest standards to support ease of access for those with additional mobility needs and other disabilities, such as blind and partially-sighted persons.

Toucan crossings on the Dudley Road and Winson Green Road will enable all pedestrians to cross the road safely, and will benefit disabled users, including wheelchair users, by improving access for all (including those with protected characteristics) to a range of key services and facilities provided locally including health, employment, leisure, education, retail and transport services enabling local residents to enjoy an enhanced quality of life.

<p>Protected characteristic: Sex</p> <p>Gender details:</p>	<p>The renovation of the Moseley Road baths will include enhanced opportunities for disabled users.</p> <p>Wider Community</p> <p>The pedestrianisation of Erdington High Street and the improved lighting of St. Barnabus churchyard will improve safety for all users, particularly females travelling on their own.</p> <p>The renovation of Moseley Road baths will include the opportunity for further women-only sessions, where women can use the facilities in a safe environment.</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Gender reassignment details:</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p> <p>Moseley Road baths will provide an enhanced experience for those going through gender reassignment, the baths already provides cubicles where people can get changed in a safe environment.</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership</p> <p>Marriage and civil partnership details:</p> <p>Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity</p> <p>Pregnancy and maternity details:</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p> <p>Wider Community</p> <p>The bids submitted for Levelling Up Funding will benefit all users, including parents with small children, in particular, by improving access for all (including pregnant women and those with small children) to key health, employment, leisure, education, retail and transport services and facilities.</p> <p>Pedestrianisation of Erdington High Street and the improved lighting in St. Barnabus churchyard will benefit all pedestrian users, including parents with pushchairs. Toucan crossings on the Dudley Road and Winson Green</p>

Road will benefit all pedestrians, including parents with pushchairs.

Protected characteristics: Race

Race details:

Wider Community

A number of the proposed schemes, particularly those in the Dudley Road area, Moseley Road and Balsall Heath, and the former Birmingham Wheels site, are in areas where there are a high proportion of BAME residents. These schemes will have a positive impact on the communities immediately surrounding the sites, and will enhance the quality of life for residents and workers in those areas.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Religion or beliefs details:

Wider Community

The proposed Dudley Road improvements will increase connectivity and accessibility to the area, including places of worship.

The renovation of Moseley Road baths will include the opportunity for further women-only sessions. There is a large Muslim population in this area, and women may feel more comfortable using the facilities in women-only sessions.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation details:

Socio-economic impacts

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Not Applicable

This Equalities Assessment reviews the application by Birmingham City Council for first tranche of the HM Treasury's Levelling Up fund.

On March 3rd 2021 the government announced a £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund as part of the Spring Budget. The fund will provide investment into infrastructure that improves everyday life across the UK, including regenerating town centres and high streets, upgrading local transport

infrastructure, and investing in cultural and heritage assets.

The fund allows for a parliamentary constituency to submit a bid for up to £20 million for a scheme or package of schemes once during the fund's four-year period. The fund is to be split into tranches, with up to £650 million of the £4.8 billion available within the first tranche, which covers the financial year 2021/22.

From a long list of schemes, prioritisation was undertaken to assess each against the LUF criteria, and to identify those schemes that could maximise funding for the city. Birmingham City Council proposes to submit four bids to the first tranche of the Levelling Up Fund totalling £62.020 million.

They are:

- Erdington High Street

The LUF will be used to facilitate a transformation of Erdington High Street into a thriving centre, providing new start up business incubation space, housing, cultural, leisure and social activities for all ages as well as improved urban realm and physical and social connectivity within the area.

- A457 Dudley Road Improvements

Improvements will be made along the A457 Dudley Road, near to Birmingham City Hospital, to reduce traffic congestion through junctions and to make improvements for active travel modes.

- Moseley Road Baths & Balsall Health Library

The Moseley Road Baths element of the project will allow for the next phase of the restoration of the Grade II listed Edwardian swimming pool and library to take place.

- Remediation of Former Birmingham Wheels Site.

Remediation of the former Birmingham Wheels site to allow land to be utilised for future employment development usage. Works will include full site investigations and ecological surveys, remediation and ground excavations, treatment of Japanese knot weed, ecological mitigation, demolition of structures on site and clearance of materials (namely tyres), utility services diversions and installation, highway access improvements, and land acquisition.

If successful, these bids could have a significantly positive impact on our communities and within that, many of the protected characteristic groups. It is considered that there are no aspects of the Levelling Up Fund that could contribute to inequality. 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, disability, marriage / civil partnership or religion / belief.

The BCC Scheme Evaluation and Protocol document outlines the methodology whereby schemes are assessed for suitability. As part of the stakeholder engagement and support, there will be engagement with all relevant stakeholders. This includes groups representing the protected characteristics, including disability groups (e.g. RNIB), faith groups and age-related groups (e.g. Age Concern). Consultation with such groups on each

individual scheme will ensure that the protected characteristics are taken into account.

The bids align with relevant local and national strategies, including the BCC Council Transport Plan, which already takes into account the needs of the protected characteristics; and UK Government policy objectives, legal and statutory commitments, such as delivering Net Zero carbon emissions and improving air quality.

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

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

All schemes proposed within the Levelling Up Fund are provided as a 'public good' and are available for all members of the community and visitors alike to use. Individual schemes will be subject to further screening for equalities analysis.

The facilities and measures proposed within the bids for the Levelling Up fund proposals 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, disability, marriage / civil partnership or religion / belief.

Internal consultation has been undertaken with the Director

Inclusive Growth, the Director of Neighbourhoods, the Assistant Director Highways, the Assistant Director Planning, the Assistant Director Development, the Assistant Director Transport and Connectivity and the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods

Full external consultation will be undertaken with all relevant stakeholders as part of individual Options Appraisals and FBCs, in accordance with normal practice, including ward councillors, residents, emergency services and businesses. All members of the local community, including groups of people whose first language is not English, will be invited to comment on the proposals during the public consultations. All proposals will be designed in accordance with national design standards, which give consideration to the needs of disabled people; helping to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people.

Individual scheme proposals will be further screened for equalities analysis as part of standard Council governance and approval processes, and EA's will be completed at Options Appraisal and FBC stage for individual projects and programmes.

QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

No

Quality Control Officer comments

Proceed to Accountable Officer 27 05 2021

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

28/05/2021

Reasons for approval or rejection

Approved on the basis of positive or neutral impacts on protected characteristics

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

Julie Bach

Person or Group

Content Type: Item

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