

Equality Analysis

Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

EA Name	Commonwealth Games Village And Perry Barr Regeneration - Outline Business Case
Directorate	Economy
Service Area	Economy - P&R Planning And Development
Type	New/Proposed Function
EA Summary	<p>The EA evaluates the approach to the delivery of existing policies - Birmingham hosting the 2022 Commonwealth Games with the Athletes' Village located at Perry Barr, and the regeneration of Perry Barr to support Games-time and legacy as set out in the Birmingham Development Plan.</p> <p>The aims of the programme at Perry Barr are to deliver a Commonwealth Games Village along with improved highways and transport infrastructure, to support the delivery of the 2022 Commonwealth Games as well as to initiate regeneration in the Perry Barr area, creating an aspirational residential neighbourhood with at least 3000 new homes.</p> <p>The appraisal finds that there is some potential for the programme to have differential impacts on protected characteristics but that mechanisms are in place to mitigate this.</p>
Reference Number	EA002780
Task Group Manager	rebecca.farr@birmingham.gov.uk
Task Group Members	craig.rowbottom@birmingham.gov.uk, saaied.manzoor@birmingham.gov.uk, mumtaz.mohammed@servicebirmingham.co.uk
Senior Officer	clive.skidmore@birmingham.gov.uk
Quality Control Officer	richard.woodland@birmingham.gov.uk

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 is to deliver a successful Athletes' Village for the 2022 Commonwealth Games that will provide a catalyst for successful regeneration of the area including significant housing growth, improved transport and highways infrastructure, enhanced public realm, and new, improved local facilities.

This function will be delivered through three main areas of work, which are addressed in this report:

1. Athletes' Village residential scheme

The scheme will provide accommodation for c. 6,500 athletes and officials in Games time as part of the Athletes' Village. After the Games it will provide c. 1,400 new residential units which will help meet housing need in the city. It will provide a mix of unit types including houses, apartments and an extra care facility catering for older people. A mix of tenures will also be provided including an element of affordable housing and private rented provision. The exact housing mix will be determined ahead of the submission of the Planning Application in July 2018. The residential environment will offer high quality public and private realm including green spaces, creating a healthy environment. The scheme will also include community and commercial space.

2. Highways and transport improvements

The highway and transport improvements at Perry Barr will provide for improved local access, including to the new development, as well as more options for movement along the Strategic Corridor into and out of the City Centre.

The proposed residential scheme described above requires a parcel of land (Gailey Park) that is currently separated between the A34 Walsall and A453 Aldridge Road. This will be removed through the closure of a section of the A453 Aldridge Road. As a result alternations to the highway alignment are required in this area, which in turn will change the traffic pattern along the current network. To manage this as well as improve permeability and pedestrian access across the area additional proposals are being developed. This will include the removal of the Perry Barr Flyover and the capping of the Birchfield Road roundabout. Pedestrian subways will be infilled and surface level crossings provided.

Improvements to public transport provision will see a SPRINT bus rapid transit route developed along the A34 Walsall Road between the City Centre and Walsall Town Centre. Perry Barr station will be redeveloped to provide a more accessible and attractive facility with improved access from the east of Birchfield Road. A bus interchange adjacent to the station and One Stop Shopping Centre will also enhance local provision.

New cycle routes will be delivered along the A34 and connecting through the Athletes' Village. All of the proposals will facilitate safe and more accessible walking routes.

3. Land acquisitions to facilitate growth

To facilitate the residential scheme, the Games time Village and the highways and transport improvements, as well as to deliver wider regeneration in Perry Barr including future housing growth and improved local centre provision, the Council needs to make acquisitions.

A number of significant acquisitions have already been secured, or are well progressed. This has included the relocation of a proposed school to a site which offers a better educational environment. However, the timescales for delivering the Village and wider works mean that the Council intends to utilise its CPO powers to secure land which can't be secured voluntarily.

The majority of the land to be acquired is commercial, including a number of retail, office and industrial uses and a bus garage (which will be relocated within the immediate area). The area also includes the former BCU campus (now vacant) and a number of residential properties.

Combined, the regeneration of Perry Barr will significantly aid delivery against the Council's strategic themes. It will create a safer and more secure local environment, which will include better access to educational facilities. It will also improve walking and cycling choices, access to outdoor space and leisure facilities, and contribute to improvements in air quality, driving healthy lifestyles. The housing scheme set out here, as well as the legacy housing growth which can be delivered in Perry Barr as a result of these interventions, will help meet housing need. All of the development will create construction jobs where employment and skills benefits can be captured locally; once complete there will be opportunities for employment in the local area as well as improved access to other employment and learning opportunities. As an important element within the delivery of the Commonwealth Games this programme supports wider work which also contributes to the strategic themes.

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	Relevant	No
Gender	Not Relevant	No
Gender Reassignment	Not Relevant	No
Marriage Civil Partnership	Not Relevant	No
Pregnancy And Maternity	Not Relevant	No
Race	Relevant	No
Religion or Belief	Relevant	No
Sexual Orientation	Not Relevant	No

2.4 Analysis on Initial Assessment

This initial assessment addresses the housing and transport infrastructure at OBC stage, as well as the acquisitions, as set out in the associated Cabinet Report. It does not address the policy positions on Perry Barr regeneration or the Commonwealth Games, which have been considered through the appropriate processes.

The initial assessment set out below considers where any differential impacts may arise as a result of the proposals, particularly in terms of disability and demographics of the local community, and mitigations to ensure that these are managed. Scheme proposals will be further screened for equalities analysis as part of standard Council governance and approval processes, and EAs will be completed at FBC stage for individual projects and programmes.

Throughout the development of the programme of regeneration, including the Athletes' Village and hosting of the Games, the local community will be engaged. A Perry Barr Commonwealth Games Residents Liaison Group has been established and other community engagement will be carried out on specific proposals. A comprehensive approach to consultation and engagement across the programme will be centrally managed.

1. Athletes' Village residential scheme

The scheme has been developed to provide a high quality housing scheme which offers choice for local people and those wishing to locate in the area. To mitigate any potential differential impacts on protected characteristics the design provides:

- * Housing built to Lifetime Homes standards and accessible public and private realm which enables access for people of all ages and with mobility difficulties.
- * The provision of properties which offer multiple reception rooms in line with cultural needs of the local community.
- * Access to open space, leisure, community and sports facilities, will be improved to the benefit the all members of the community.

This assessment will be reviewed at FBC stage.

2. Highways and transport improvements

All proposed options being considered for the improvements to the highway and to public transport provision will be designed to provide improved accessibility. The design process, including consultation with local residents and users, will mitigate differential impacts.

This assessment will be reviewed at FBC stage.

3. Land acquisitions to facilitate growth

The impact of the acquisitions is site specific as it directly impacts the owners and occupants within the defined boundary. Therefore while there may be greater impacts on certain groups, this is as a result of their interest in the land and not directly related to any protected characteristics. However, it is recognised that there is a need to mitigate against possible differential impacts as a result of local demographics.

A greater understanding of the population affected will be generated by the ongoing work to engage with all affected parties. Consultation is currently underway and the outcome of this will inform mitigation measures.

There is a legal basis for the City Council using its Compulsory Purchase (CPO) powers, in Section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In proposing to use its CPO powers the City Council has considered the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly Articles 1 and 8. In considering the effect in relation to these Articles the Council has decided that, on balance, it is in the general public interest and of benefit to the community to make the CPO over and above the interest of the individuals affected.

The City Council will continue to seek to secure voluntary acquisitions while progressing the CPO. As acquiring authority the City Council will work to relocate affected parties in line with the Compensation Code.

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

From the available information it is considered that the regeneration of Perry Barr including the development of the Athletes' Village will not give rise to any illegal discrimination and will support equality of opportunity by optimising the area's economic growth potential. this will be monitored on an ongoing basis and as more information is available, including at Full Business Case stage for individual projects.

4 Review Date

09/09/18

5 Action Plan

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