

# **TRAFFORD CORE STRATEGY: FURTHER CONSULTATION ON THE PREFERRED OPTION**

## **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

### **A. Summary Details**

Directorate: Prosperity, Planning and Developments

Section: Strategic Planning and Developments

Person responsible for the assessment: Dennis Smith

Contact details: Sale Waterside, Sale, M33 7ZF.

Name of policy/~~service/function~~ to be assessed:

Trafford Core Spatial Strategy – Further Consultation on the Preferred Option

Is this a new policy/~~service/function~~? Yes.

### **B. Preparation**

It is important to consider all available information that could help determine whether the policy/~~service/function~~ could have any potential adverse impact. Please attach examples of available monitoring information, research and consultation reports.

1. Prior to conducting the EIA are there any areas where you know, and can evidence, adverse impact? Note these and ensure they receive the appropriate prioritisation in the EIA.

None known.

The Core Strategy will impact on all residents and visitors to the Borough as it sets out how land and resources will be managed over the next 15 years. The document outlines a vision, a spatial strategy, objectives and policies to conserve and enhance 10 different places within Trafford. This could be achieved through protecting some land (such as greenspace) while promoting other land for development (such as for housing) as well as ensuring that the necessary infrastructure (community and physical) is in place. Ultimately the Core Strategy is seeking to ensure a sustainable future for the Borough in economic, social and environmental terms. While the outcomes of the Strategy will be locally-specific,

the impacts of it on individuals and communities are complex and may occur sometime in the future. Many of the effects will be indirect, with direct impacts only being apparent some time later as development comes forward.

However, the Core Strategy does seek to ensure that the impacts on all communities are positive and that it fundamentally responds to a community's needs and recognises that the needs of different communities are different. The adverse impacts on particular communities may arise from a lack of real understanding of their needs and aspirations and a failure of the Core Strategy to set a clear and deliverable means of meeting those needs and aspirations. A range of consultation techniques will be used to gain an understanding of the needs the community. These include targeting community groups, use of a Social Network website to promote the consultation, holding exhibitions at key locations across the Borough and special neighbourhood forums in the north and south of the Borough.

The Core Strategy has a particular role to play in the following fundamental areas of life in Trafford:

- Providing for housing need;
- Ensuring opportunities for economic development and job creation;
- Improving accessibility to jobs, services, etc.
- Protecting and enhancing the environmental quality of neighbourhoods through good design, conservation and provision of greenspace;
- Mitigating the effects of and contribution to climate change

How the Core Strategy addresses these issues with regard to members of different equality groups is carefully considered in this assessment. The outcomes of the consultation strategy adopted to engage with all community groups will be used to inform the next stage of the Core Strategy.

The Core Strategy is essentially spatial in nature and is geared towards meeting the needs and addressing the issues of particular places. It is recognised that many equality groups are not concentrated within and readily identifiable with any one particular area in the Borough. However, particular regard will be had to the Old Trafford area due to the higher concentration of BME groups there. As stated above, further measures are being taken to engage with a broad range of community groups to ensure their views are represented in the final version of the Core Strategy.

2. Do you have monitoring data available on the number of people (from different equality groups) who are using or are potentially impacted upon by your policy/~~service/function~~? *Please specify what monitoring information you have available*

*(your monitoring information should be compared to the current available census data to see whether a proportionate number of people are taking up your service).*

Yes

We have monitoring data from those who submitted representations at the Issues and Options stage. Further details can be found in the Consultation Statement for the Core Strategy.

3. If monitoring has NOT been undertaken, will it be done in the future or do you have access to relevant monitoring data for this area? If so, specify the arrangement you intend to make; if not please give a reason for your decision.

Yes.

Equalities monitoring questions has been introduced into all questionnaires for the Local Development Framework, including the Core Strategy consultations.

Following changes to Trafford Council Corporate HR procedures, questions on Religion/Belief and Sexual Orientation have now been added to the Equalities Monitoring form.

4. Please list any consultations that you may have had and/or local/national consultations, research or practical guidance that will assist you in completing this EIA.

Consultations undertaken by Strategic Planning & Developments:

- Local Development Framework: SPD1 – Developer Contributions to Highways and Public Transport Schemes (October 2006);
- Local Development Framework: SPD2 – A56 Corridor Development Guidelines (October 2006);
- Local Development Framework: Core Strategy – Issues and Options (July 2007);
- Local Development Framework: Core Strategy – Development Management Policies (November 2007);
- Local Development Framework: Core Strategy – Preferred Options (July 2008);
- Local Development Framework: Land Allocations Plan – Call for Sites (September 2007);

- Local Development Framework: Partington Area Action Plan – Issues and Options (September 2007);
- Local Development Framework: Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD;

Guidance produced by Strategic Planning & Developments:

- Strategic Planning & Developments Service Plan 2008-2011
- Local Development Framework: Statement of Community Involvement (July 2006);
- Local Development Framework: Annual Monitoring Report April 2007 to March 2008 (December 2008);

## C. Policy or Function

### 1. What is the main purpose of the policy/~~service~~/function?

The purpose of the Core Strategy is to outline the Council's vision for the sort of place we want Trafford to be in the period up to the year 2026, and how we envisage managing the change necessary to achieve this vision. The strategy seeks to establish a balance between growth, regeneration and environmental protection/enhancement. It provides the strategic framework against which decisions about the use of land can be made.

The Further Consultation on the Preferred Option stage of the Core Strategy sets out a single spatial strategy for the Borough. The Spatial Strategy sets out how places will develop over time in terms of the amount and location of growth, the provision of necessary infrastructure and also how the Borough's natural and built assets can be nurtured and protected. It also sets out detailed policy wording for assessing development proposals. We are seeking people's views on this Spatial Strategy and associated policies.

### 2 Are there any other objectives of the policy /~~service~~/function, if so what are they?

Yes.

More detailed Strategic Objectives are set out in the Core Strategy Preferred Option document.

3 Do any written procedures exist to enable delivery of this policy / service/function?

Statutory Planning processes are dictated by national legislation. Each stage of plan making is accompanied by a consultation statement setting out how the service has sought to engage with and include the community, landowners, businesses, etc, in its work.

The main guidance for the production of the Core Strategy is found in Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning which is produced by the government. This sets out the procedures Local Planning Authorities need to follow in order to produce Core Strategies which can be judged sound. The content of the Core Strategy also has to reflect, but not repeat, guidance in a range of other Planning Policy Statements. The content of the Core Strategy is also heavily influenced by the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West.

The Core Strategy will also be produced in line with the guidance in the Trafford Statement of Community Involvement and the delivery will be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report.

4 Are there elements of common practice in the service area or function that are not clearly defined within the written procedures?

Yes.

The Core Strategy: Further Consultation on the Preferred Option proposes a Spatial Strategy and policies to achieve the strategic vision and objectives for places within Trafford. More detailed guidance on the implementation of policies within the Core Strategy will be brought forward in future versions and in other strategies such as the Land Allocations Plan and/or Supplementary Planning Documents.

Since the Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in 2006, we have developed our approach further and

- i) introduced the use of Customer Feedback questionnaires after consultation events, workshops
- ii) use the Council's 'Access' questionnaires when sending invitations to events
- iii) have developed more intensive use of the website;
- iv) have pursued greater youth involvement through CYPS and schools
- v) used social networking websites such as Facebook;

5 Who are the main stakeholders of the policy?

Fundamentally, every resident, neighbour, visitor, employee and investor in the Borough.

A full list of formal stakeholders can be found in Appendices A, B & C of the Trafford Statement of Community Involvement.

6 Is the policy associated with any other policy(ies) of the Authority?

Yes

Principally the Trafford Sustainable Community Strategy.

7 Is the responsibility for the proposed policy or function shared with another department or authority or organisation? If so, what responsibility, and which bodies?

Yes

Strategic Planning & Developments is the main service area responsible for producing the Core Strategy. Responsibility for delivering the Core Strategy lies with Strategic Planning & Developments and a large number of other services, external agencies and private companies. A list of the range of external organisations involved in the Core Strategy can be found in Appendices A, B and C of the Statement of Community Involvement.

## D: The Impact

*Assess the potential impact that the policy could have on each of the target groups. The potential impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you have assessed negative potential impact for any of the target groups you will also need to assess whether that negative potential impact is high, medium or low*

### 1. Identify the potential impact of the policy on different equality target groups:

	Positive	Negative (please specify if High, Medium or Low)	Neutral	Reason
<b>Gender</b> – both men and women			√	Limited spatial variation in distribution of different genders
<b>Race</b> - include race, colour, nationality, ethnicity & national origins (NB: the experiences may be different for different groups)	√			<p>Policies for individual places may affect some groups more than others due to concentration of some groups in particular areas e.g. Old Trafford.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to get views on this.</p>
<b>Disability</b> – physical, sensory & mental impairments	√			<p>Core Strategy does include policies to promote well-designed environments for all and to improve accessibility to services, etc.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to get views on this.</p>

<b>Age Group</b> -specify eg; older, younger etc)	√			<p>Policies to promote in a general sense provision for Lifetime Homes and improvements to facilities for young people.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to get views on this.</p>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> – Lesbian, Gay Men, Bisexual & Transgender			√	<p>Unknown spatial variation in distribution of different sexual orientations.</p> <p>No specific policies for LGBT groups.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to get views on this.</p>
<b>Religious/Faith groups</b> (specify)			√	<p>Unknown spatial variation in distribution of different faith groups.</p> <p>No specific policies for faith groups.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to get views on this.</p>

As a result of completing the above what is the potential negative impact of your policy documents?

High

☐

Medium

☐

Low

☒

2 Could you minimise or remove any negative potential impact that is of medium or low significance?

Race: N/A

Gender: N/A

Disability: N/A

Age: N/A

Sexual Orientation: N/A

Religious/Faith groups: N/A

**2. If there is no evidence that the policy *promotes* equal opportunity– could it be adapted so that it does? How?**

Not applicable.

Please ensure that all actions identified are included in the attached action plan and in your service plan.

Signed

Lead Officer

Date

Matthew Wansborough

19 June 2009

Signed

Service Head

Date

Dennis Smith

19 June 2009

## Action Plan

Recommendation	Key activity	Progress milestones	Officer Responsible	Progress
Assess the impact on race, colour, nationality, ethnicity and national origins	<p>Monitor our engagement and consultation activities to ensure we are reaching all sections of the community.</p> <p>Consultation at Preferred Option stage open to all groups. Specific community groups who contributed at the Preferred Options stage will be targeted.</p>	<p>Core Strategy Preferred Option – Consultation Statement sets the baseline for monitoring.</p> <p>Monitor the responses from various groups at Preferred Option stage.</p>	Service Manager and Principal Officers	
Assess the impact on different age groups, especially young people.	<p>Monitor responses to establish percentage from young people.</p> <p>Specific innovative action taken to engage more young people in the Core Strategy. Specifically use of Facebook and attendance at youth event.</p> <p>Consultation at Preferred Option stage open to all groups. Specific community groups who contributed at the Preferred Options stage will be targeted.</p>	<p>Core Strategy Preferred Option – Consultation Statement sets the baseline for monitoring.</p> <p>Monitor the responses from young people at Preferred Option stage.</p>	Service Manager and Principal Officers	
Contact and seek support to assess the impact on the LGBT community.	<p>Consult LGBT groups in Trafford.</p> <p>Consultation at Preferred Option stage open to all groups. Specific</p>	<p>No information available for Core Strategy Preferred Option – Consultation Statement.</p>	Service Manager and Principal Officers	

	community groups who contributed at the Preferred Options stage will be targeted.	Monitor the responses from LGBT groups at Preferred Options stage.		
Contact and seek support to assess the impact on religious / faith groups.	<p>Consult religious / faith groups in Trafford.</p> <p>Consultation at Preferred Option stage open to all groups. Specific community groups who contributed at the Preferred Options stage will be targeted.</p>	<p>No information available for Core Strategy Preferred Option – Consultation Statement.</p> <p>Monitor the responses from religious / faith groups at Preferred Option stage.</p>	Service Manager and Principal Officers	