

Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment – Initial Screening

Assessor(s) Name(s):	Denise Scott (Programme Officer – Design) Dave Marsh (Team Leader – Design)
Directorate:	Economy and Environment
Date of Completion:	18 th April 2012

Name of Strategy Proposal

Integrated Transport Capital Programme 2012/2013.
Church Litten junction with Litten Park, Newport, Isle of Wight – Traffic Management Scheme.

The Aims, Objectives and Expected Outcomes:

To improve the highway infrastructure by reducing traffic congestion and improving public safety with regard to pedestrian accessibility.

Over recent years traffic flows have grown across the Island, particularly in the Newport area, with the result that journey times for through traffic have become unreliable, due to the congestion in the central part of the town.

The principal problem that migrates across the town originates from Litten Park Retail Stores and petrol filling station, operated by Marks and Spencer and Morrison's. There is a clear and urgent need for some traffic management improvements on the main highway network to reduce the congestion. Improvements are also required to improve pedestrian access and make such manoeuvres safer.

Please delete as appropriate:

- This is a new strategy function proposal

Key Questions to Consider in Assessing Potential Impact	
Will the policy, strategy, service or council function proposal have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics or other reasons that are relevant issues for the local community and/or staff?	No
Has previous consultation identified this issue as important or highlighted negative impact and/or we have created a "legitimate expectation" for consultation to take place? A legitimate expectation may be created when we have consulted on similar issues in the past or if we have ever given an indication that we would consult in such situations	No
Do different groups of people within the local community have different needs or experiences in the area this issue relates to?	No
Could the aims of these proposals be in conflict with the council's general duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not?	No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how services or a council function/s is/are delivered?	No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?	No
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment of resources?	No
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities?	No
<p>If you answer Yes to any of these questions, it will be necessary for you to proceed to a full Equality Impact Assessment after you have completed the rest of this initial screening form.</p> <p>If you answer No to all of these questions, please provide appropriate evidence using the table below and complete the evidence considerations box and obtain sign off from your Head of Service.</p>	

Protected Characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reasons
Age	X			Improvements to the crossing facility will improve accessibility access for pedestrians, especially the elderly.
Disability	X			Improvements to the crossing facility will improve accessibility access for pedestrians, especially the mobility impaired.
Gender Reassignment			X	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			X	
Pregnancy & Maternity	X			Improvements to the crossing facility will improve accessibility access for pedestrians, especially young families.
Race			X	
Religion / Belief			X	
Sex (male / female)			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	

Are there aspects of the proposal that contribute to or improve the opportunity for equality?	Yes
As part of the works, we are making the existing crossing points fully disabled compliant.	

Evidence Considered During Screening

In January 2012, the Isle of Wight Council consulted with Newport Parish Council and the two local councillors (Julie Jones-Evans and Dawn Cousins) and support was received in writing via email. It is also minuted in the Newport Parish Council Planning and Licensing Committee held on 2nd February 2012.

Further to the support being received, the scheme was then included in the Integrated Transport project, which was approved on 3rd April 2012 under delegated decision powers, by the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste as part of the Highways and Transport Capital Programme 2012 – 2013.

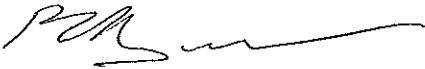
On 3rd April 2012, the Isle of Wight Council wrote to the store managers of Morrisons and Marks & Spencers, explaining our proposals and asking for their views. They have both since spoken to Kevin Burton (Group Manager – Network Management and Improvement) on the phone and indicated their support for the scheme.

The scheme has been designed in line with the Department for Transport's Inclusive Mobility guidance and Guidance on the use of Tactile Paving Surfaces, which are designed to help service providers fulfil their statutory obligations under The Equality Act 2010.

The 1988 Road Traffic Act requires Local Highway Authorities to prepare and carry out a programme of measures designed to promote road safety. In addition to deliver this scheme to the standards set out by the Government, it is essential that the following Acts and legislation are adhered to:

- Traffic Management Act 2004
- The Transport Act 2000
- The Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations and General Directions 1997
- Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
- Highway Act 1984
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007

The Isle of Wight Council has identified the need to consult with minority groups before Integrated Transport accessibility schemes take place. With this in mind a Mobility Impaired Consultation Group has been formed and this scheme was discussed on Thursday 17th May 2012, where no negative comments were raised.

Head of Service Sign off:	
Advice sought from Legal Services (Name)	Ben Gard (Trainee Legal Executive)
Date	31 / 5 / 2012

A signed version is to be kept by your team and also an electronic version should be published on the council's website (follow the link from the EIA page on the intranet)

