

Equality Impact Assessment Form

Revised June 2009



(Equality target groups are those which cover the 6 equality strands: race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation and religious belief)

Part 1 Aims & implementation of the service, policy, procedure, practice or project

This section is the title of what is being assessed, responsible officers, purpose, where it fits within the council's wider aims and how it supports the legislation to eliminate unlawful discrimination and the promotion of equal opportunities. *(please refer to the guidance for additional information)*

1.1 What is being assessed

Committee and Scrutiny Team.

This team deals with the administration of the Council's public meetings, some internal meetings and the independent education admission appeals process. It also provides support to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function.

1.2 Officer(s) and section or service responsible for completing the assessment

April Ross – Manager with responsibility for the team.

1.3 What is the main purpose or aims of the service, policy, procedure, practice or project

To support the democratic functions of the Council.

1.4 Who is affected by the service, policy, procedure, practice or project? Who is it intended to benefit and how?

Elected members, council officers, and the public.

1.5 Has the service, policy, procedure, practice or project been promoted or explained to those it might affect directly or indirectly?

Decision making workshops provided to elected members, staff groups and senior management groups.

Information available on the Council's website.

1.6 How does the service, policy, procedure, practice or project contribute to better community cohesion?

Standing item for the public to ask questions appears on all agenda for the Council's public meetings. Advice and assistance is offered and available to the public wishing to attend meetings and/or ask a question.

1.7 How does the service, policy, procedure, practice or project fit in with the council's wider aims?

Corporate theme of delivering better services.

1.8 What is the relevance of the aims of the service, policy, procedure, practice or project to the equality target group and the council's duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunity?

Service aims to enable all Island residents to have an involvement in the democratic process.

1.9 How is, or how will the service, policy, procedure, practice or project be put into practice and who is responsible for it?

Service area is defined by both statute and political mandate.

Meeting venues accord with DDA legislation. Papers can be made available in other formats if requested – this is stated on the face of all council agenda.

Isle of Wight Youth MP entitled to attend meetings of the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee in a non-voting consultative capacity and two members of Isle of Wight Youth Council are entitled to attend meetings of the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be a point of consultation between the Committee and the Youth Council.

Ultimate responsibility for delivery rests with Director of Corporate Services.

Part 2 Consideration of data and research

To conduct the assessment, you will need information about service users and staff that provide the service. This section is to help you identify the sort of information that will be needed to help you assess whether there may be barriers to different equality groups who access your service, policy, procedure, practice or project. *(please refer to the guidance for additional information)*

2.1 List all examples of quantitative and qualitative data or any consultation information available that will enable the impact assessment to be undertaken

Numbers of public attending meetings recorded for each public meeting.

2.2 Equalities profile of users and beneficiaries

Equalities profile of public attending meetings not currently recorded. Public dealt with as a whole, no particular groups targeted.

2.3 Evidence of complaints against the service, policy, procedure, practice or project on the grounds of discrimination

No complaints received on grounds of discrimination.

2.4 What does the consultation, research and/or data indicate about the negative impact on the service, policy, procedure, practice or project

Problems with viewing proceedings in the Council Chamber due to layout of room. Problems for those with hearing difficulties hearing proceedings if members do not use the microphones available.

2.5 What does the consultation, research and/or data indicate about the positive impact on the service, policy, procedure, practice or project

Any feedback received is taken into account and used to improve the service.

Part 3 Assessment of impact

Now that you have looked at the purpose etc of the service, policy, procedure, practice or project (part 1) and looked at the research (part 2), this section asks you to assess the impact, positive and negative, of the service, policy, procedure, practice or project on each of the 6 strands of diversity covered in the Authority's single equality scheme.

3.1 Complete this section with the following information – relating to all of the identified groups: *(please refer to the guidance for additional information)*

	Reason, evidence, comment					
	Race	Disability	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Age	Religious Belief
Barriers, negative impact						
Neutral impact	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Positive impact					✓	

Part 4 Measures to mitigate disproportionate or adverse impact or improve on neutral or positive impacts: (please refer to the guidance for additional information)

4.1 If there is any negative impact on any target equality group identified in part 3, is the impact intended or legal?

No negative impact.

4.2 Specify measures that can be taken to remove or minimize the disproportionate or adverse effect identified in part 3. if none were identified, identify how disproportionate or adverse effect could be avoided in the future

Regular review will assist in ensuring no disproportionate or adverse effect in the future.

4.3 If there is no evidence that the service, policy, procedure, practice or project promotes equality, equal opportunities or improves relations within equality target groups, what amendments can be made to achieve this?

N/A

4.4 If a neutral or positive impact has been identified, can that impact be improved upon (continuous improvement)?

Can continue to offer facilities for agenda and papers to race and disability equality target group, and continue to offer consultation role for Youth MP and members of Youth Council on Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4.5 How will any service, policy, procedure, practice or project be implemented?

Contact with Youth Council liaison officer to ensure opportunities for youth engagement are maximized.

4.6 As 4.5 above please identify training requirements

No training requirements.

Part 5 Conclusions & recommendations

This section ensures that what ever we are impact assessing, whether it be a service, policy, procedure, practice or project that ensure that we abide by the general and specific duties to promote race, disability and gender equality. *(please refer to guidance for additional information)*

5.1 Does the service, policy, procedure, practice or project comply with equalities legislation?

Yes.

5.2 What are the main areas requiring further attention?

Maximising opportunities for youth engagement.

5.3 Summary of recommendations for improvement

Contact with Youth Council liaison.

5.4 What equality monitoring, evaluation, review systems have been set up to carry out regular checks?

Rolling programme of equality and diversity impact assessment.

5.5 When will the amended service, policy, procedure, practice or project be reviewed?

2013

Part 6 Action / improvement plan

The table below should be completed using the information from the equality impact assessment to produce an action plan for the implementation of the proposals to:

1. Lower the negative impact, and/or
2. Ensure that the negative impact is legal under anti-discriminatory law, and/or
3. Provide an opportunity to promote equality, equal opportunity and improve relations within equality target groups, i.e. increase the positive impact

Please ensure that you update your service/business plan within the equality objectives/targets and actions identified below:

Area of negative impact	Changes proposed	Lead officer	Timescale	Resource implications	Comments
Race					
Disability					
Age	Contact with Youth Council liaison officer to ensure take up of youth engagement opportunities.	April Ross	By July 2010	Within existing resources.	
Religious and Philosophical belief					
Gender					
Sexual orientation					
Geographical location					
All of the above					

Part 6 continued – Equality Impact Assessment – Summary report

The results of equality impact assessments must be published. Please complete this summary and the publish your report using the Equality and Diversity pages of the Intranet. Your summary information and a copy of your completed report will then be made available to the public on the Council’s website.

Date of assessment

Officer’s name **Role**

Service, policy, procedure, practice or project that was impact assessed

Summary of findings

Summary of recommendations and key points of action plan

Groups that this policy will impact upon

Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	All	<input type="checkbox"/>