

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) – Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

All public authorities are required by the Equalities Act 2010 to specifically consider the likely impact of their policy, procedure or practice on certain groups in the society. These groups (sometimes referred to as equality stands) are defined by the 2010 Act as:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender (sex)
- Race
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion or belief
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity

It is our responsibility to ensure that our policies, procedures and service delivery do not discriminate, including indirectly, on any sector of society. Council policies, procedures and service delivery may have differential impacts on certain groups, and these will be highlighted in the EqIA screening. Likely differential impacts must be highlighted, and described, as some may be positive.

Where likely significant adverse differential impacts are identified, consideration should be given to opportunities to reduce or mitigate this through a full equalities impact assessment.

Equality Impact Assessment Screening

Section	Planning Services	Officer responsible for the screening/scoping		Ian Mawer, Planning Policy Officer	
Name of Policy to be assessed	Consultation Draft Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Date of Assessment	14.10.2010	Is this a proposed new or existing policy/procedure/practice?	Update of existing Supplementary Planning Document to take account of national policy changes.
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the policy/procedure/practice?		<p>Sustainable development is central to land use planning. The overall aim of the Guildford Local Plan (2003) and Guildford Development Framework (GDF) is to 'promote development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'</p> <p>Delivering more sustainable forms of development and effectively tackling the causes of climate change in the way that we plan for new development requires new thinking and an innovative approach, especially as the Borough grows. The SPD has been developed to amplify saved Local Plan and emerging GDF policies to aid those involved in the planning, design and construction of new development within the Borough</p>			

<p>2. Are there any associated or specific objectives of the policy/procedure/practice? Please explain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that all new developments are designed to the highest achievable sustainability standards and maximise environmental gain through environmental enhancements • To ensure that all new developments are designed to make efficient use of natural resources, particularly water and energy. • To ensure that all new development is designed to mitigate and adapt the effects of climate change. • To ensure that all new developments reduce their carbon emissions and incorporate sustainable energy. • To provide guidance and supplementary information and actions to enable applicants to satisfy saved policies G1 (9) and G1 (10) of the Local Plan, and, identify the information that is required to be submitted with applications.
<p>3. Who is intended to benefit from this policy and in what way?</p>	<p>Those living in, working in or visiting the Borough of Guildford.</p>
<p>4. What outcomes are wanted from this policy / procedures / practice?</p>	<p>All new residential units will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve at least Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes • obtain a Building for Life Assessment rating of 'Good' as a minimum. • provide at least a 10% reduction in carbon emissions through the use of on site low and zero carbon technologies <p>New non-residential buildings will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve BREEAM 'Very Good' standards as a minimum. • provide at least a 10% reduction in carbon emissions through the use of on site low and zero carbon technologies
<p>5. What factors / forces could contribute / detract from the outcomes?</p>	<p>Factors beyond the control of the Local Planning Authority, such as the economic cycle and market forces which can impact development viability.</p>

6. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy?	Investors, property developers, architects and all of those living in, and working in, the Borough.
7. Who implements the policy, and who is responsible for the policy?	Guildford Borough Council
8. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to age?	Yes (positive impact)
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit all of those who live, work and visit the Borough.</p> <p>However, the long term benefits of sustainable design and construction guidance may have a positive impact on the younger and older residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable design and construction requirements could reduce the cost of heating and servicing homes. This may benefit the elderly, specifically those on lower incomes who are more likely to suffer fuel poverty • In addition, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure are likely to benefit older and younger people without access to a motor vehicle
9. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to disability?	No
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	No, however SDC 1 may have a positive impact upon residents with disabilities as developers may choose to achieve Life Homes Standards to meet level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes.
10. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to gender?	No

What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.
11. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on racial groups?	No
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.
12. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to sexual orientation?	No
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.
13. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to religion or belief?	No
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.
14. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to gender reassignment?	No

<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.</p>
<p>15. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to marriage and civil partnership?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.</p>
<p>16. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to pregnancy and maternity?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.</p>
<p>17. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on former offenders?</p> <p>(considering the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.</p>

<p>18. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on those with dependants/caring responsibilities?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The guidance concerns reducing carbon emissions through the design and construction of new build developments. The associated reduction in carbon emissions from new developments and climate change mitigation measures will benefit everyone that lives, works and visits the Borough.</p>
<p>17. Could the differential impact identified in 8-18 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this policy/procedure/practice?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>18. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason?</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>19. Is there any concern that there are unmet needs in relation to any of the above groups?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>20. Does differential impact or unmet need cut across the equality strands (e.g. elder BME groups)?</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>21. If yes, should the full EIA be conducted jointly with another service area/contractor/partner/agency?</p>		<p>Not applicable</p>																	
<p>22. Is there a missed opportunity to improve your business in relation to any of the policies, procedures or practices to promote racial, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief equality?</p>	<p>No</p>																		
<p>23. Should the policy proceed to a full equality impact assessment?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Impact on each group to score: 0 – no relevance, no adverse impact, or positive impact 1 – extremely low relevance and adverse impact 2 – relatively low relevance and adverse impact 3 – medium relevance and adverse impact 4 - relatively high relevance and adverse impact</p> <p>Total Impact Score : 0-8 points low adverse impact, no need for full EIA 9-17 points medium adverse impact, full EIA required 18-24 points high adverse impact, full EIA required</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="864 1129 2125 1257"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="864 1129 1070 1203">Age</th> <th data-bbox="1070 1129 1276 1203">Disability</th> <th data-bbox="1276 1129 1482 1203">Gender (sex)</th> <th data-bbox="1482 1129 1639 1203">Race</th> <th data-bbox="1639 1129 1845 1203">Sexual Orientation</th> <th data-bbox="1845 1129 2125 1203">Religion or Belief</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="864 1203 1070 1257">0</td> <td data-bbox="1070 1203 1276 1257">0</td> <td data-bbox="1276 1203 1482 1257">0</td> <td data-bbox="1482 1203 1639 1257">0</td> <td data-bbox="1639 1203 1845 1257">0</td> <td data-bbox="1845 1203 2125 1257">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Age	Disability	Gender (sex)	Race	Sexual Orientation	Religion or Belief	0	0	0	0	0	0
Age	Disability	Gender (sex)	Race	Sexual Orientation	Religion or Belief														
0	0	0	0	0	0														
		<p>Gender Reassignment</p>		<p>Marriage and Civil Partnership</p>		<p>Pregnancy and Maternity</p>		<p>Total Impact</p>											

		0	0	0	0
24. If No, are there any changes required to the policy to improve it around the equality agenda?	N	No			

**Signed
(completing officer)**

Ian Mawer

Date

14.10.10

**Signed
(Head of Section)**

Sue Sturgeon

Date

22.10.10

**Countersigned
(member of Equality Action Group)**

Sarah-Jane Willmott

Date

22.10.10