



**East Staffordshire Borough Council
Equality and Health Impact Assessment (EHIA)**

This EHIA documents how you have taken into account health impacts and the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty in the decision making process for this function, policy or service.

1	Title of function, policy or service to be assessed: Parks Development Plans
2	Date: 19/10/20
3	Name of EHIA author: Michael Hovers
4	EHIA team: Paul Steed, Carl Ainsworth, Phil Lawford
5	Head of Service: Mark Rizk
6	Is the policy, function or service existing, new or being reviewed? Reviewed
7	<p>State the aims, objectives and purpose of the function, policy or service and provide a summary of the service provided:</p> <p>The aim of the review and subsequent new strategy is to provide a road map for the management of open spaces for the forthcoming decade</p>
8	<p>Are there any other functions, policies or services which might be linked with this one for the purpose of this EHIA?</p> <p>Planning- Section 106 funding Climate Change</p>
9	<p>Who is it intended to affect or benefit (the target population)?</p> <p>All residents and visitors to open spaces in East Staffordshire</p>

10

Equality impacts

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Within this table, state whether the policy, function or service will have a positive or negative impact across the following protected characteristics and provide any comments.

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
Age			
Disability		X	Due to the age, type and location of some open spaces people with limited mobility may not be able to access all areas
Sex / gender reassignment / pregnancy or maternity			
Race			
Religion or belief			
Sexual orientation			
Other	x		Volunteer gardening and tree planting opportunities provide people from diverse backgrounds with the chance to come to together.

11.

What evidence do you have for the statements made in question 10?

ESBC volunteering opportunities are open to all

12	<p>Consultation: Describe what consultation has been undertaken on this function, policy or service, who was involved and the outcomes.</p> <p>n/a</p>						
13	<p>Briefly explain how the policy, function or service contributes to community cohesion by answering the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will it provide equality of access to services, information and employment? Improvements will take place across parks throughout East Staffordshire and opportunities to volunteer are available to all • Does it or could it promote good relationships within and between communities? Tree planting and gardening provide a pleasant non-confrontational setting for people to come together. Parks themselves can be accessed by the majority of residents. • How will it help to prevent social exclusion? Parks are available to all and the plan is not restricted to specific locations in East Staffs • Will it help to reintegrate those who have become excluded? Possibly, as the parks/gardening and tree planning are very inclusive and can be adapted to suit individual needs • Will this assist with communities feeling that they are connected to decision making that affects them? Yes • How will it provide good quality, inclusive services? The service will be available to all and can also be adaptable to the needs of different individuals and community groups 						
14	<p>Health impacts – screening question Will the subject of this EHIA:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="220 1666 1476 2018"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="220 1666 715 1805"></th> <th data-bbox="715 1666 1094 1805">No (provide a brief explanation of your response)</th> <th data-bbox="1094 1666 1476 1805">Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? provide a brief explanation of your response)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="220 1805 715 2018">Have a direct impact on health, mental health and wellbeing?</td> <td data-bbox="715 1805 1094 2018"></td> <td data-bbox="1094 1805 1476 2018"> Volunteering opportunities encourage people to be active Research has shown the positive benefits of </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No (provide a brief explanation of your response)	Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? provide a brief explanation of your response)	Have a direct impact on health, mental health and wellbeing?		Volunteering opportunities encourage people to be active Research has shown the positive benefits of
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			green space and trees with regard to mental health
	Have an impact on social, economic and environmental living conditions that would indirectly affect health?	Improvement of open spaces can enhance the local environment and create pleasurable surroundings to relax physically and mentally	
	Have an effect on an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?		Individuals can be become more active and engage with other individuals
	Affect access to, and the quality of, health, mental health or wellbeing services?	No- the provision of Open Spaces is not a direct service but has been shown to be a positive factor in health and well being	
Please refer to the EHIA guidance document. If you answer yes to any of these questions a health impact assessment is required, please complete section 16.			
15	Head of Service signature: I am satisfied with the results of this EHIA.		

16. HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT¹

To be completed if you have answered yes to any of the health impact screening questions.

A. Describe the health impact(s). Please refer to the screening questions in Q14.	B. Answering yes to these questions indicates an important health impact. Be explicit and include the evidence that has been considered.			C. Are the health impacts significant?
Identify the health impact(s)	Will the health impacts affect the whole population? Will it affect particular groups of people differently?	Will the health impacts be difficult to remedy or have an irreversible impact? Are they likely to cause public concern?	Will the health impacts be medium to long term? Are they likely to create cumulative impacts?	Does this health impact have a significant positive or negative impact? (based on your responses to section B)
Volunteering opportunities encourage people to be active	Only those residents who volunteer	No	Health benefits are likely to be one factor in the improvement of an individual's health	Positive
Research has shown the positive benefits of green space and trees with regard to mental health	All park users	No	Varied	Positive
Individuals can become more active and engage with other individuals	Only volunteers	No	Health benefits are likely to be one factor in the improvement of an individual's health	Positive

¹ Adapted from 'Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy, a guide to carrying out a Health Impact Assessment of new policy as part of the Impact Assessment process.' Department of Health, July 2010 p.13

17. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN

Please describe the actions, if any, you will take to mitigate against negative health or equality impacts identified in this assessment, or to maximise the benefits of the policy or service. If significant action is required it should be included in Service Plans.

Is it a Health or Equality action? n/a	Issue/impact identified	Recommendation / action required	Lead officer and timescale	Resource allocation