

Maldon District Council Equality Analysis

Please complete the questions below as fully as possible - the boxes will expand to accommodate your text. Please include the document version in the footer below.

Title: Green Infrastructure Strategy	Date 02/04/2019	Officer Preparing L Alpin
1. Background		
1.1 Description of policy (Including aims, outcomes and in the case of an existing service how long it has been delivered in its current format)		
<p>1. The purpose of the GI Strategy is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote a long-term Vision for the sustainable development and management of green infrastructure across the District.• Provide a map of opportunities that demonstrates how distinct elements of the green infrastructure network work together at a District level (and beyond, as appropriate).• Create a set of principles and policies to underpin the creation and enhancement of the green infrastructure network.• Identify and prioritise key projects and identify potential partners and funding streams for their delivery.• Provide an Action Plan for the delivery of key projects and interventions.• To act as a framework for investment in green infrastructure that maximises access for all and creates new recreational, health and leisure benefits. <p>2. The purpose of this Strategy is to provide further advice and guidance to the policies relating to green infrastructure contained in the Local Development Plan (LDP) (2014-2029). As stated above, the LDP – and therefore the policies (N1 to N3) within it relating to green infrastructure – have already been subject to SA. The application of the guidance contained in the Strategy will neither add to or change statutory policy set out in the LDP, nor will the SPD guidance change the sustainability and environmental significant effects already identified through the SA undertaken in respect of the LDP.</p> <p>3. The Strategy provides the context for elaborating and adding greater detail to the parent policies to ensure the satisfactory provision of green infrastructure and offset the relevant adverse impacts on the environment, local economic conditions, education, health, social, recreational and community facilities that may arise from development. It provides a vision and principles to ensure open spaces and features are protected, and wherever possible enhanced, for the benefit of the environment, residents and visitors to the District.</p> <p>4. It is intended that the Green infrastructure Strategy will be adopted as SPD and will be a material consideration in the determining of planning applications.</p> <p>5. The inclusion of district wide and location specific projects in the Strategy will support the enhancement of open spaces and provision of additional green infrastructure in the future.</p>		

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1.2 Who are the users of the proposal / policy / service (Refer to data held about the users of the service i.e. numbers of users, demographic breakdown.

Having this information is important to understand which sectors of the community might be affected. If that is not available refer to the demographic data held on the intranet.)

MDC

Residents and visitors (who will benefit from the enhanced/new green infrastructure)

Developers

Council partners

Landowners

1.3 Have users been consulted with? (Have you carried out consultation with users or stakeholders while drawing up the proposal / policy / service? For example, have you carried out a formal consultation, discussed the issue with a Friends/User Group or consulted with stakeholders? If so, outline the results and how it has informed your plans. It's also important to show whether the target audience was reached during the consultation.)

The Strategy has been prepared following stakeholder engagement. The outcomes of the stakeholder workshops are detailed in the Strategy itself. The Strategy was approved for public consultation by Planning & Licencing Committee.

The Strategy was open for public consultation for seven weeks to 23 January 2019. All the comments received to the consultation were reviewed and the Strategy was amended as necessary. The revised Strategy will be reconsidered by Planning & Licencing Committee on 11 April 2019, who will then recommend whether it should be adopted by the Council.

1.4 If the analysis is regarding an existing Service, what are users' views of that Service? (Base your view on evidence such as satisfaction surveys, levels of compliments and levels of complaints).

N/A

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2. Equality Aims – consider how the proposal / policy / service meets the three Equality Aims listed in the Equality Act.		
Aim	How does the proposal / policy / service meet the equality aim?	Action or addition needed in order that the proposal / policy / service meets the aim?
2.1 To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	There are no identified negative impacts relating to unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation with regard to the GI Strategy.	None
2.2 To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Consultation responses were accepted in a range of formats to encourage response from the widest possible group. Green infrastructure is accessible by all members of the community and visitors.	None
2.3 To foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	There are no identified negative impacts relating to the fostering of good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not in relation to the Strategy.	None

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3. Equality Impacts – examine how the proposal / policy / service impacts on the community. Base the analysis on evidence. Attach additional documents if necessary.					
Impacts	Positive impact (X)	Could adversely impact (X)	No impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact
3.1 Age (What will the impact be on different age groups such as younger or older people?).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community. New projects will consider the needs of the elderly in providing suitable access.	A consultation response from the Essex Bridleway Association stated that most horse riders are women or young people, and the lack of bridleway provision in Strategy/Projects could disproportionately affect these people with protected characteristics. In response, additional references to bridleway provision have been added to the SPD. The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.2 Disability (Consider all disabilities such as hearing loss, dyslexia etc as well as access issues for wheelchair users where appropriate).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community. New projects will consider the needs of people with disabilities.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.3 Pregnancy and Maternity (Think about pregnancy, new and breastfeeding Mums).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.4 Sex (is the service used more by one gender and are the sexes given equal opportunity?).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community.	A consultation response from the Essex Bridleway Association stated that most horse riders are women or young people, and the lack of bridleway provision in Strategy/Projects could

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3.5 Gender Reassignment (Is there an impact on people who are going through or who have completed Gender Reassignment?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.6 Religion or belief (Includes not having a religion or belief)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit all sectors of the community.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.7 Sexual Orientation (What is the impact on heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual people?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit to all sectors of the community.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.
3.8 Race (Includes ethnic or national origins including Gypsies and Travellers)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit to all sectors of the community.	The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.

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Impacts	Positive impact (X)	Could adversely impact (X)	No impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact
<p>3.9 Socio-Economic Group (Will people of any particular socio-economic group be particularly affected?)</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Green Infrastructure provision supported by the Strategy intended to benefit to all sectors of the community.</p> <p>The provision of green infrastructure applies equally to market housing and social housing and does not disadvantage any particular or perceived socio-economic group</p> <p>Provision of improved walking and cycling routes as part of the GI Strategy will enable people to access employment, every day services, and the countryside without the need for access to a car.</p>	<p>The SPD is expected to generate a positive impact against this criterion. No further action is required although policies will be subject to monitoring as required.</p>

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4. Is there a Cumulative Impact? (If the same group is the subject of many changes or reductions the overall impact is much greater. Consider what else is happening within Maldon District Council that may have an impact and also what we know is happening elsewhere (such as Essex County Council). See Guidance for further advice.)

The impacts as identified above are positive and therefore the overall cumulative impact should be positive. The Local Development Plan, Maldon District Design Guide, the Garden Suburb Master Plans and the Maldon and Heybridge Central Area Master Plan also promote the enhancement and improvement of green infrastructure. The cumulative impact of these policies should be positive. ECC are preparing a county wide Green Infrastructure Strategy, which should have positive impacts.

5. Outcome

5.1 Consider all the analysis and evidence above and indicate

(1) No change needed (2) Adjust (3) Adverse impact but continue (4) Stop, remove the proposal / policy / service

5.2 Adjustments

If option (2) above is selected please detail what adjustments are needed, who is responsible and how that will be reviewed. Also outline how that will be agreed (ie Committee, CMT).

5.3 Decision Making (How will this equality analysis be taken into account during the decision making process? For example, will it be included with a report to Committee/CMT? Will it be considered at department level or by a Head of Service? How will community/stakeholders views be taken into account?)

The EqIA will be included as a background paper for the SPD.

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6.0 Next Steps
6.1 If there was a lack of evidence or data held on which to base this assessment, how will that gap be addressed for the future? N/A
6.2 Summary of actions highlighted within this analysis (Include how this will be picked up within service/work plans) N/A
6.3 Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service The SPD and its equality impacts will be monitored through the annual Authority Monitoring Report. A review could happen should the higher tier policies of the LDP be revised or if there is a significant change in national planning policy.
6.4 Approved by (Manager or Head of Service signature and date) Georgina Button, 05/04/19 Strategy, Policy and Communications Manager
Once approved please forward this analysis to Cally Darby to arrange publication.