

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Tool

Equality Impact Assessments help the Council to comply with its public sector duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to equality implications. EIAs also help services to be customer focussed, leading to improved service delivery and customer satisfaction.

The Council understands that whilst its equalities duty applies to all services, it is going to be more relevant to some decisions than others. We need to ensure that the detail of Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are proportionate to the impact of decisions on the equality duty, and that in some cases a full EIA is not necessary.

This tool assists services in determining whether plans and decisions will require a full EIA. It should be used on all new policies, projects, functions, staff restructuring, major development or planning applications, or when revising them.

Full guidance on the Council's duties and EIAs and the full EIA template is available at [Equality Impact Assessments](#).

Proposal/Project/Policy Title	Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy
Service Area	Environmental Protection, Public Protection
Officer completing the EIA Screening Tool	Ciara Longman, Environmental Protection Officer
Head of Service	Karen Collier, Service Manager, Environmental Health and Public Protection
Date	02/03/2023
Brief Summary of the Proposal/Project/Policy Include main aims, proposed outcomes, recommendations/decisions sought.	<p>This document is an update of our existing Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy, which was originally published in 2001. The update includes our progress to date, updated statutory guidance and how we will address contaminated land going forward. We are seeking feedback on our update. The updated strategy will be emailed to internal and statutory consultees for comment and also placed on LBBB's website.</p> <p>The main beneficiaries of this strategy are the environment, the future occupants of land remediated through the planning process and those who occupy land which meets the legal definition of 'Contaminated Land' but are not liable for remediation of that land (for example they may be tenants</p>

	who did not cause the contamination and share no liability because they are not land owners).	
Protected characteristic	Impact	Description
Age	Positive impact (L)	<p>The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. Children and the elderly are more susceptible to environmental pollutants. All high-risk sites have already been investigated in the borough.</p> <p>A young female child (0-6) i.e. is potentially the most vulnerable group. This has already been factored into land contamination risk assessments.</p>
Disability	Positive impact (L)	<p>The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. Children diagnosed as pica would be at more risk than other individuals with this protected characteristic. A SEN school has been proposed at a location which is undergoing long term groundwater remediation. This will not impact the children as the contamination is located metres below ground.</p>
Gender re-assignment	Positive impact (L)	<p>The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential on this characteristic.</p>
Marriage and civil partnership	Positive impact (L)	<p>The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic.</p>
Pregnancy and maternity	Positive impact (L)	<p>The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. The strategy would have a potential impact on pregnant women, whose foetus are susceptible to the placental transfer of pollutants which can impact their development. All high-risk sites have already been investigated in the borough.</p>

Race	Positive impact (L)	The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic.
Religion	Positive impact (L)	The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic.
Sex	Positive impact (L)	The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic. A young female child (0-6) i.e., is potentially the most vulnerable group. This has already been factored into land contamination risk assessments.
Sexual orientation	Positive impact (L)	The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic.
Socio-Economic Disadvantage¹	Positive impact (L)	The Strategy relates to the condition of land. Decisions are made based upon levels of contamination in the ground. There is no evidence to suggest that the Strategy would have a potential impact on this characteristic.
How visible is this service/policy/project/proposal to the general public?		Low visibility to the general public (L)
What is the potential risk to the Council's reputation? Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc		Low risk to reputation (L)

¹ Socio-Economic Disadvantage is not a protected characteristic under the Equality Act. London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has chosen to include Socio-Economic Disadvantage as best practice.

If your answers are mostly H and/or M = Full EIA to be completed

If after completing the EIA screening process you determine that a full EIA is not relevant for this service/function/policy/project you must provide explanation and evidence below.

The strategy aims to improve land quality in the borough, if it is potentially high risk contaminated land. Should a site be investigated in the future, the severity of the pollution is the critical factor, and risk to human health is assessed before knowing if the residents have protected characteristics. Under no circumstances would the Environmental Protection team discount investigating a site if the residents had protected characteristics or as a result of unconscious bias. If the residents who live at the potential site did have protected characteristics, then Environmental Protection will ensure that their needs are met when communicating and planning the inspection. For instance, ensuring a translation service is available, documents are available in an accessible format or sign language. Any contractors appointed will need to agree to all of LBBDs equality policies and unconscious bias when liaising with residents and the public.

This screening tool has identified that a full EIA is not required at this time, however the impact on protected characteristics will continue to be reviewed should the strategy be changed. The strategy is reviewed every five years and another EIA screening will be completed in 2028.

Please submit the form to CE-strategy@lbbd.gov.uk and include the above explanation as part of the equalities comments on any subsequent related report.