

Appendix 4: 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	Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy 2023-2026	
Service Area	Environmental Health and Public Protection	
Officer completing the EIA Screening Tool	Karen Collier, Service Manager Environmental Health and Public Protection	
Head of Service	Gary Jones, Head of Regulatory Services	
Date	10/01/2023	
Brief Summary of the Proposal/Project/Policy Include main aims, proposed outcomes, recommendations/decisions sought.	The Council, as local licensing authority for gaming and betting, is required under the Gambling Act 2005, to have in place a policy statement of the principles by which it will abide in carrying out its licensing responsibilities. A draft policy for 2022-2025 has been prepared for public consultation. There have not been any significant changes to the previous policy for 2019-2022.	
Protected characteristic	Impact	Description
Age	Positive impact (L)	The protection of children is one of the licensing objectives and as such, the policy includes detailed best practice management advice around child protection issues. This deals with issues such as age-verification and advertising. Child Protection are a

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		statutory responsible authority under the Act and are consulted on all new and varied premises licence applications and will be directly consulted regarding the revised policy.
Disability	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Gender re-assignment	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Marriage and civil partnership	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Pregnancy and maternity	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Race	Positive impact (L)	In formulating the policy, a local area profile has been prepared with the support of the Insight Team. The local area profile includes an assessment of vulnerabilities to gambling related harm, which includes ethnicity. Premises based businesses are required to carry out their own risk assessment and to refer to the local area profile when they set out what actions they are going to take to mitigate risks.
Religion	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Sex	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Sexual orientation	Not applicable (N/A)	Describe the impact.
Socio-Economic Disadvantage¹	Positive impact (L)	In formulating the policy, a local area profile has been prepared with the support of the Insight Team. The local area profile includes an assessment of vulnerabilities to gambling related harm, which includes socio-economic disadvantage. Premises based businesses are required to carry out their own risk assessment and to refer to the local area profile when they set

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.

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		out what actions they are going to take to mitigate risks.
How visible is this service/policy/project/proposal to the general public?		Medium visibility to the general public (M)
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)

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 proposed policy has been prepared in line with the requirements of both national legislation and national guidance both of which will have been subject to equalities impact assessments in their own right by the Government and the Gambling Commission.

The proposed policy statement is a revision of a previously adopted council policy. There have not been any significant changes to the policy, which demonstrates that the fundamental principles that were established previously are sound and remain relevant.

In formulating the policy, a local area profile has been prepared with the support of the Insight Team. The local area profile includes an assessment of vulnerabilities to gambling related harm, which includes age, ethnicity and socio-economic disadvantage.

The protection of children is one of the licensing objectives and as such, the policy includes detailed best practice management advice around child protection issues. This deals with issues such as age-verification and advertising. Child Protection are a statutory responsible authority under the Act and are consulted on all new and varied premises licence applications and will be directly consulted regarding the revised policy.

Across all nine national Protected Characteristics groupings and our tenth grouping in London Borough of Barking and Dagenham of socio-economic disadvantage, the impact is predicted to be 'low positive', with no anticipated need to take specific actions to mitigate or enhance the impact.

A public consultation will be carried out in line with the Gambling Commission guidance to Licensing Authorities. This requires the following to be consulted:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the area
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses area; and
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Act.

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Additionally, the following will also be consulted:

- All ward Councillors,
- All responsible authorities under the Act
- The Gambling Commission.
- Public Health

The policy sets out processes and procedures that aim to protect human rights, in particular those rights relating to a right to a fair trial, no punishment without law and right to respect for private and family life. If the policy was not followed, there is a risk that human rights may be breached.

Full consideration will be given to any consultation feedback regarding impacts to protected characteristics.

Formal consultation, as endorsed by the Corporate Strategy Group at its meeting on 15 September 2022, was undertaken between 26 October 2022 until 30 December 2022, which provided an opportunity, in particular for the following stakeholders to provide feedback.

- Responsible authorities
- Service providers and persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Act
- Ward councillors
- Local licensed operators and relevant trades representative groups
- Publication on the authority's website

The equalities impact was further reviewed and considered following the consultation responses. Consultation feedback referred to the need to protect children and vulnerable adults from gambling related harm reflecting the data in the local area profile of the draft policy statement.

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.