

Initial Equality Impact Assessment Template

Section: Sustainable Communities		Officers undertaking assessment: Teena Twelves
Name of policy, procedure etc: Grantham Transport Strategy	Date of Assessment: 24 th March 2009	Is this a new or existing policy? New policy
Policy Aims		
<p>Briefly outline the policy/procedure/service by putting it into context and describe its aims, objectives and purpose</p> <p>The LCC Grantham Transport Strategy is a document which sets out proposals for the management of transport services and transport infrastructure in Grantham in the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p>The purpose of the Grantham Transport Strategy is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a framework for the better management of movements into and through Grantham in both the short term (up to 2010) and in the longer term (2011-2021 and beyond) • To address the problems associated with existing and future levels of congestion in Grantham • To address the environmental impacts of existing and future traffic movements in Grantham, in particular with regard to air quality • To support the sustainable economic growth of the town and its surrounding area 		
<p>Who is intended to benefit from the policy?</p> <p>Residents of Grantham, businesses operating in Grantham and those who work there, visitors to Grantham, and those passing through Grantham en route to other destinations.</p>		
<p>Who implements the policy, and who is responsible for the policy?</p> <p>Lincolnshire County Council will implement the policy, and has responsibility for the policy. In implementing the policy and in recognition of the complementarity of this policy with many of SKDC's own priorities and objectives, the County Council will work closely with SKDC.</p>		

<p>Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy?</p> <p>Residents of Grantham Businesses in Grantham Visitors to Grantham Those using transport services in Grantham South Kesteven District Council</p>
<p>Are there any other organisations or partners involved in the delivery of the service? Who is the lead or accountable body?</p> <p>The lead or accountable body is the Lincolnshire County Council. South Kesteven will be involved in the implementation of the strategy and in particular schemes within it.</p>
<p>Does the policy contribute to the achievement of the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy? Can any aspects of the policy contribute to inequality? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The policy has been drawn up following comprehensive consultation with a range of groups and an extensive public consultation exercise. Some of the measures within the strategy may affect certain groups more than others – for example improvements to bus services will predominantly affect those who regularly use the bus service, and this is likely to include older people and those on low incomes. Full consultation will be carried out by the County Council as each of the individual proposals are implemented.</p>
<p>Evidence</p>
<p>What are the existing sources of evidence and mechanisms for gathering data?</p> <p>The County Council has mechanisms for gathering data regarding transport services and their use and the impact of changes to policy or new developments and these are fed into the County #Council's own decision making process.</p>
<p>What monitoring data is available on the number of people who use the service or are affected by the policy? Who holds this information?</p> <p>The policy is likely to affect everyone in Grantham as outlined above. There is no structured monitoring to address this.</p>
<p>If no monitoring has been undertaken, will this be done in the future? If so, specify what arrangements you intend to make. If you do not intend to do any monitoring, please provide your reason for this decision.</p>

Individual elements within the policy will affect different groups and this will be managed at the project implementation and delivery stage.

What are the key performance indicators and targets attributed to the policy?

From the SKDC perspective, the policy aims to achieve the objectives outlined within the Grantham Growth Point Programme of Development. The County Council as the Highways Authority, will also monitor the implementation of the strategy.

What consultation has been carried out with stakeholders and service users previously about the policy?

In February and March 2007, the public were consulted on the possible options for change being considered and were asked which options they thought would be of the most benefit to Grantham.

Leaflets and questionnaires were distributed to around 5,000 randomly selected addresses in the Grantham area. The leaflet provided information on the study process and the various options for change being considered. Other stakeholders were also sent a leaflet and questionnaire. Staffed public exhibitions were also held in the Isaac Newton Centre on 2nd and 3rd March 2007. This supplemented the leaflet and questionnaire by providing additional information and detail on a series of eight display boards, together with a visual simulation of possible town centre improvements.

This was supported by an article in County News, locally displayed posters and an LCC press release. In total, it is estimated that around 1,400 members of the public viewed the exhibition during the two days. After this, the unstaffed exhibition was transferred to the SKDC Customer Service Centre for a further two weeks.

The study's website also carried a full set of the consultation material, including a webform allowing people to fill in the questionnaire on-line and gain more detailed information about the study. The public exhibition was very well attended and many people took time to read more about the study, watch the visual simulation and ask questions.

In total around 1,800 people made their views known during the consultation period by returning a completed questionnaire, which made it one of the most successful consultation exercises ever carried out in Grantham. The views of the public were analysed in detail and proved to be very useful in helping the study team to understand the public's priorities and receive further input from stakeholders.

Is there any evidence that different groups have different needs, experiences,

issues and priorities in relation to the particular policy or function? Please explain your answer.

It is likely that different groups will be differently affected by the implementation of the different strands of the policy: i.e. those who are bus users are likely to have different needs from those who are car drivers. Similarly the views of those who are regularly pedestrians in Grantham Town Centre will be different to those who mainly drive through Grantham Town Centre en route to another destination.

Is there any informal feedback from managers, staff or voluntary organisations?

There is a significant amount of feedback from the public consultation exercise which has been collated by the County Council and has informed the development of the policy.

Is there a complaints system? If yes, are complaints monitored by race, gender, and disability as a minimum?

Yes. Lincolnshire county Council has a formal complaints process which includes equalities monitoring.

What further evidence is needed to understand the impact upon equality?

Monitoring of the impacts of each individual element of the policy at delivery stage will need to be established to ensure that different groups are not differentially affected by the implementation of the policy.

Impact

Does the data show different impact upon different groups? What existing evidence is there for this?

Race: None that we are aware of

Gender: None that we are aware of.

Age: None that we are aware of

Religion: None that we are aware of

<p>Disability: None that we are aware of</p> <p>Sexual Orientation: None that we are aware of.</p>			
<p>Do these differences amount to an adverse impact?</p> <p>Not in the opinion of those carrying out the assessment</p>			
<p>Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on any other groups of people e.g. those with dependants/caring responsibilities, those with an offending past, those with learning difficulties, transgender or transsexual people. What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The needs of different groups will need to be assessed when the various elements of the policy are implemented as depending on the detail of the implementation plan there could be differential impacts, and this will need to be monitored closely.</p>			
<p>Are there any factors that might account for differential impacts or non-achievement of the policies outcomes, such as barriers that prevent people from fully accessing the service? For example, communication difficulties, physical access, information not being accessible, use of language, childcare responsibilities?</p>			
<p>Future Actions</p>			
<p>Should the policy or function proceed to a Full Impact Assessment? (Please explain your reasoning)</p> <p>Yes. Further analysis and monitoring should be undertaken as the proposals within the Strategy proceed to implementation stage as the detail of how it is proposed that the policy should be implemented on the ground may require further consideration of equalities issues.</p>			
<p>ACTION PLAN</p>			
Action	Completion Date	Responsibility	

Ensure that equalities monitoring is developed as part of the Growth Point project involvement	December 09	Simon Wright	
Date Full Impact Assessment should commence: April 2009			
Review Date: December 2009			
Signed: T Twelves		Date: 24.03.09	