

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Alvaston District Centre
Urban Regeneration Scheme

November 2007

Equality impact, needs and requirements assessment form

Please use this form to record your findings, proposed actions, equality objectives and targets. Use the guidance notes to help you do the assessment or contact the Equality Standard Project Manager if you need some advice

About the policy, practice, service or function you are assessing

Name of policy, practice, service or function: Alvaston District Centre Urban Regeneration Scheme

Assessment team leader name: Matthew Deakin – Senior Project Technician - Highways

Date of assessment: 12 November 2007

Department responsible: Regeneration and Community

Service Area: Highways

Other members of assessment team:

Name	Position	Area of expertise	Comments
Stephen Gaskin	Project Engineer	Highways	Project Manager
Mick Watts	Access Officer	Disabled Peoples Issues	
Nancy Pountain	Chair - Derby Access Group/ Derby Disability Network / DCIL	Disabled Peoples Issues	
Judi Batemen	Chair – Derby Disability Network / DCIL	Disabled Peoples Issues	

Question	Response/ findings
<p>What are the main aims and objectives or purpose of the policy, practice, service or function that you are assessing?</p>	<p>Design of highway and public realm improvements to Alvaston District Shopping Centre. Construction of urban and highway improvements to provide improved accessibility, an improved appearance and ultimately improve the vitality of the District Shopping Centre.</p>
<p>Who implements, carries out or delivers the policy, practice, service or function? Please state where this is more than one person, team, department, or body – and include any outside organisations who deliver under procurement arrangements</p>	<p>The project is overseen by a Project Board comprising of Derby City Council's Key Development Team.</p> <p>A project steering group is overseeing the design and delivery of the project.</p>
Question	Response/ findings

<p>Who is affected by the policy, practice, service or function, or by how it is delivered? Such as, who are the external and internal customers, groups, or communities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visitors to the District Centre ○ People who work or own businesses in the District Shopping Centre ○ Disabled people ○ Parents and Guardians with pushchairs ○ Commuters travelling through the centre
<p>What outcomes do we want to achieve, why and for whom? For example, what do you want to be providing, how well, what changes or improvements, and what should the benefits be for customers, groups or communities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To improve accessibility to ensure everyone is able to effectively use the District Shopping Centre ○ To visually improve the centre ○ To improve the functionality of the centre ○ To improve parking provision ○ To create a safer place for people to visit and travel through ○ To ensure traffic flows as efficiently as possible ○ To improve the vitality of the Centre
<p>Question</p>	<p>Response/ findings</p>

<p>What existing or previous inspections of the policy, practice, service or function are there? For example, Best Value Inspections, policy reviews, research into the effects of a policy or practice.</p> <p>What did they tell you?</p>	<p>The improvements are part of Derby City Council's strategic plan to improve all District Shopping Centres within the City.</p> <p>In May 2003 Halcrow Group Ltd. undertook a feasibility and design study aimed at improvements to Alvaston District Centre including the A6 along Shardlow Road. This highlighted a need to improve the District Centre Shopping Centre.</p>
<p>Identifying potential equality issues and factors</p>	

Question	Response/ findings
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<p>What do you already know about the equality impact or need? For example, from research, feedback, consultation or any performance monitoring</p>	<p>We have studied the Disability Rights Commission's guidelines on highways and streets concerning the new Disability Equality Duty.</p> <p>Reference has been made to technical and design guidelines relating to physical access in preparing the scheme design. The design has drawn upon good practice and comments already made about other public realm and open space scheme designs.</p> <p>Consultation has taken place with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the general public ○ local traders ○ local councillors <p>The scheme has been reviewed and discussed at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DPAC project group ○ Council Cabinet ○ Alvaston Area Panel, now known as Neighbourhood Forums. <p>The design now incorporates seating with armrests and backrests.</p> <p>Disabled people have already informed of the inaccessibility of seating without centre armrests and how important it is to have the correct type of seating. Also paving and pathways need to be constructed using appropriate materials.</p>
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	<p>We also know that it is important to make sure the project uses “Designing out Crime” principles, so no particular group is put at risk and that people feel safe to use Alvaston District Centre.</p>
Question	Response/ findings
<p>Is there any evidence of higher or lower take up under the policy or practice, or of the service or function for any particular groups? For example, who uses the service, who doesn't and why not?</p>	<p>The recent improvements carried out at Allenton District Shopping Centre have shown the various benefits of developing an accessible district shopping centre.</p> <p>It is accepted that where the accessibility of an area is improved, more people will use that area.</p>
<p>Have there been any important demographic changes or trends locally? For example is the population changing, and if so, how and what might that mean for the service or function?</p>	<p>The areas around Alvaston District Shopping Centre are subject to new and future residential and business development that will increase the local population and the number of people gaining access to the centre. Some of the recent developments have included a mix of family homes and accommodation for the elderly.</p> <p>The refurbishment of nearby Allenton District Shopping Centre has shown a change in habit by shoppers and it has resulted in a much revitalises district shopping centre</p>
Question	Response/ findings

<p>Is there an indication that any of the policies or practices involved with the service or function creates particular problems or difficulties for any groups of customers or communities?</p>	<p>Accessibility to premises is currently an issue, with steps into units causing problems for disabled people and those with pushchairs. The refurbishment of the District Centre will address the majority of access issues</p> <p>Using a phased approach to construction will help to minimise disruption to all users of the district centre and reduce potential loss of trade for shop owners.</p>
<p>What information or data exists? For example, statistics, customer feedback, complaints, research, monitoring – who keeps it and can you get hold of it?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minutes of meetings of DPAC and area panel available from Derby City Council's records. ○ Details of consultation with the traders, councillors and general public can be obtained from Traffic Control. ○ Details of traffic surveys can be obtained from Traffic Control
<p>Question</p>	<p>Response/ findings</p>

<p>Does any equality or diversity objectives already exist? If so, what are they and what is current performance like against them?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Is the service having a positive or negative effect on particular people in the community, or particular groups or communities?</p>	<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve accessibility for all, particularly disabled persons and vulnerable road users ○ Improve crossing facilities for pedestrians ○ Improve safety ○ Improve the aesthetic environment ○ Improve parking ○ Increase parking provision for disabled people ○ Improve traffic flows <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disruption during construction period ○ Restrict parking directly outside HSBC bank.

Collecting the information and data about how the policy, practice, service or function, impacts on communities

Please record your information and data in this table and think about:

- what information or data you will need
- using both quantitative and qualitative data
- making sure that where possible there is information that allows all perspectives to be considered
- identifying any gaps in the information/ data and what it can tell you

Data or information	When and how was it collected?	Where is it from?	What does it tell you? You need to consider all six equality strands where you can	Gaps in information
Customer feedback and complaints	Petition to improve the District Centre Anecdotal from consultation, public comments, letters and phone calls Emails from DAB	Traders General public	General feeling that District Centre needs improving.	

<p>Consultation and community involvement</p>	<p>Public consultation Member consultation DPAC Area Panel Local disabled people project group DDN</p>	<p>General Public Councillors Members of disabled groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need to develop an inclusive strategy to improve the accessibility and vitality of Alvaston District Centre. ○ Need to be a safe area, where people feel safe to visit, work and shop ○ Paths and footway need to have suitable gradients and accessible surfaces ○ Street furniture needs to be in finished in contrasting colours to assist visually impaired people. ○ Seats need to be an inclusive design and accessible with end and mid arms, backs and installed at an appropriate height. 	
<p>Performance information including Best Value</p>	<p>n/a</p>			

Take up and usage data	Monitoring of vacant units	On-site inspections	Will tell whether vitality is improved	No information on current visitor type, levels or car parking
Comparative information or data where no local information	Information and comparisons have been taken from other local authorities in the following areas	Stoke-on-Trent Allenton Kensington Nottingham	What materials, methodologies and approaches have been adopted towards crossing facilities, urban design and materials?	
Census, national or regional statistics	n/a			
Access audits or assessments such as DDA assessments	Accessibility of shops	Derby Access Group/DDN	Need to improve accessibility to shop units where possible.	
Workforce profile	n/a			

Where service delivered under procurement arrangements – workforce profile for deliverers	Construction will be undertaken by Derby Roads who have their own workforce profile and meet industry standards	National Guidelines on workforce profiles		
Monitoring and scrutiny outcomes	Dependant on funding streams used to fund project		Individual funding options will have unique outcomes to be monitored	Information on precise funding breakdown

Analysing the information and data and setting equality objectives and targets

Please give your detailed findings in this table

Service or function	Policy or practice	Findings	Which groups are affected and how	Whose needs are not being met and how?
Alvaston District Centre Urban Regeneration	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Public ○ Traders ○ Vulnerable Road Users ○ Disabled People 	Although needs of these groups are being met to a degree, there is room for improvement for all stakeholders

Objectives - process, impact or outcome based

Please give your proposed objectives/ targets in this table

Objective/Target:	
Specific	Gain approval to regenerate Alvaston District Centre
Measurable	Yes – report to Council Cabinet
Achievable	Yes - Scheme approved by Cabinet
Relevant	Yes – to enable detailed scheme to be delivered
Timed	Approved by Cabinet in September 2007

Objective/Target:	
Specific	Amend scheme to reflect comments from local disabled residents
Measurable	Yes – how many shops will be accessible to disabled people
Achievable	Yes – scheme incorporate changes to level entries
Relevant	Yes – to make centre accessible to all groups
Timed	Yes – by end of scheme expected before 2012

Objective/Target:	
Specific	Commence construction of Phase 1
Measurable	Yes – when works start
Achievable	Yes
Relevant	Yes - to start scheme starting
Timed	March 2008

Monitoring and reviewing - incorporating into performance management

Please summarise your objectives and targets in this table with your proposed monitoring and reporting arrangements

Objective	Planned action	Target performance			Responsible lead officer	Reporting cycle, for example, quarterly
		2006/7	2007/8	2008/9		
<i>Design scheme to regenerate District Centre</i>	<i>Complete detailed design</i>	<i>Initial scheme design</i>	<i>Detailed design starting at phase 1</i>	<i>Detailed design of other phases</i>	<i>Stephen Gaskin</i>	<i>2 weekly highlight reports</i>
<i>Consult with stakeholders</i>	<i>Member consultation Trader consultation Public consultation Disabled group consultation</i>	<i>Nov 06 Dec 06</i>	<i>Apr 07 Nov 07</i>		<i>Matthew Deakin</i>	<i>Regular reports to Project Board</i>
<i>Amend designs to incorporate points from consultation, particularly regarding accessibility</i>	<i>Check plans prior to construction</i>		<i>March 08</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Stephen Gaskin</i>	<i>Regular reports to Project Board</i>
<i>Undertake Equalities Impact Assessment</i>	<i>Complete assessment and then publish</i>		<i>Nov 07 - Dec 07</i>		<i>Matthew Deakin</i>	<i>Single report</i>

Advise stakeholders of scheme	Ensure scheme is effectively communicated to all	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Matthew Deakin	Regular reports to all stakeholders
Construct Scheme	Ensure scheme is constructed in phases caused minimum possible disruption	Mar 07	Apr 07 – Mar 08	Apr 08 – March 09	Stephen Gaskin	Regular reports to Projects Board
Review effectiveness of improvements	Consult stakeholders with satisfaction survey				Matthew Deakin	Report following scheme completion

Monitoring and reviewing – Equality Impact Assessment in Action

As part of on-going monitoring and reviewing, work is assessed and changes made as necessary.

Issue Raised	Action taken	Date
A concern was raised by a local disabled person about a dished drainage channel being installed which could be difficult for wheelchair users to negotiate.	Installation was stopped and the dished drainage channel was removed and replaced with a flat slab drainage system.	Feb 08