

Equalities Impact Assessment

City of London Thames Strategy Supplementary Planning Document

Draft for Adoption

June 2015



Department of the Built Environment

Equality Impact Assessment: Stage 1 Initial Assessment

Service Area: Department of the Built Environment
 Main Contact: Lisa Russell
 Policy/Project/Service: City of London Thames Strategy Supplementary
 Planning Document Consultation Draft
 Related Policies:
 (Please list) The City of London Core Strategy 2011
 The Draft City of London Local Plan 2013

Is the function or policy carried out by a third party? Yes No

To which of the following equalities issues could the Policy/Project/Service contribute? (Please tick as relevant)

1. Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation & other unlawful conduct prohibited by the Act? 1 (Explain why in box below)
 Yes No
2. Advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic & those who don't? (explain how in box below)
 Yes No
3. Fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic & those who don't? (if possible identify the different groups and how relations could be improved in box below)
 Yes No
4. Is there any *potential* that this Policy/Project/Service could operate in a discriminatory manner?
 Yes No
5. Is there any evidence (including expressions of public concern or levels of complaints) of unequal impact or detriment to people sharing a protected characteristic or the undermining of good relations between people who share a protected characteristic & those who don't?
 Yes No
6. Based on the assessment just considered, what is the overall assessment of relevance (or risk) in terms of equalities?
 Low Medium High

Please provide brief details as above:

The Thames Strategy SPD Consultation Draft provides guidance on policies and sets out a strategy on the Thames Policy Area in the City. It lists five key objectives that seek to guide and protect development, protect heritage assets, promote biodiversity and consider flood risk and climate resilience. The implementation of the SPD will enhance open space and public realm which will encourage people

with protected and non-protected characteristics to use the space and thereby improve social cohesion.

Accessibility issues are addressed in a satisfactory manner in the SPD after input during the internal consultation stage which expanded the content of the document regarding inclusiveness.

The SPD includes sufficient references to relevant policy on inclusive design and will therefore have a positive contribution in terms of inclusive development in the Thames Policy Area.

Changes made to the consultation draft do not constitute major changes therefore there is no change to the findings of the Equality Impact Assessment Screening.

Completed by/date: Lisa Russell 18th September 2014

Manager Sign Off/date: Derek Read 18th September 2014

DBE Equalities Champion/date: Elisabeth Hannah 18th September 2014

1. The Act explains that having '*due regard for advancing equality*' involves:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics.
- Taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people.
- Encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

Policy/Project/Service where discretion may apply will also need to be considered when determining priority.

Please note that all new policies, projects or functions must be impact assessed as part of their development if any relevance to the duty is identified. The assessment should then be included as part of any decision or approval process e.g. included in Management or Committee reports.

Any requirement for new policies or restructuring of services and therefore the need to undertake an impact assessment, should be flagged-up well in advance as part of the annual service planning process to ensure it is part of the overall process and meaningful.