

Change Equality Impact Assessments (EqIAs)

1. Proposal details		
Name of the policy/project/process being assessed (subsequently referred to as project)	North Tyneside Council Air Quality Strategy	
Purpose of project	Development and consultation of Policy	
Who is the project intended to benefit?	Residents and businesses in North Tyneside	
What outcomes should be achieved?	Approved Policy in place	
Version of EqIA	1	
Date this version created	29/11/2022	
Confidential	no	
Directorate	Public Health	
Service	Public Protection	
	Name	Service or organisation
Principal author	Frances McClen	Public Protection
Additional authors	Joanne Lee	Public Protection

2. Groups Impacted		
Does the project impact upon?		If yes, what is the estimated number impacted? And the Level of impact this will have on the group (high, medium, low)
Service Users	yes	200,000 medium
Carers or Family of Service Users	yes	200,000 medium
Residents	yes	200,000 medium
Visitors	yes	200,000 medium
Staff	yes	3000 medium
Partner Organisations	yes	In excess of 10 partner organisations medium

3. Evidence Gathering and Engagement		
	Internal evidence	External Evidence
What evidence has been used for this assessment?	Officer steering group	Online survey and engagement post development draft Policy
Have you carried out any engagement in relation to this proposal?	yes	
If yes of what kind and with whom? If no, why not?	Officer steering group	
Is there any information you don't have?	no	
If yes, why is this information not available?		

4. Impact on Different Characteristics

Legally Protected Characteristics	Potential Positive Impact Identified	Potential Negative Impact Identified	Description of the potential impact/s and evidence used
Age	yes	yes	<p>Strategy</p> <p>Improvement of air quality positive impact on health Some childhood illnesses would be impacted such as childhood asthma which is specifically attributable to traffic related air pollution. Poor air quality results in increases in the probability of hospital admissions, visits to A&E and respiratory and cardiovascular disease. Air pollution is a significant social justice issue as it is often the poorer and more vulnerable communities that are most exposed to and suffer the consequences of harmful air, in particular the young and old, the sick and lower income groups. Further, poor air quality is also an economic issue: the illnesses caused by poor air quality affect people of working age and we know this causes significant time off work and early retirement. Whilst this is difficult to quantify, studies by the Lancet have found that in low-to-medium income countries, air pollution reduces Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by up to 2% and drives up demand and costs on healthcare services. This policy supports the improvement of North Tyneside's air quality, including reducing the exposure of vulnerable communities to unacceptable levels of pollution. This is likely to encourage a culture of equality, by ensuring all residents have access to cleaner air, and are not disproportionately impacted by poor air quality and the associated health problems.</p> <p>Consultation</p> <p>The consultation document will be available in Customer First Centres and responses can be submitted in written form at via these centres rather than online survey. In addition, officers will be available to meet residents in person to discuss consultation responses and any other format required. The consultation will be promoted via different methods to ensure an equal opportunity to engage.</p> <p>It is recognised that negative impacts may arise due to age due to health issues that are exasperated due to age.</p>
Disability	yes	yes	Strategy

			<p>Air quality impacts certain health issues and any improvement will positively impact</p> <p>Consultation The consultation document will be available in Customer First Centres and responses can be submitted in written format via these centres rather than online survey. In addition, officers will be available to meet residents in person to discuss consultation responses and any other format required.</p> <p>The consultation will be promoted via different methods to ensure an equal opportunity to engage.</p> <p>It is recognised that negative impacts may arise due to disabilities which will include some health issues and access problems.</p>
Gender reassignment	no	no	
Marriage & civil partnership	no	no	
Pregnancy & Maternity	no	no	
Race	no	yes	
Religion or belief	no	no	
Sex	no	no	
Sexual Orientation	no	no	
Intersectionality	no	no	
Non-legally protected characteristic			
Carers	no	no	

5. Achievement of the Authority's public sector equality duty		
Will the proposal contribute to any of the following?		If yes, how?
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment	yes	Will consider areas of health inequalities and actions to raise standards in those areas
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	yes	Will consider areas of health and actions to raise standards in these areas. Improvements to air quality will assist to a high extent persons with some health conditions.
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	N/A	

6. Negative Impacts

Potential negative impact	Can it be reduced or removed?	If yes how? If no, why not and what alternative options were considered and not pursued?
Access to consultation	yes- reduced	Consultation will be available in different formats including online and officers will be available to meet in person if requested.
Gather	Choose an item.	
	Choose an item.	
	Choose an item.	

7. Action Plan					
Actions to gather evidence or information to improve NTC's understanding of the potential impacts on people with protected characteristics and how best to respond to them	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Target Completion Date	Action completed	
Consideration will be given to surveys and how to identify data on persons protected characteristics and the individual impact of air quality	Frances McClen	Public Protection	01/04/2023	Choose an item.	
			Calendar	Choose an item.	
			Calendar	Choose an item.	
Actions already in place to remove or reduce potential negative impacts	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Impact		
		Drop down	Choose an item.		
			Choose an item.		
			Choose an item.		
Actions that will be taken to remove or reduce potential negative impacts	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Impact	Target Completion Date	Action completed
Availability of engagement materials in different formats on request. In addition, officers will be available to meet with residents in person.		Drop down	reduce	01/04/2023	Choose an item.
			Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.
			Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.
Actions that will be taken to make the most of any potential positive impact	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Target Completion Date	Action completed	
Investigation into use of social media to publicise when higher levels of pollution	Frances McClen	Public Protection	01/06/2023	Choose an item.	

Actions that will be taken to monitor the equality impact of this proposal once it is implemented	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Target Completion Date	Action completed
The action plan connected with the Policy via Annual Air Quality Status Report will be reviewed on an annual basis and will consider any equality impacts that have been highlighted.	Frances McClen	Public Protection	annual	Choose an item.
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.
Date review of EqIA to be completed	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area		
31/07/2023	Frances McClen	Public Protection		

8. Outcome of EqIA	
Outcome	Please explain and evidence why you have reached this conclusion:
The proposal is robust, no major change is required	Considered all inputs into development of Policy and associated engagement activity. By following activities highlighted in this Assessment no further actions required.

9. Corporate Equality Group Member approval	
Do you agree or disagree with this assessment?	Agree
If disagree, please explain why?	
Name of Corporate Equality Group Member	Behnam Khazaeli
Date	06/12/2022

10. Director approval	
Do you agree or disagree with this assessment?	Agree
If disagree, please explain why?	
Name of Director	Wendy Burke
Date	07/12/2022

Please return the document to the Author and Corporate Equality Group Member.