Equality impact assessment (EIA) screening form

Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form.

This form has been developed to help you to identify the need for EIA when developing a new policy, strategy, programme, activity, project, procedure, function or decision (hereafter all understood by the term policy). You must also complete this form when reviewing or revising existing policies. It will also help to prioritise existing policies that may need to undergo a full EIA.

Unless they are 'screened out' following this initial prioritisation process, policies **will** be required to undergo full EIA in priority order. Refer to the **above** guidance notes on when an equality screening should happen, and some initial principles to bear in mind when getting started.

No new or revised policy should be approved unless an equality screening and, if required, a full EIA has taken place.

The following sections must be completed for all new policies:

Name of policy being screened:

Public Protection Orders

Brief description of the Policy:

PSPO's are designed to stop individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in a public space. They are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour

Does this policy relate to any other policies?

Public Safety Protection Orders replace Designated Places Orders, Dangerous Dog Orders and Gating orders

What is the aim or purpose of the policy?

The responsibility for dealing with anti-social behaviour is shared between a number of agencies, particularly the police, councils and social landlords. The Home Office has reformed the anti-social behaviour powers to give professionals increased flexibility they need to deal with any given situation

Who is affected by this policy (e.g. staff, residents, disabled people, women only?)

Individuals who commit anti-social behaviour. Individuals and businesses who experience, or who are the victims of anti-social behaviour

Who is responsible for delivery of the policy?

Bridgend Community Safety Partnership

The following sections must be completed for all policies being reviewed or revised:

Is this a review of an existing policy?

Public Safety Protection Orders replace existing Designated Public Places Orders, Dangerous Dog Orders and Gating Orders

If this is a review or amendment of an existing policy, has anything changed since it was last reviewed?

South Wales Police have requested an extension of the area covered by the street alcohol powers to include from the bottom on Coity Road to the entrance to the Princess of Wales Hospital

Has an EIA previously been carried out on this policy?

No

If an EIA exists, what new data has been collected on equality groups since its completion?

N/A

Screening questions

1. Is this policy an important or 'large scale' function, and/or is it likely the policy will impact upon a large number of staff, residents and/or contractors?

Yes√

2. Is it possible that any aspect of the policy will impact on people from different groups in different ways? (See guidance for list of 'protected characteristics' to consider)

Characteristic	Yes	No	Unknown	Explanation of impact		
Age				Older people tend to feel vulnerable to incidences of antisocial behaviour. There is anecdotal evidence that reducing ASB may have a positive effect on older people's feeling of safety		
	•			Young people are also adversely affected by ASB. But there is evidence that incidents of ASB perpetrated by Young People is higher than other age groups. While there is evidence of young people committing ASB, there is also anecdotal evidence that there is less tolerance towards young people, especially in groups. Therefore there may be a risk that young people are unfairly accused of ASB		
Disability	✓			Reducing anti-social behaviour could reduce the number of 'hate instances' experienced by disabled people		
Gender reassignment	✓			Hate instances could also affect individuals undergoing gender reassignment. Reducing ASB in the identified areas might have a positive effect on this.		
Pregnancy and maternity			✓			

Race	✓			Reducing ASB could reduce the number of hate incidences relating to race. It could also encourage more people to use the specified areas
Religion/belief			✓	Reducing ASB could reduce the number of hate incidents relating to religion/belief
Sex		√		There is little evidence to suggest one gender is more likely to be affected by ASB than another
Sexual orientation	√			There are some reports of ASB relating to sexual orientation
Civil Partnerships and Marriage		✓		

Yes No Unknown (Guidance)

Please expand on your answer:

Anti-social behaviour can also cover issues such as hate instances rather than hate crimes and these will impact on several of the protected characteristic groups. Reducing anti-social behaviour in the specified areas could help encourage more people with protected characteristics to use town centres and the other specified areas.

3. What is the risk that any aspect of the policy could in fact lead to discrimination or adverse affects against any group of people? (See guidance for list of protected characteristics?)

It is possible that young people and others could be unfairly accused of Antisocial behaviour. The issuing of fixed penalty notices (PNDs) to young people and individuals already in poverty may not succeed in reducing ASB and may result in escalation through the criminal justice system Bridgend Community Safety Partnership will monitor this through their regular meetings.

Police Officers and other officers with the powers to issue fixed penalty notices will receive guidance and training on the appropriate issuing of fixed penalty notices

Please expand on your answer:

Guidance and training to be provided to police officers and other relevant personnel

Updates on training, number of incidences and data on number of notices issued to be provided to Bridgend Community Safety partnership meetings

4. Could any aspect of the policy help BCBC to meet the main public sector duties? Bear in mind that the duty covers 9 protected characteristics. Guidance

Duty	YES	NO	Unknown
Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other			
conduct that is prohibited by the Act			X
Advance equality of opportunity between persons who a relevant			
protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	X		
Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant			
protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	X		

Please set out fully your reasoning for the answers given to question 4 including an awareness of how your decisions are justified.

Reduction of Anti-Social behaviour in town centres and other specified areas should encourage more people with protected characteristics to visit and use the areas and feel safe doing so.

- 5. Could any aspect of this "policy" assist Bridgend County Borough Council with its compliance with the Welsh Language Standards and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 which are to consider:-
 - whether the policy would impact on people's opportunity to a) use the Welsh language in a positive or negative way and b) treat both languages equally;
 - how the policy could be changed to have a positive effect or increase the
 positive effect on a) people's opportunity to use the Welsh language and b)
 treating both languages equally;
 - how the policy could be changed to minimise or remove any adverse effects on a) people's opportunity to use the Welsh language and b) treating both languages equally.

Consultation on Public Safety Protection Orders will be fully bi-lingual. All materials produced will be bi lingual. Each area covered by a Public Safety Protection Order will need signs outlining the restrictions in place to be prominently displayed. This signage will all be bi lingual

6. Are you aware of any evidence that different groups have different needs, experiences, issues and/or priorities in relation to this policy?

Yes ✓

If 'yes', please expand:

There is some evidence that older people, disabled people and people from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender communities are disproportionally affected by anti-social behaviour. Reducing anti-social behaviour is likely to have a positive effect on these groups. Consideration will need to be given to the effect of issuing fixed penalty notices to young people and people living in poverty.

7. Is this policy likely to impact on Community Cohesion?

A reduction in anti-social behaviour is likely to encourage more people to feel safer when using town centres and other specified areas. This may encourage people to share facilities, experiences and venues and improve community cohesion

Conclusions

8. What level of EIA priority would you give to this policy? (Guidance)

MEDIUM - full EIA within one year of screening

Please explain fully the reasons for this judgement including an awareness of how your decisions are justified.

Medium: The full EIA to be carried out using the findings of the 12 week statutory consultation

7. Will the timescale for EIA be affected by any other influence e.g. Committee deadline, external deadline, part of a wider review process?

The recommendations and proposals from the consultation will be made to cabinet in October.

(Guidance)

8. Who will carry out the full EIA?

Community Safety Partnership in conjunction with the Consultation and Engagement team and BCBC Equalities Officer

EIA screening completed by: Judith Jones

Date: 16 June 2017

When complete, this initial screening form and, if appropriate, the full EIA form must be sent to Paul Williams.