

COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF RELEVANT POLICIES, DECISIONS OR FUNCTIONS

1. **Title of Function:** St. Helens Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan
Service: Planning and Sports Development
Department: Chief Executive's
Responsible Officer: Mark Dickens
Date Completed: 05/08/2016

Aims: Please identify the main aims of the policy, decision or function?

In adopting the 2016 Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan, the Council will have a strategic framework for the maintenance, improvement and provision of outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2016 and 2026 with identification of potential development partners and sources of external funding opportunities to achieve its delivery.

The endorsement of the Playing Pitch Strategy and supporting Assessment will provide evidence on which to base planning policy regarding playing pitch provision and protection through the Local Plan.

2. Community Impact Assessment

The Impact Assessment tool helps to identify the benefits to the local community of the work. All policies, decisions or functions will have an impact on the local community in St Helens. This tool acts as a prompt to identify what difference the work will make and how.

It provides an opportunity to think about where we might be able to reduce negative impacts, identify missed opportunities, and capitalise on positive impacts. It will build broader portfolio support for your work.

Community: Please describe how your work will benefit the council & staff/ local community.

Having a strategic framework for outdoor playing pitches and, through the Local Plan, planning policies concerning playing pitch protection will have benefits to the local community in terms of health and wellbeing (please see below).

The identification of potential development partners and sources of external funding opportunities to achieve sports facility delivery has potential of benefitting the Council financially.

3. How to use this tool

- 3.1 **At the planning stage: *This is the best time to consider the difference this will make to the local community.*** Look down the checklist and identify how what you are doing will impact on people in St Helens. Engage with the Health, Sustainability and Equality leads, who will meet with you and talk through with you what you aim to achieve and how they can help. This help could include:

- Clarifying the potential benefits and risks
- Engaging local community in the work and informing this work
- Demonstrating the difference your work will make in St Helens
- Helping to inform the decision to maximise the benefits and minimise the risks
- Helping to work through your actions and showing what difference your policy/service/decision has made.

3.2 Developing Key decisions:

Engage with the Health, Sustainability and Equality leads to go through the tool and identify how your work will make a difference to the local community in St.Helens. Work with them to complete the tool and to frame the key decision. Agree actions to show what has happened.

3.3 Evaluation

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This tool identifies actions that will ensure that your work has the most benefit to people in St.Helens. Reviewing the actions 6 or 12 months following the decision helps to evaluate your work and to demonstrate the impact that your work has had. This demonstrates the broader value that the work is having in equality, sustainability and health and builds broader support for this work.

4. Publishing the results of the assessment:

This Impact Assessment Report must be used to inform Decisions, Scrutiny Reviews, Service Level Agreements Service and Contract specifications, policy or service evaluations and reviews. The key issues from the impact assessment must be included within the documents, and the impact assessment must be attached.

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NB Only fill in the “Action” column if there is an action which you have identified as a result of completing the Community Impact Assessment.
 If you add in any “Action”, then you must complete the “Who / When” column
 Ensure that the “Action” is completed by the date required
 Once the “Action” is completed, then it should be removed from the "Action" column and added to the "How will this be taken into account column."

Checklist - impact on different aspects and sections of Community and Staff Groups					
Add rows as required	Impact Y/N*	Issue	How will this be taken into account	Action	Who / When
HEALTH - How will the work impact on the following areas?					
Social And Economic:					
Employment, skills, income or economy					
Living and working conditions					
Healthy lifestyles:					
Healthy lifestyles/risk taking behaviour (e.g. healthy eating, physical activity, obesity, smoking, drug or alcohol, sexual health)	Y	Opportunity for Sports Participation	A principal reason behind the production of a Playing Pitch Strategy is to meet the Council's corporate priority to “encourage participation in sport, physical activity and the arts, to promote physical and mental wellbeing”, Having a strategy and planning policies for the protection, enhancement and provision of playing fields will ensure opportunities for participation in sporting activity across the borough.		
Mental wellbeing	Y	Opportunity for Sports Participation	Mental wellbeing is linked to physical wellbeing brought on by a healthy lifestyle (see above)		
Public safety and hazards					
Geographical impact / impact on different council wards					
Link with Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority	Y	Opportunity for Sports Participation	Encouraging young people to participate in sport and other physical activity is a key focus of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy. It is therefore important that the opportunities exist through the provision of sports facilities.		
Energy Consumption					
Air quality and greenhouse emissions					

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Checklist - impact on different aspects and sections of Community and Staff Groups					
Add rows as required	Impact Y/N*	Issue	How will this be taken into account	Action	Who / When
Land and water contamination					
Land, soil and water conservation					
Waste minimisation, reuse, recycling					
Use sustainable sources of materials					
Sustainable transport					
Noise minimisation					
Conserve and enhance biodiversity					
Sustainable design					
The Local "Low Carbon" Economy					
What opportunities are there to promote equality of opportunity in access to facilities, information, guidance and support?	Y	Opportunity for Sports Participation	Delivery plans arising out of recommendations coming from the Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan will give due regard to equality of access and reasonable adjustment where appropriate		
What opportunities are there to eliminate risk of discrimination, harassment and victimisation, or to report hate crime?					
Through valuing local history and heritage, understanding diversity, promoting a positive attitudes towards disability, getting people involved, and bringing people together	Y	Opportunity for Sports Participation	Participation in team sports can contribute positively to community cohesion and can also be rooted in a local community's history and heritage. Therefore it is important that these opportunities remain open to people.		
What could be done, or is being done, to support vulnerable people? e.g.					
Families and lone parents, older people, younger people, carers, armed forces, people with autism					

* Compulsory field in online form - Support is available from

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Health Support	Helen Williams, Public Health – 671101
Sustainability Support	TBC Environmental Protection
Equality Support	Simon Cousins, Equalities Officer - 676593

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Appendix 1- Further useful information - This is not an exhaustive list

Equality General Issues Include

- **Accessibility – Parking, signage, buildings, toilets, lifts, information, opening times etc.**
- **Hate crime – racism, homophobia, transphobia, disablism, religious bigotry**
- **Translation / Interpretation arrangements - e.g. British Sign Language, foreign languages.**
- **Meeting the need of disabled people, even when that means treating them more favourably than non-disabled people**

N.B If the project, policy, contract, service etc., requires the monitoring of any of the following - consultation, complaints, outcomes, satisfaction, service access or membership, then use the Corporate Standard for Equality Monitoring to assess if there is any added value from the inclusion of equality profiles (age, gender, race, disability etc.) within the monitoring process. This enables the results to be disaggregated to show any variation in outcomes for different groups.

Staffing Proposals: It is essential that decisions on staffing issues do not leave the Council vulnerable to equal pay or discrimination claims. This means that decisions must promote consistency in structure, job description / qualifications and pay grading. You must seek advice from Personnel before proceeding and record the outcome in the CIA.

Community, Faith or Voluntary sector Compact: If the CIA is for a decision relating to the Community, Faith or Voluntary sector then it must comply with the St. Helens Compact.

Contract / Commissioning / Procurement: If the CIA is for a decision relating to a contract then add the following statements as “General Issues”, under the “Issue” of Procurement.

- **Equalities** “The pre-tender or PQQ document for this contract included the Procurement Equality Standard, which requires potential providers to send the Council an analysis of their Equality Policy against the equality duties upon employers. If an organisation so wishes, it can adopt a template business equality policy developed by the Council's Procurement Team, which is compliant with all current employment equality duties. Once awarded, the Contract will be added to the Council's Corporate Contract Database, which requires providers to send the Council their Equality Profile.”
- **Sustainability:** “**The contract includes conditions that ensure the provider will comply with the Council’s Environmental Policies. These include the requirement not to purchase or use products on the Council’s Prohibited Products list, if an alternative product method is available.**”

Sustainability Issues Include

Sustainability in its widest sense covers socio-economic, equality as well as environmental issues. The equality and socio-economic issues are fairly well covered above but it is also essential to consider the impact of our actions on the environment. The Climate Change Act 2008 and Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Order 2010 have placed duties on Local Government to reduce its carbon emissions as well as mitigate its impact on other contributing factors to Climate Change, such as waste. There is also a range of other British and European legislation relating to environmental management that must be considered in reviewing or introducing new services/ policies.

Finally, the Council’s Environmental Management System (EMS) requires the environmental impact of all business activities to be considered and minimised. Failure to consider the wide range of environmental issues could result in non-compliance being identified during EMS accreditation visits, or prosecution for failure to adhere to legislation.