

Name of the activity being assessed	Highway Asset Management Policy & Strategy				
Directorate / Department	Growth & Development	Service	Highways	Assessment Author	Matthew Joyce
Is this a new or existing activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing	Responsible manager / director for the assessment		Simon Butt Updated 15/06/15: David Proctor Updated 12/07/2017: Stuart Scott. Updated 04/12/2019: Dwayne Lowe.	
Date EIA started	10/03/2015	Implementation date of the activity		26/06/2015	

SECTION 1 - ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITY

How was the need for this activity identified? i.e. Why are we doing this activity?	The Council has a legal duty as the local highway authority to maintain the adopted highways. Highway maintenance is carried out on an ongoing basis. Asset management supports decisions and provides long term financial benefits; it assists in understanding the structure and character of the highway network and describes how it performs as well as assisting in determining the funding needed to meet the requirements placed upon it. Best practice guidelines published by the UK Roads Liaison Group, recommend that it is good practice to define maintenance practices in a policy document.		
What is the activity looking to achieve? What are the aims and objectives?	The Council as local highway authority has a duty to maintain the adopted highway as specified in the Highways Act 1980. This policy is designed to continue to improve the overall condition of the network, to reduce accidents and to reduce the overall ongoing cost of meeting our legal obligation to maintain the highway. The Highway Asset Management Strategy defines how the Council will establish long term objectives for the highway network incorporating statutory obligations, stakeholder needs, local priorities, structural condition, funding and resources. Updated 12/07/2017: The strategy fully embraces the UKRLG Well Managed Highways Infrastructure - A Code of Practice . Updated 4/12/2019: This revised and updated strategy provides a framework which requires consistent levels of communication between stakeholders.		
Services currently provided (if applicable)	Currently the management of the asset is carried out in an ad-hoc manner by various officers. Updated 15/06/15: Management of the maintenance is carried out in accordance with existing policies and strategies and budgetary constraints. Updated 04/12/2019: The strategy should be read in conjunction with the Communications Plan and Communication Process. The revised strategy incorporates a number of amendments to reflect the transfer of the highway service and associated staff from Capita to the Council.		
Type of activity	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget changes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change to existing activity	<input type="checkbox"/> Decommissioning <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioning	<input type="checkbox"/> New activity <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state here]

SECTION 2 - UNDERSTANDING YOUR CUSTOMER**What resources will support in undertaking the equality analysis and impact assessment?**

Please identify additional sources of information you have used to complete the EIA, e.g. reports; journals; legislation etc.

The head of service and the partnership director have contributed to the draft policy as has Network Recovery's project manager. Recommendations have been taken from several documents published through the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme such as the [Pothole Review](#), [Asset Management Guidance](#) and [What Should Councillors Know](#)

Health & Social Care Act (2012): <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/7/contents/enacted>

Who are you consulting with? How are you consulting with them? (Please insert any information around surveys and consultations undertaken)

Consultation with residents takes place through local ward solution meetings; these are open to all residents and are usually chaired by ward councillors. Complaints and concerns are logged and investigated and subsequently progress is fed back to a subsequent meeting.

~~Every two months, officers attend the Blackburn and Darwen Town Centre Partnership Board's meetings where highway issues are regularly discussed. Blackburn Chamber of Trade and Darwen Shop and Business Association are members on these boards and represent the wider business communities in each town.~~

Consultations have taken place with the Director of Growth and Prosperity and the Director for Environment, Housing & Neighbourhoods and the Executive Member for Environment. The Director of Growth and Prosperity and the Director of Environment, Housing & Neighbourhoods meet regularly with the leaders of all political parties.

Updated 18/06/2016: Consultations have taken place with the Director of Planning and Prosperity and the Executive Member for Regeneration. The Director of Planning and Prosperity meets regularly with the leaders of all political parties. Individual Equality Impact Assessments should be carried out for specific work packages within the overall highway maintenance remit.

Updated 12/07/2017: Consultations have taken place with the Director of Growth and Development and the Executive Member for Regeneration. The Director continues to meet regularly with the leaders of all political parties. Individual Equality Impact Assessments will be carried out for discrete schemes and specific packages of work. The updated strategy prescribes extensive communication with stakeholders via social media.

Who does the activity impact upon?*	Service users	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirectly			
	Members of staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Indirectly			
	General public	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirectly			
	Carers or families	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Indirectly			
	Partner organisations	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Indirectly			
Does the activity impact positively or negatively on any of the protected characteristics as stated	Positive impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vulnerable groups
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deprived communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carers

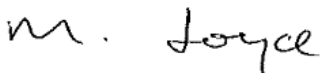
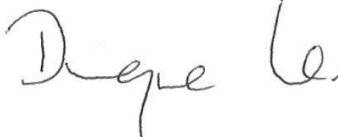
within the Equality Act (2010)?* The groups in blue are not protected characteristics <i>(please refer to p. 3 of the guidance notes)</i>	Negative impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & maternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Vulnerable groups
		<input type="checkbox"/> Race	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/> Deprived communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Carers
	No impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & maternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Vulnerable groups
		<input type="checkbox"/> Race	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/> Deprived communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Carers

*If no impact is identified on any of the protected characteristics a full EIA may not be required. Please contact your departmental Corporate Equality & Diversity representative for further information.

Does the activity contribute towards meeting the Equality Act's general Public Sector Equality Duty? *Refer to p.3 of the guidance for more information*
A public authority must have 'due regard' (i.e. consciously consider) to the following:

DUTY	DOES THE ACTIVITY MEET THIS DUTY? EXPLAIN
<p>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act <i>(i.e. the activity removes or minimises disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristic)</i></p>	<p>Maintaining the highway system benefits all residents of and visitors to the Borough. Residents are able to raise concerns via their ward councillors which along with the annual structural surveys of the physical condition of the highway indicate which areas and lengths of carriageway are in need of maintenance. Updated 15/06/2016: Non-residents can make use of specific social media facilities and the <u>Council's</u> own website to report issues. The new policy and strategy define how highway management will comply with both the Equality Act (2010) and the Health and Social Care Act (2012).</p> <p>Updated 04/12/2019: Revised link to <u>Council's website</u>.</p>
<p>Advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not <i>(i.e. the activity takes steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people)</i></p>	
<p>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not <i>(i.e. the function encourages people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low)</i></p>	

ASSESSMENT	Is a full EIA required?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Please explain how you have reached your conclusion <i>(A lack of negative impacts must be justified with evidence and clear reasons, highlight how the activity negates or mitigates any possible negative impacts)</i></p>			
<p>As all roads in the Borough are available for use by all persons irrespective of any protected characteristics, everyone benefits from improved management of the highway network.</p> <p>The introduction of this policy will positively assist the Council to manage the highway network to nationally recognised standards and recommendations.</p>			

Author Signature		Date	04/12/2019
Head of Service/Director Signature		Date	04/12/2019

The above signatures signify acceptance of the ownership of the Initial EIA and the responsibility to publish the completed Initial EIA as per the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Departmental E&D Lead Signature	<i>G. B. Kinloch</i>	Date	04/12/2019
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