



Equality Impact Assessment

Full assessment form v5 / 2013

www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Directorate:

Director of Regeneration

**Function e.g. HR,
IS, carers:**

Planning

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old):

Local Plan Issues and Options

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:

☐ New / proposed

☒ Changed

☐ Existing

Lead officer

Toby Ayling

People involved with completing the EIA:

Toby Ayling
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Introductory information (Optional)

The Council is preparing a new Local Plan for Portsmouth. This document will set out a planning strategy to meet future development needs in the city for the period to 2034. The Plan will set out details on the level of development which will take place in the city and where it will be located. It will contain planning policies to guide decision making on planning applications.

The process of reviewing the Local Plan is expected to take two years and will include various stages of public consultation. The timetable for the production of the Plan is set out in the Local Development Scheme. The Issues and Options document is the first stage in this review process.

A preliminary Equality Impact Assessment was prepared to accompany the Cabinet report proposing the Issues and Options consultation. This assessment has been prepared in light of the consultation responses.

The Issues and Options consultation set out the planning issues facing the city, proposes a vision and objectives for the Plan and identifies 46 policy options for how the new Local Plan could address them. Ultimately the options chosen and the strategy set out in the new Local Plan will be informed by national planning policy framework and relevant legislation; technical evidence base documents; the sustainability appraisal and habitats regulations assessment. The purpose of this document is to record possible impacts on the basis of current knowledge.

Step 1 - Make sure you have clear aims and objectives

What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

To develop a strategic plan for meeting the future development needs of Portsmouth.

The Issues and Options document sets out a vision for Portsmouth - "To make Portsmouth the premier waterfront city with an unrivalled maritime heritage - a great place to live, work and visit." and a series of key objectives -

- O1. To provide a range of housing in locations where people want to live
- O2. To develop a successful and diverse economy with employment opportunities for all
- O3. To promote the viability and vitality of the city centre, Southsea town centre and other smaller centres in the city
- O4. To protect and enhance the historic character, arts and culture of Portsmouth
- O5. To provide supporting infrastructure for Portsmouth's residents, businesses and visitors
- O6. To support the health and wellbeing of residents by providing access to health care, protecting/enhancing open spaces, providing sports and leisure opportunities, reducing air pollution and providing for biodiversity
- O7. To make Portsmouth accessible with a range of sustainable and integrated travel options
- O8. To provide high quality design and an attractive, sustainable and safe city

Delivering these objectives should have beneficial impacts for all residents. Some objectives, for instance the aim to "provide a range of housing in locations where people want to live" have implications for particular groups.

This EqIA relates to the outcomes of the Issues and Options consultation which is being reported to Members. No decisions have been taken yet on the Local Plan. The purpose of this stage is to understand the views of residents and appropriate organisations at an early point in the Local Plan-making process and to inform the work to be undertaken in bringing forward the next stages of the new Local Plan.

Who is the policy, service, function, project or strategy going to benefit or have a detrimental effect on and how?

A new Local Plan covering Portsmouth will provide a framework for decisions on planning applications and therefore provide for meeting the development needs of residents, businesses and other organisations with an interest in Portsmouth and development within it. As such it will affect all residents.

The development strategy contained in the new Local Plan will impact upon the natural and built environment of the city, including the amount and type of housing available, the amount and type of employment sites developed and safeguarded, transport around the city, the protection of open spaces and ecological assets, and the provision of social infrastructure.

What outcomes do you want to achieve?

The deliver a sound Local Plan which delivers the proposed Vision for Portsmouth
That the duties under the Equality Act 2010 are fully complied with.

What barriers are there to achieving these outcomes?

The Plan is required to be justified by evidence and meaningful engagement with communities and interested parties. It must comply with all relevant legislation and be found sound at independent Examination.

Step 2 - Collecting your information

What existing information / data do you have? (Local or national data) If you don't have any data contact the Equalities and diversity team for some ideas

Existing information the existing population of the city is set out below -

RACE

British - 84.00% ONS and HCC data

White Irish - 0.50% ONS and HCC data

Other White Background - 3.80% ONS and HCC data

Mixed White & Asian - 1.20% ONS and HCC data

Other Mixed Background - 0.50% ONS and HCC data

Indian - 1.40% ONS and HCC data

Bangladeshi - 1.80% ONS and HCC data

Other Asian Background - 1.30% ONS and HCC data

GENDER

Male - 50.30% ONS and HCC data

Female - 49.70% ONS and HCC data

AGE

0-15 - 17.32% ONS and HCC data

16-24 - 18.88% ONS and HCC data

25-34 - 15.05% ONS and HCC data

35-44 - 13.49% ONS and HCC data

45-54 - 12.57% ONS and HCC data

55-64 - 9.33% ONS and HCC data

65-74 - 6.76% ONS and HCC data
75+ - 6.61% ONS and HCC data

The ageing factsheet produced by Hampshire County Council notes the number of very old people has increased as each decade passed, as has the proportion of the population occupying the very oldest age groups. However, the number of older people has declined overall. There was a small increase between 1981 and 1991 and then a consistent decline over the next two decades

DISABILITY

The Council's Equality and Diversity Strategy notes that in 2013 over 15000 of residents have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities, almost 3500 adults in Portsmouth were registered as having a physical disability, and over 2000 residents are registered as having a hearing or visual impairment. The percentage of residents have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities is approximately 7% of the total population.

Using your existing data, what does it tell you?

The existing data shows that Portsmouth is a city which Portsmouth has a relatively young population compared to adjoining areas. The biggest share of the population is in the 20-24 age group which is mainly due to the students studying at the University of Portsmouth. Population forecasts show that further changes in the population structure are expected, with a decline in the 40-54 years age group and increasing numbers of people aged 65 or over.

The majority of Portsmouth's households are one family households (55.85%), significantly lower than the surrounding areas and one person households comprising 32.1% which is higher than surrounding area. Average household size has changed very little standing at 2.3 persons per household, slightly higher than most other Hampshire districts

Step 3 - Now you need to consult!

Who have you consulted with?

All residents in the city.
Community Associations
Resident and community groups
Voluntary and business groups
Other relevant organisations

If you haven't consulted yet please list who you are going to consult with

Please give examples of how you have or are going to consult with specific groups or communities e.g. meetings, surveys

1. The Issues and Options document and supporting material was the subject of public consultation from 3 August to 28 September 2017. The following measures were undertaken to publicise the consultation:

- Publication on the Council's website;
- Specific contact of statutory bodies, including neighbouring authorities;
- Local press releases, and a formal notice in the Portsmouth News;
- Direct contact of all parties currently in the Planning Policy consultation database;

- e) Direct contact of all parties on the Action Portsmouth, Shaping Portsmouth and Portsmouth Together networks as well as the Council's Citizen's Panel; and
- f) Features on the Council's social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter).

2. In addition, paper copies of the main consultation materials – the Issues and Options consultation document, the Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitats Regulations Assessment were made available at all the libraries within the city and the civic offices. The Issues and Options document along with response forms was also sent to all community centres. This ensured there was availability for the documents for those who were unable to access the documents online.

3. A series of five staffed public exhibitions was arranged across all parts of the city, held on weekday afternoons, evenings and on Saturday. In addition to the exhibitions, workshops were held for business groups and community associations. Officers were invited to meetings of the Milton Neighbourhood Forum and Portsmouth Fabian Society and attended to discuss the consultation. Finally, officers met counterparts from neighbouring planning authorities.

4. Arrangements were made for representations on the Local Plan and associated documents to be submitted on-line, by email and by letter with the option of using a consultation form that could be downloaded from the Council's website or supplied by the Planning Policy Team.

Step 4 - What's the impact?

Is there an impact on some groups in the community? (think about race, gender, disability, age, transgender, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and other socially excluded communities or groups)

Generic information that covers all equality strands (Optional)

A total of 302 individuals and organisations responded to the consultation. This compares to an estimated total population of 210,000 individuals.

The consultation has been prepared to capture the views of people across the city to issues and options in the Local Plan. Options were presented as a way of informing that discussion, but it is the case that the final Plan will take into account a range of factors, including technical evidence, national legislation and regulations. The responses to this consultation have been used to consider any significant differences in the responses made by persons of different characteristics.

The equalities data of those individuals who provided it, compared to the known breakdown in the city, is as follows:

Ethnicity or race

196 respondents provided this information. The breakdown of respondents compared to the city wide total is as follows -

White British - 84.00% ONS and HCC data - 90.31% 177 I&O responses
White Irish - 0.50% ONS and HCC data - 0.51% 1 I&O responses
Other White Background - 3.80% ONS and HCC data - 4.59% 9 I&O responses
Mixed White & Asian - 1.20% ONS and HCC data - 1.53% 3 I&O responses
Other Mixed Background - 0.50% ONS and HCC data - 1.02% 2 I&O responses
Indian - 1.40% ONS and HCC data - 0.51% 1 I&O responses
Bangladeshi - 1.80% ONS and HCC data - 1.02% 2 I&O responses
Other Asian Background - 1.30% ONS and HCC data - 0.51% 1 I&O responses

Therefore in general the ethnicity or race of those who responded to the consultation and gave their personal information broadly matches the known profile of the city population as a whole. However Indian, Bangaldeshi and other Asian background communities were underrepresented.

Because the number of persons who provided information on ethnicity or race was quite low, and the numbers of individual responses for some characteristics was quite low, analyzing the responses by ethnicity or race is quite difficult. However, it is worth noting that the issues commented upon most by those who identified as having a BME background were the overall Vision for the Plan; the proposed Objectives; Health issues; and retail policy.

Gender including transgender

207 respondents provided this information. The breakdown of respondents compared to the city wide total is as follows -

Male - 50.30% ONS and HCC data - 49.76% 103 I&O responses

Female - 49.70% ONS and HCC data - 50.24% 104 I&O responses

Therefore in general the gender of those who responded to the consultation and gave their personal information broadly matches the known profile of the city population as a whole.

However, certain issues covered by the consultation saw responses provided more by one gender than the other. Those issues where the respondents who provided data were predominantly (i.e. more than 65%) male were Heritage, Design and the Built Environment; the natural environment; employment requirements; retail requirements; Lakeside; and Somerstown.

By contrast, there were no issues where the total responses were predominantly made by women to the same extent. The issues where responses by women formed the greatest proportion were Housing; Regeneration and the Local Economy; and North End (55-56% in all cases).

Age

202 respondents provided this information. The breakdown of respondents compared to the city wide total is as follows -

0-15 - 17.32% ONS and HCC data - 0% 0 I&O responses

16-24 - 18.88% ONS and HCC data - 2.97% 6 I&O responses

25-34 - 15.05% ONS and HCC data - 14.85% 30 I&O responses

35-44 - 13.49% ONS and HCC data - 18.32% 37 I&O responses

45-54 - 12.57% ONS and HCC data - 21.29% 43 I&O responses

55-64 - 9.33% ONS and HCC data - 18.32% 37 I&O responses

65-74 - 6.76% ONS and HCC data - 21.29% 43 I&O responses

75+ - 6.61% ONS and HCC data - 2.97% 6 I&O responses

Those who responded to the consultation and gave their personal information covered a range of ages. Those under 25 were poorly represented. With the exception of those over 75, older groups were over represented.

Persons from different age groups chose to respond to some issues more than others. People aged 18-34 were more likely to respond on the Vision and Objectives; Housing; Tall buildings; and North End. People aged 35-64 made a proportionately greater number of responses to the issues of Retail and the City Centre; Regeneration and the Local Economy; Health, Well being and Open Space; Other Planning Issues including Flooding; or make other comments about the consultation. People aged 65+ made a proportionately greater number of responses for many issues but in particular Retail requirements; and Cosham.

Disability

199 respondents - 7% have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities. The breakdown of respondents who provided this information is as follows -

Yes - 8.04% 16 I&O responses

No - 91.96% 183 I&O responses

Therefore in general the proportion of those people who responded to the consultation and gave their personal information broadly matches the known profile of the city population as a whole.

Because the number of respondents who advised that they had a disability was quite low, analyzing the responses by people with that characteristic is quite difficult. However, it is worth noting that the issues commented upon most by those who considered themselves to have a disability were Retail and the City Centre; The overall Vision and Objectives; Tipner; and the Seafront.

Religion or belief

No specific issues have been raised with regard to religion or belief in the consultation results. It is not envisaged that the Local Plan Issues and Options changes will have a negative impact due to religion or belief. We do not collect this equality data.

Sexual orientation

No specific issues have been raised with regard to sexual orientation in the consultation results. It is not envisaged that the Local Plan Issues and Options will have a negative impact due to sexual orientation.

Pregnancy and maternity

No specific issues have been raised with regard to pregnancy and maternity in the consultation results. It is not envisaged that the Local Plan Issues and Options will have a negative impact due to pregnancy and maternity. Unknown as currently no data held.

Other socially excluded groups or communities e.g. carers, areas of deprivation, low literacy skills

The addresses provided by respondents was aggregated to provide an overview of what part of the city they lived in. The results by postcode were as follows -

PO1 - roughly corresponding to Charles Dickens, Fratton and part of St Thomas wards - 32 responses

PO2 - roughly corresponding to Nelson, and parts of Hilsea and Copnor wards - 27 responses

PO3 - roughly corresponding to Baffins, and parts of Copnor and Hilsea wards - 20 responses

PO4 - roughly corresponding to Milton, Eastney and Craneswater, and Central Southsea and parts of Baffins wards - 93 responses

PO5 - roughly corresponding with St Jude, part of St Thomas Ward - 34 responses

PO6 - roughly corresponding with Drayton and Farlington, Cosham, and Paulsgrove wards - 29 responses

PO7 - north of the city - 1 response

All postcodes contain areas with varying characteristics and communities. However, broadly speaking, the areas which rank most highly on the government's Indices of Multiple Deprivation fall in postcodes PO1, PO2 and PO6. The number of responses from addresses within those postcodes was not significantly lower than those from other parts of the city, providing some evidence that those communities were not as a whole excluded from the consultation. The disparity between the number of responses received from different postcode areas is thought more likely to be due to concerns expressed by residents in the PO4 postcode about issues such as St James and Langstone, the seafront and concerns over development at Frasers Range and the Caravan park.

Health Impact

Have you referred to the Joint Needs Assessment (www.jsna.portsmouth.gov.uk) to identify any associated health and well-being needs?

☒ Yes ☐ No

What are the health impacts, positive and / or negative? For example, is there a positive impact on enabling healthier lifestyles or promoting positive mental health? Could it prevent spread of infection or disease? Will it reduce any inequalities in health and well-being experienced by some localities, groups, ages etc? On the other hand, could it restrict opportunities for health and well-being?

Although no decisions for the new Local Plan have yet been taken, the development strategy has the potential for a range of impacts upon health and wellbeing. To inform the future selection of a strategy, technical work has been commissioned on the following aspects -

Air Quality and transport;

The quality, quantity and accessibility of open space to all communities;

Playing pitch assessment;

Transport work to encourage walking and cycling;

Infrastructure planning to coordinate funding, phasing and delivery of social and environmental infrastructure;

Assessment of need for specialist housing, including for older persons, those with mobility issues or other needs.

Health inequalities are strongly associated with deprivation and income inequalities in the city. Have you referred to Portsmouth's Tackling Poverty Needs Assessment and strategy (available on the JSNA website above), which identifies those groups or geographical areas that are vulnerable to poverty? Does this have a disproportionately negative impact, on any of these groups and if so how? Are there any positive impacts?, if so what are they?

The consideration of responses from various parts of the city is set out earlier in this assessment. The proposals for parts of the city centre in particular, given their proximity to some of the city's more deprived communities, has the potential to impact upon those communities quite significantly. The responses from Portsmouth's Tackling Poverty Action Group have been highlighted in the summary of the responses received and considered carefully for how the new Local Plan can make a positive difference.

Step 5 - What are the differences?

Are any groups affected in a different way to others as a result of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

At this stage no decisions have been taken on the future Local Plan. There is the potential for specific groups to be affected, particularly with regards to the type of housing sought in the future development in the city. In particular this could affect older persons and those with disabilities, although other groups may be affected. This will need to be considered in the forthcoming technical work on the various components of housing need.

Does your policy, service, function, project or strategy either directly or indirectly discriminate?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If you are either directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to change this or mitigate the negative impact?

Not applicable

Step 6 - Make a recommendation based on steps 2 - 5

If you are in a position to make a recommendation to change or introduce the policy, service, project or strategy clearly show how it was decided on

The recommendation is to continue with the technical work to inform the new Local Plan. Individual projects, such as the assessments of types of housing need and the quality, quality and accessibility of open space, should be undertaken with interests of groups taken into account.

What changes or benefits have been highlighted as a result of your consultation?

The particular interest given by various groups to the various issues and options consultation will help all parties to understand the context within, and the message set out, in the consultation responses. This will assist in understanding the qualitative nature of the consultation responses.

The relatively poor responses by young groups in particular, as well as those over 75, will be considered more fully and future planning consultation work will address how those groups may better engage with the Local Plan project.

If you are not in a position to go ahead what actions are you going to take?

(Please complete the fields below)

Action	Timescale	Responsible officer

How are you going to review the policy, service, project or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?

Future reports prepared on the Local Plan process will include EqlA assessments to inform the process.

Step 7 - Now just publish your results

This EIA has been approved by:

Contact number:

Date:

Please email a copy of your completed EIA to the Equality and diversity team. We will contact you with any comments or queries about your full EIA.

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