

Diversity impact assessment – Appendix 3

DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

TITLE <i>Name/description of the issue being assessed</i>	Licensing Placing Items on the Highways 1 year pilot in Chatham High Street.
DATE <i>Date the DIA is completed</i>	23/10/2014
LEAD OFFICER <i>Name of person responsible for carrying out the DIA.</i>	Sunny Ee/ Elizabeth Carter

1 Summary description of the proposed change

- *What is the change to policy/service/new project that is being proposed?*
- *How does it compare with the current situation?*

The licensing of the highways objective is to regulate the placement of A-Boards/ floor standing boards/signs/banners, tables and chairs and shop front displays. This will change the current situation, as obstructions will not be placed on the minimum specified width of Highways that has to be kept clear for pedestrians and traffic. The licensing will ensure that:

- Safety requirements for emergency vehicles are adhered to.
- Traders hold public liability insurance of a minimum of £5 million.
- Improve the aesthesis of the High Street.
- Safety for pedestrians.

2 Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

- *Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user records etc.*
- *Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile*

- The Licensing Policy is in response to complaints received by Town Centre Managers and Cabinet/Ward Members from both pedestrians and traders.
- This Policy has taken guidance from existing, successful schemes in neighbouring local authorities.
- The Policy is the result of collaboration between officers from the Highways team- Network Management and Enforcement, and BASS, to ensure that the Policy can be implemented.

3 What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

Is it likely to:

- *Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
- *Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
- *Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't?*

(insert ✓ in one or more boxes)

Protected characteristic groups	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age			✓(Older people,

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			buggies)
Disability			✓
Gender reassignment			
Marriage/civil partnership			
Pregnancy/maternity			
Race			
Religion/belief			
Sex			
Sexual orientation			
Other (eg low income groups)	✓		✓

4 Summary of the likely impacts

- *Who will be affected?*
- *How will they be affected?*

The legislation is uniform, and does not deviate on any grounds from the criteria stated in the licensing document. The only reason a trader is not able to use the highways for tables and chairs or displays is where it is unsafe to do so, the safety criteria is also stated in the licensing document.

Therefore, the only impacts will be positive as safety standards will be adhered to and the minimum statutory pedestrian highway will be free from any obstructions, providing a safe area for those with mobility disabilities or visual impairments. The set charge will impact traders with lower incomes the most, however, the overall cost is considerably less per square metre than local rents and the same charge applies to all licenses equally.

5 What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?

- *Are there alternative providers?*
- *What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?*
- *Can demand for services be managed differently?*

The set charges will encourage good relations; the uniform approach will promote equality.

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6 Action plan

- *Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence*

Action	Lead	Deadline or review date
If legislation goes ahead to consult generally on the policy for a period of 4 weeks	Sunny Ee	TBC
If legislation goes ahead to consult on the policy with Service Manager at Medway Council for physical and learning disabilities and sensory services.	Sunny Ee	TBC
If legislation goes ahead to consult on the policy with the Older People’s forum	Sunny Ee	TBC
If legislation goes ahead to consult on the policy with Town Centre forums and traders	Sunny Ee	TBC
After the consultation findings have been incorporated into the policy and agreed by Cabinet to monitor any adverse affects of the policy quarterly	Traffic Management	TBC

7 Recommendation

The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be:

- *to proceed with the change implementing action plan if appropriate*
- *consider alternatives*
- *gather further evidence*

If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.

To proceed with the change implementing an action plan if appropriate, the feedback from the groups stated above will be taken into consideration.
Monitoring of the impacts of the Policy will be necessary to ensure objectives are being met.

8 Authorisation

The authorising officer is consenting that:

- *the recommendation can be implemented*
- *sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned*
- *the Action Plan will be incorporated into service plan and monitored*

Assistant Director **Andy McGrath**

Date **13.10.2015**

Contact your Performance and Intelligence hub for advice on completing this assessment

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Send completed assessment to the Corporate Performance & Intelligence Hub (CPI) for web publication