

Diversity impact assessment

TITLE
High Halstow Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version
DATE
15 February 2023
LEAD OFFICER.
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1 Summary description of the proposed change
<p>High Halstow Parish Council has prepared a draft Neighbourhood Plan for its parish and submitted it to Medway Council to progress the process of bringing the plan to adoption. Medway Council is required to publish the draft Neighbourhood Plan for consultation.</p> <p>Once adopted, or 'made', it will form part of the development plan for the area, alongside the Medway Local Plan, and will be used in determining planning applications.</p> <p>The draft Neighbourhood Plan sets out policies for the sustainable development of the parish of High Halstow. It includes policies for community facilities and services, the natural environment, transport, design, heritage, and housing.</p> <p>The policies guide decisions on future development. The Neighbourhood Plan will apply to the parish of High Halstow.</p>
2 Summary of evidence used to support this assessment
<p>The draft Plan considers the demographic profile of the rural parish.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Planning group carried out consultation and engagement with the local community throughout the preparation of the draft plan. The policies seek to provide for sustainable development in the parish, supporting local communities and protecting the area's environment.</p> <p>These include maintenance and enhancement of community facilities and services, new green spaces, and housing to meet the needs of local residents. The policies and the Neighbourhood Plan are intended to provide the benefits of sustainable development for all residents. Given the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan, it is difficult to define impacts on specific groups in the community, as the policies will apply to the whole parish in relation to development proposals.</p>

Diversity impact assessment

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 Yes when there is an impact or No when there isn't)

Protected characteristic groups (Equality Act 2010)	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age	No	Yes	Yes
Disability	No	Yes	Yes
Gender reassignment	No	–	Yes
Marriage/civil partnership	No	–	Yes
Pregnancy/maternity	No	–	Yes
Race	No	–	Yes
Religion/belief	No	–	Yes
Sex	No	–	Yes
Sexual orientation	No	–	Yes
Other (eg low income groups)	No	Yes	Yes

Diversity impact assessment

4 Summary of the likely impacts

The draft Neighbourhood Plan promotes sustainable development in the parish of High Halstow. It aims to promote community well-being and identity, health and well-being, a sustainable environment and housing for the community.

All residents are potentially affected. The housing policies seek to provide for a range of local needs, including for older people and people on lower incomes. The draft plan seeks to secure community facilities that can benefit a range of local residents. The policies on active travel and provision of play spaces recognise the needs of people with disabilities.

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

N/A

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

7 Recommendation

To proceed with publishing the draft High Halstow Neighbourhood Plan for consultation.

To review on receipt of Examiner's report and final draft of Neighbourhood Plan proposed for adoption (timetable to be confirmed), and to monitor the impact of the Neighbourhood Plan on an annual basis, following adoption.

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 the relevant Service Plan and monitored

Assistant Director

Date of authorisation