

Community and Equality Impact Assessment

As an authority, we have made a commitment to apply a systematic equalities and diversity screening process to both new policy development or changes to services.

This is to determine whether the proposals are likely to have significant positive, negative or adverse impacts on the different groups in our community.

This process has been developed, together with **full guidance** to support officers in meeting our duties under the:

- Equality Act 2010.
- The Best Value Guidance
- The Public Services (Social Value) 2012 Act

About the service or policy development

Name of service or policy	Parking and Environmental Design
Lead Officer	Daniel Connelly
Contact Details	0208 227 2465. Alternative is 0208 227 2450 (Sarah Marriott-Carle)

Why is this service or policy development/review needed?
<p>In line with the Council’s Parking Strategy 2016 – 21 the Parking and Environmental Design team are undertaking consultation with the general public regarding the introduction of controlled parking within various locations across the borough. Currently parking is uncontrolled in many locations within the borough which is causing various parking and traffic related issues.</p> <p>The underlying benefit of controlled parking is improved parking availability based on the needs of an area, reduced traffic congestion and improved safety and air quality. Other benefits of controlled parking are as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helps to ensure residents, business and their visitors have the best opportunity to park within the borough in a way that is safe and accessible 2. Helps to ensure users of community hubs such as health centres, parks, libraries and churches etc., have the greatest opportunity to park to access those facilities. 3. Road safety outside schools will be greatly improved through the introduction of parking bays and other restrictions which designate where it is safe and considerate to park. 4. Disabled (blue badge holders) are able to park for free within controlled parking zones providing greater opportunity for those with additional needs to park near their homes 5. The permit pricing structure related to controlled parking is based on CO2 emissions with and encourages the use of public transport as well as providing improved health benefits.

1. Community impact (this can be used to assess impact on staff although a cumulative impact should be considered).

<p>What impacts will this service or policy development have on communities? Look at what you know? What does your research tell you?</p> <p><i>Consider:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National & local data sets • Complaints • Consultation and service monitoring information • Voluntary and Community Organisations • The Equality Act places a specific duty on people with ‘protected characteristics’. The table below details these groups and helps you to consider the impact on these groups.
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As identified within the Council's Parking Strategy 2016-2021, we aim to encourage the greater use of other modes of transport, for example cycling, and greater use of initiatives such as car clubs as a means to improve air quality and offer choice to residents. The population of Barking and Dagenham is changing and has increased by more than one quarter (26%) from 163,900 to 206,500 residents since 2001 and is anticipated to rise to 223,000 by 2020. It is vital therefore, that parking control measures are introduced now, to ensure that congestion on our roads does not increase and road safety and air quality are not further compromised.

In developing the Parking Strategy, the Council developed and agreed a hierarchy of needs for parking in the borough, based on the responses to our consultation. This hierarchy forms a core part of our decision making for parking controls, the design of parking schemes and the cost of parking services. The hierarchy of parking needs are set out below, and highlights that people are at the heart of strategy:

- Residents with a disability;
- Non-residents with a disability;
- Local residents;
- Priority care workers;
- Local business essential servicing;
- Short stay visitors and shoppers;
- Long stay visitors and shoppers;
- Long stay commuters; and
- Safety of children around schools.

Potential impacts	Positive	Neutral	Negative	What are the positive and negative impacts?	How will benefits be enhanced and negative impacts minimised or eliminated?
Local communities in general	X			Positive - Improved ability for road users including residents, businesses and visitors, blue badge holders to park in required locations which are safe and accessible	Currently uncontrolled locations mean that any motorist can park anywhere providing the vehicle is taxed including commercial vehicles. The introduction of controlled parking will enhance the ability for those motorists which most need to park and have individual parking needs within a given area. Local communities where applicable will be required to purchase a permit to park within the controlled zone whereas they don't currently.
Age	X			Positive	The introduction of controlled parking will designate where is safe and acceptable to park. This is particularly necessary at schools and community hubs which are attended by vulnerable age groups are those with reduced mobility.

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Disability	X			Positive -	<p>Disabled road users (blue badge holders) will have a greater opportunity to park in the borough in a way that is safe, accessible and free of charge.</p> <p>Similar to “age” the introduction of parking will designate where is safe and acceptable to park. In practice this means wheelchair users and those who are blind or partially sighted will be able to safely access the footway.</p>
Gender reassignment	X	X	X	N/A	
Marriage and civil partnership	X	X	X	N/A	
Pregnancy and maternity	X	X	X	N/A	
Race (including Gypsies, Roma and Travellers)		X		N/A	
Religion or belief	X	X	X		Parking near to religious establishments will be improved through the introduction of controlled parking.
Sex	X	X	X	N/A	
Sexual orientation	X	X	X	N/A	
Any community issues identified for this location?	X	X	X		

2. Consultation.

Provide details of what steps you have taken or plan to take to consult the whole community or specific groups affected by the service or policy development e.g. on-line consultation, focus groups, consultation with representative groups?

This project was approved by cabinet in July as part of the Council's fees and charges report. Prior to controlled parking being introduced full and comprehensive consultation is undertaken. The consultation process associated with such schemes is as follows;

Internal Consultation

Scheme proposal is issued to ward councillors, portfolio holder and other internal stakeholders including Highways (My Place), Regeneration, Housing and Be First

External Consultation

Consultation letters are issued to all affected external stakeholder within the area including residents, businesses, school's and other community establishments. We allow 21 days to provide feedback regarding the proposed scheme via the online portal objective. Notices are also advertised in the Dagenham Post and London Gazette and publicised onsite.

1. Monitoring and Review

How will you review community and equality impact once the service or policy has been implemented? <i>These actions should be developed using the information gathered in Section 1 and 2 and should be picked up in your departmental/service business plans.</i>		
Action	By when?	By who?
We will monitor the new controlled parking zones via onsite observation and through the Council's complaints and enquiry procedures.	Within six months of the scheme being introduced	Parking and environmental design team

2. Next steps

It is important the information gathered is used to inform any Council reports that are presented to Cabinet or appropriate committees. This will allow Members to be furnished with all the facts in relation to the impact their decisions will have on different equality groups and the wider community.

Take some time to précis your findings below. This can then be added to your report template for sign off by the Strategy Team at the consultation stage of the report cycle.

Implications/ Customer Impact
<p>Project already agreed at Cabinet in July 2018</p> <p>The rollout of controlled parking zones across the borough will generally have a positive impact improving traffic flow, road safety and allowing users to park safely across the borough. This EIA covers the overarching CPZ policy however it is recognised that some specific schemes may require their own EIAs where appropriate.</p>

5. Sign off

The information contained in this template should be authorised by the relevant project sponsor or Divisional Director who will be responsible for the accuracy of the information now provided and delivery of actions detailed.

Name	Role (e.g. project sponsor, head of service)	Date