

**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL PLAN –
PUBLICATION VERSION**

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Development Plan Document (DPD). The purpose of the EqIA is to assess the likely impact of the policies of the Local Plan on different community groups, and how the needs of such groups have been taken into account in relation to the development of the policies. The EqIA assesses the likely impact of the policies of the Local Plan on different groups.

The need for an EqIA to be undertaken originates from the duty placed on Local Authorities to eliminate unlawful discrimination when carrying out its functions, and promote equality of opportunity between men and women, different racial groups, and other equality groups.

It is important to consider who is affected by the Local Plan i.e. who are the customers of the service. In theory everyone is, in some way, directly or indirectly affected by the Local Plan. However some groups of people are more likely to be affected than others. This would for example include those applying for planning permission (such as individuals, business, and developers), those professionally involved in planning, the voluntary sector and other service providers. There are therefore significant differences in the level and the way different people are affected by the Local Plan, and what they expect that service to be.

The Local Plan DPD has been produced following significant community consultation, the collection of evidence and through working with key partners in the public and private sector.

A two stage approach to the Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken. Firstly, the policies in the Local Plan have been assessed for their relevancy to the characteristics protected by the Equality Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, sex and sexual orientation). The second stage of the process has taken relevant policies and assessed the positive or negative impacts of them on these characteristics.

An initial assessment was carried out by members of the planning policy team in order to assess the potential impacts of the draft local plan on the different groups in September 2015 this assessment raised no initial recommendations that any modifications needed to be made to the plan. A further assessment has been carried out to capture the changes to the local plan policies and assess additional policies that have been included within the plan following public consultation. This assessment now supports the publication version of the local plan at Regulation 19.

No recommendations have been made regarding the relevant policies, however it has been identified that policy H7: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People does not allocate sites for Gypsy and Travellers, therefore not providing adequate housing provision. In order to overcome any negative impacts a separate DPD to allocate Gypsy and Traveller sites is being prepared in tandem to the Local Plan.

Policy	Are groups affected because of: Key:												Commentary	
	Age	Disability	Gender/ Sex	Religious Belief	Racial Group	Sexual Orienta tion	Trans- gender	Carers	Priority Neighbour -hoods	Marriage and Civil Partnershi p	Other protecte d Groups	Other socially excluded groups		
Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	There is potential for the policy to allow young people to get onto the housing ladder.
Policy S2 – Settlement Hierarchy	P	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Concentrating development within the principle town and the key service centres means access to established services and infrastructure can be maximised and enhanced. Particular benefits are likely to be felt by those who are mobility impaired or rely on public transport such as the

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													elderly, those on low incomes, young people and those with disabilities as they will be able to access necessary facilities.
Policy S3: Countryside	P	P	N	N	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Young people and people with disabilities are more likely to benefit from rural exception sites within the countryside. Gypsy and Traveller provision will also be provided within the countryside.

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Policy D1: Design of new development	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	N	P	High standards of design will provide overall benefits to the wider community. However, particular advantage could be achieved where good design responds to accessibility issues such as those felt by the elderly, parents with young children (i.e. mobility of prams/buggies), children, and those with disabilities (i.e. wheelchair users, partially sighted/blind).

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Policy D2 - Amenity	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy D3- Telecommunic ations	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy H1 – Housing provision: planning permissions	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	By delivering new houses it is proposed that housing will be delivered to help younger people to get on the housing ladder, whilst at the same time catering for people with disabilities and the ageing population.
Policy H2 – Housing provision:resol utions	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	By delivering new houses it is proposed that housing will be delivered to help younger people to get on the

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													housing ladder, whilst at the same time catering for people with disabilities and the ageing population.
Policy H3 – Housing Provision: new allocations	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	By delivering new houses it is proposed that housing will be delivered to help younger people to get on the housing ladder, whilst at the same time catering for people with disabilities and the ageing population.
Policy H4: Affordable Housing	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By seeking to increase the affordable housing supply in the District those unable to afford market housing will have

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													improved opportunities to acquire a home for sale or rent. Those likely to gain the greatest benefits from the application of this policy are young people, the elderly and those on low incomes, including disabled people.
Policy H5: Rural Exceptions Sites for Affordable housing	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By seeking to increase the affordable housing supply in the District those unable to afford market housing will have improved opportunities to acquire a home for sale or rent. Those likely to gain the greatest benefits from the application of

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														this policy are young people, the elderly and those on low incomes.
Policy H6: House types and mix	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	N	N		This policy seeks to secure a range of housing types, sizes and tenures to meet the differing needs of the wider community. It should have a positive impact on the elderly, the disabled and in terms of people with young children and the need to provide family homes.
Policy H7: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N		The policy aims to address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling

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Showpeople													<p>Showpeople. In addition to seeking to provide housing opportunities, the policy aims to enhance access to services and facilities that will help reduce social exclusion. The policy does not allocate sites to meet the housing requirements of Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Show People, therefore a separate DPD is being prepared in tandem to the Local Plan to allocate these sites.</p>

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Policy Ec1 – Employment Provision: permissions	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By increasing employment land this will potentially increase the number of available jobs for people that are currently out of employment or on low incomes.
Policy Ec2 – Employment Provision; new allocations	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By increasing employment land this will potentially increase the number of available jobs for people that are currently out of employment or on low incomes.
Policy Ec3: Existing employment areas Policy amended to state	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By protecting existing employment land this will potentially increase the number of available jobs for people that are

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infrastructure requirements													currently out of employment or on low incomes
Policy Ec4: East Midlands Airport	P	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	N	Age, Disability and Gender/Sex will potentially benefit from improved public transport access to employment and travel opportunities at the airport. The other impacts of the policy will be Neutral
Policy Ec5: east Midlands Airport Safeguarding	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy Ec6: East Midlands Airport Public Safety Zones	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.

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Policy Ec7: Donington Park	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy Ec8– Town and Local Centres: Hierarchy and Management of Development	p	p	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	By the policy concentrating town centre uses within town centres and in the most sustainable locations this will improve accessibility for an ageing population, people with disabilities and people on low incomes.
Policy Ec9 – Town and Local Centres: Thresholds for Impact Assessments	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By the policy concentrating town centre uses within town centres and in the most sustainable

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													locations this will improve accessibility for an ageing population, people with disabilities and people on low incomes.
Policy Ec10 – Town and Local Centres: Primary Shopping Areas – Non-Shopping Uses	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By the policy concentrating town centre uses within town centres and in the most sustainable locations this will improve accessibility for an ageing population, people with disabilities and people on low incomes.

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Policy Ec11 – Town and Local Centres: Primary Shopping Areas – Hot Food Takeaway Balance	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By restricting the number of takeaways within town centres this will protect town centre uses, town centres need to be particularly accessible for the elderly, people with disabilities and on low incomes.
Policy Ec12 – Local Centres	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By protecting local centres for town centre uses this allows the local centres to remain accessible for goods and services to the elderly, people with disabilities and people on low incomes.
Policy Ec13:: Tourism development	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.

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Policy IF1: Development and Infrastructure	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	By ensuring that development is accompanied by the necessary infrastructure to support the wider community will be an overall benefit. In itself this policy is unlikely to significantly affect any group in particular.
Policy IF2: Community and cultural Facilities	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	By providing new community and cultural facilities and protecting existing facilities this is especially important for young, elderly, people with disabilities and those on a low income to have easy access to community facilities.	

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Policy IF3: Open Space, Sport and Recreation facilities	P	P	P	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	N	N	By providing new open space, sport and recreation facilities and protecting existing facilities this is especially important for young, elderly, people with disabilities and those on a low income to have easy access to open space, sport and recreation facilities.
Policy IF4: Transport Infrastructure and new development	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	The policy primarily seeks to improve alternative means of travel to the car through the promotion of non-car modes and public transport, thereby reducing

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													the need to travel. The policy should result in positive benefits for those groups that rely more on public transport such as the elderly, young people, people on low incomes and those with disabilities. Locating development close to public transport networks should help to improve accessibility to facilities and services, thus helping to reduce social exclusion.
Policy IF5: The Leicester to Burton Line	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.

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Policy IF6: Ashby Canal	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy IF7: Parking provision and new development	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy En1: Nature Conservation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy En2: River Mease Special Area of Conservation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact
Policy En3: The National Forest	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact
Policy En4: Charnwood Forest	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact

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Policy En5: Area of Separation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact
Policy En6: Land and Air Quality	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact
Policy He1: Conservation and enhancement of North West Leicestershire's historic environment	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
He2 Shop Front Design	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy Cc1: Renewable Energy	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.
Policy Cc2: Water -Flood	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.

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Risk													
Policy Cc3: water- Sustainable Drainage Systems	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	This policy will result in a neutral impact.