

**Disability Equality Impact Assessment Questionnaire**

<b>Policy/Service/Change being assessed:</b> Reduction in the Environmental Crime Team from 5 FTE's to 4	<b>Department:</b> Place
<b>Person Responsible for Assessment:</b> Brian Graham	<b>Date of assessment:</b> 19.01.12

**Brief description of service and to whom provided/available:**

The Environmental Crime Team consists of 5 members of staff, 1 Senior Enforcement Officer and 4 Environmental Crime Officers. The team deals with a wide range of environmental crimes from litter to dog fouling to abandoned vehicles as well as stray dogs. The impact of reducing the team by 1 FTE will mean there is a reduced capacity to deal with environmental crime proactively. There will naturally be a reduction in the amount of fixed penalty notices issued which may impact upon litter levels. The team will be more reactive as opposed to proactive. Contact has been made with Street champions throughout the Borough but to date no feedback has been received.

The following financial saving has been identified against this proposal:

2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
£000	£000	£000	£000
£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000

**Introduction**

This template should be used with the Disability Equality Scheme 2006-2009. Completing this template without following the rest of the disability equality impact assessment process outlined in the Scheme does not comprise a disability equality impact assessment.

**Q.1 Is your service/policy/change accessible to all disabled people? Bear in mind any economic, social, environmental, physical, intellectual, cultural, linguistic, technological or other barriers.**

This proposal relates to the Environmental Crime Team reduction by 1FTE, service will still continue to be available.

Issue	Yes	No	If yes, what evidence do you have to demonstrate this?	If no, what do you plan to do to remove barriers to access?
Physical or mobility impairment	✓		This group have been accessing services previously without issue	
Sensory impairment	✓		This group have been accessing services previously without issue	
Learning disability or mental impairment	✓		This group have been accessing services previously without issue	
Other disabilities and health conditions covered by the Equality Act 2010 (eg. diabetes, HIV, multiple sclerosis, depression and cancer)	✓		This group have been accessing services previously without issue	
Any other disability issue (e.g. frail/vulnerable people, people with mild impairments who do not perceive themselves as disabled, people with multiple impairment)	✓		This group have been accessing services previously without issue	

Q.2 (a) For whatever reason, does your service treat any group of disabled people differently from its other service users?

Yes  
No

✓

**If you have answered 'yes', please specify those individuals or groups affected and whether the impact has the potential to be adverse.**

**(b) What needs to be done to prevent any potentially adverse impact? Response relating to proposal scope.**

Working with Street Scene cleansing teams, Environmental Crime Unit will continue to ensure those irresponsible members of the public who drop litter, allow their dogs to foul etc are apprehended and prosecuted accordingly. Furthermore, any litter on the streets is removed by Street Scene. Cleanliness standards throughout the Borough are monitored by the Council's Quality & Environment team at Vicarage Road.

**For information only - Email Contact has been made with a sample of Street Champions with regard to the proposal.**

Hello Street Champions,

As part of our ongoing consultation I have been asked to contact you to take part in a short Equality Impact Assessment exercise. This can be completed on line or by telephone and consists of a few simple questions regarding proposed changes to Street Scene services.

If you would be interested in taking part could you please contact me by Thursday 26th January 2012

An email was received with a comment in relation to this proposal as follows.

Email	01/12/2011	569 PENALTY NOTICES If it continues; increase the fines and make the culprits tidy up in public!
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**Q.3 (a) Do you promote disability equality within your service? (e.g. through departmental equalities group, innovative marketing or community engagement techniques)**

Yes  
No

✓

**If you have answered 'yes', please give examples of how equality is promoted.**

In addition to the Council commitment to promote equality of opportunity in all services and policies, this is a key function of the team Disability Equality is promoted in all areas of service delivery.

**(b) Do you promote positive attitudes towards disabled people? (e.g. through customer care training, cultural issues awareness training, the use of images of disabled people in your publicity material)**

Yes  
No

✓

**If you have answered 'yes', please give examples.**

All staff working within the section have Customer Care training. The Council as a whole promotes a positive attitude to disabled people in both the recruitment, employment and providing services to disabled members of the community.

Employees are made aware of disability issues including access to services, buildings and information. The Council is committed to ensuring that information available to the public is in an easy read format and accessible in various methods and in multiple locations

**Q.4 Are there any plans in place within your Service to promote disability equality more effectively?**

Yes  
No

✓

**If yes, please outline what you intend to do (including details, if known, of timescales and areas to be covered, etc.)**