

## Equality Impact Screening Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that our strategies, policies, and services have had proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A screening process can help you to decide whether the initiative you are responsible for has a negative impact on an individual or group of people with any protected characteristics.

This initial screening template will help you to decide whether an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for the development or review of the Strategy/Policy/Service

Title of Strategy/Policy/Service:	Vale of White Horse Leisure Facilities Assessment and Strategy, Final Draft
Service Area:	Policy and Programmes
Officers responsible (Name and title):	Carmella Anderson (Leisure Development Officer) and Rosalynn Whiteley (Planning Officer)
Is this a new or existing strategy /policy/project	Update
Aims and objectives of the Strategy/Policy/Service	<p>Vale of White Horse District Council have commissioned Stuart Todd Associates to produce a Leisure Facilities Assessment and Strategy (LFAS). Stuart Todd Associates have now prepared a final draft LFAS which includes changes post public consultation (in early 2024).</p> <p>The LFAS identifies the strategic context of leisure facility provision within the district and assesses the current supply, demand, and future demand. The LFAS proceeds to makes recommendations on measures to protect and enhance existing facilities and to provide new facilities.</p>

**This Equality Impact Screening Form assesses the impacts of the recommendations made in the draft report.**

The final draft LFAS identifies the following vision:

*“The Vale of White Horse should provide a good supply of well managed and maintained leisure facilities and ancillary facilities, which are fit for purpose, meet identified needs and encourage all residents to take part in sport and physical activity.*

*There will be a positive reaction to the impacts of climate change through leisure provision, seeking to contribute to opportunities for the community to access leisure facilities and ancillary facilities without the need to use unsustainable forms of transport and support access to the facilities through active travel means. The strategy will support the Councils’ vision to become carbon neutral by 2030 and to reduce emissions across the district.”*

The LFAS identifies the following aims:

- Can be used as robust evidence to protect existing leisure facilities;
- Can and should be used in the planning of new developments to include leisure facilities on-site or contribution to off-site;
- Can help to improve the quality of offer and provision by identifying and quantifying issues relating to the quality of leisure facilities and ancillary facilities;
- Can be used by clubs and teams and facility providers to support applications for funding for the improvement of the quality, quantity and accessibility of provision;
- Helps to defend against inappropriate development or loss of facilities;
- Informs planning policy development;
- Provides a strategic view and options for the provision of facilities during the strategy period;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forms an important part of the “package” of strategies, evidence and actions which can contribute towards improving the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the district.</li> </ul> <p>Once adopted, the LFAS will replace the existing Leisure Strategy for Vale of White Horse, published in 2014 and 2016. At which point, the strategy will be used to inform planning applications, infrastructure applications and CIL spending.</p>
Who are the customer groups/staff affected?	Sports groups, local residents, community groups, leisure providers, developers, Leisure Facilities, Active Communities and Infrastructure Teams
Will there be any effect on other Council procedures or strategies?	The LFAS will be used to inform policies in the emerging Joint Local Plan. Once adopted, the LFAS will be used by the Planning Service in the determination of planning applications and the Infrastructure Team.

**Potential impact that the Strategy/policy/service could have with regard to the protected characteristics**

Will this Strategy/practice/service/policy/plan have a particular impact on any of the following groups:	Employment			Relevance/Risk (if any):
	Relevance/Risk:			
	High	Med	Low/none	
Age	N/A	N/A	X	The draft LFAS recommends that all new sports facilities provided as part of future educational provision in Vale of White Horse, are designed for curricular, extra-curricular, community and sports development use and made available for community use out of school hours. This

				should have some positive impact on school-age children and young people, as well as the wider community.
Disability	N/A	N/A	X	The draft LFAS recommendation to continue to support Hendred Sports Club with its development plans for a new facility, should have a positive impact on disability users as well as wider users.
Sex	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Race	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Religion or Belief	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Gender Reassignment	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Pregnancy & Maternity	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Sexual orientation	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.

Marriage & Civil Partnership	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Rural isolation	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on groups relating to this protected characteristic.
Socio economic	N/A	N/A	X	The draft LFAS recommends ensuring that sports facilities charges are reasonable in terms of affordability to residents and are comparable with similar facilities elsewhere.

Will this Strategy/practice/service/policy/ plan have a particular impact on any of the strands within the Public Sector Equality Duty:	Relevance/Risk:			Relevance/Risk (if any):
	High	Med	Low/none	
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on this strand.
Advancing equality of opportunity	N/A	N/A	X	In assessing the current context and condition of existing facilities in South Oxfordshire, Stuart Todd Associates established baseline information regarding sports activity levels across different demographics.  Specifically, the draft LFAS identifies the need to lower the percentage of inactive adults living with a disability or long-

				<p>term health condition, inactive girls and women, and of inactive Asian people.</p> <p>The draft LFAS also identifies the need to carefully consider facilities within the most deprived areas of the district (especially Abingdon Caldecott, Abingdon Northcourt, Faringdon and the Coxwells, and Wantage Charlton) to understand the type of sports provision and physical activities opportunities available to residents in these areas.</p> <p>This baseline information provided a background to the recommendations drafted in the strategy, and provides evidence for officers drafting new planning policies and determining planning applications.</p>
Fostering good relations	N/A	N/A	X	The recommendations in the draft report are not expected to have a specific impact on this strand.

Overall impact on equalities	<b>High:</b> Selected mostly high → High Priority → EIA to be completed	<b>Med:</b> Selected mostly high and/or medium → EIA to be completed	<b>Low/none:</b> Selected mostly low → Low Priority → Do not complete EIA not relevant
	N/A	N/A	X

Note: If there are any high or medium impacts identified a full Equality Impact Assessment will be required.

If an Equality Impact Assessment is not required, please sign and send this screening form to [equalities@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southandvale.gov.uk)

Signed Carmella Anderson

Dated 10.10.24