



Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (March 2017)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Su Dawber

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Head of Section: Graham Roe – Design and Commissioning Senior Manager

Chief Officer: Simon Fox – AD Highways and Infrastructure

Directorate: Neighbourhoods

Date: 31/03/21

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Highway measures and environmental improvements along Beaufort Road and the southerly section of Wallasey Bridge Road.

The proposal includes the introduction of:

- a 3.5 metre wide shared use pedestrian/cycleway along the north side of Beaufort Road and along the east side of Wallasey Bridge Road, linking into the ped/cycle improvements at Bidston Moss.
- a zebra crossing on Beaufort Road which will provide connectivity to the new cycle lane that is being installed as part of the housing development proposal on Illchester Road
- landscaping along the length of the scheme that consider site conditions and designed to ensure that planting thrives in the future

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Committee meeting?

Yes / No_ If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

This dependant on the response to consultation process.

Please select hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website:

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> The proposals will enable a safe space for cycling and pedestrians on the northerly side of Beaufort Road that currently has no footway facility.	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> The creation of the shared path along Beaufort Road and Wallasey Bridge Road will connect to existing routes and create an uninterrupted route from Bidston to Birkenhead. By allowing cycling along this route it provides less confident cyclists, such as children or older people, a safer environment to cycle. Allowing cycling along this route will also provide an environment for older people to cycle safely and remain active.	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource

Disability/Age/ All	<u>Negative</u> A shared path used by both pedestrians and cyclist can create the potential for conflict and can have a negative impact on disabled people and visually impaired, who may choose to avoid the shared space. Older members of the community and families may also choose not to use the path due to concerns of the presence of fast-moving cyclists.	We would have liked to introduce a segregated path as part of this scheme, but there is a masterplan for the Wirral Waters area and as part of that additional work is proposed that will create a segregated cycle path on Beaufort Road. The effect of the scheme will be closely monitored.	Su Dawber	NA	Future planning of financial resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> The project will create a segregated Tiger crossing point on Beaufort Road that currently has no pedestrian crossing facilities. This will have a positive impact for pedestrians and cyclist who wish to cross Beaufort Road when using the new footpath.	The operation of this crossing will be closely monitored.	Su Dawber	NA	Future planning of financial resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Negative</u> Disabled groups, the older community and families may wish for a signal controlled crossing point with audible or tactile alert of when to cross safety.	Usage of the crossing will be monitored, and high pedestrian/cycle use may help justify installing a signal controlled cross point in the future.	Su Dawber	NA	Future planning of financial resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> The existing condition of the footway on Wallasey Bridge Road currently means that less mobile pedestrians, particularly elderly people, experience greater difficulty with varying surfaces and unmaintained footways. The improvements to the footway will benefit pedestrians of all ages. They will receive a greater benefit from the footway improvements as the surface and width will	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource

	be easier and safer to use. The scheme will therefore have a positive impact in relation to age.				
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> There is currently no footway on the north side of Beaufort Road. The proposals include a wide buffer strip between the new shared path and the carriageway. The installation of the share path will benefit pedestrians and cyclists of all ages.	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> Placement of kerb and edge paving has been carefully considered to avoid uneven surfaces the can be uncomfortable for wheelchair users.	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Positive</u> Street furniture is located to minimise the obstruction of walking routes.	NA	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource
Disability/Age/ All	<u>Negative</u> There are a number of vehicular accesses along the route of the new footway. These accesses serve MEA Park which is the industrial/manufacturing/commercial hub of the Wirral Waters Development. As a result, although traffic movements are not expected to be high, there will be larger vehicles using these accesses. This could cause road safety concerns for all users of the shared path.	The design of the access points helps reduce speeds of vehicles entering and exiting. The design will give peds and cyclists priority over motor vehicles at these points.	Su Dawber	NA	Staff resource / Capital resource

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Effectiveness of the various elements of the scheme to be monitored via user feedback and site observations. Road Safety Audit Stages 3 (on completion of the scheme) and Road Safety Audit Stage 4 (after 1 years of the project being in place) will be carried out.

Any resulting actions will be monitored by the Project Board, which has been established to deliver this scheme. The Project Board will provide the necessary ownership, governance and strategic direction and ensure that where possible all issues in regards with inequality are rectified in line with the project objectives, outputs and outcomes within agreed timescales.

The project governance is comprised of representatives from Wirral Council, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Peel Group and appointed consultants.

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

The design was carried out following guidance in the following documents
TSRGD 2016, LTN 1/12 LTN 1/20, Gear Change, Manual for Streets, Guidance on the use of Tactile Paving Surfaces (DfT), Manufacturers/Suppliers trade literature has been used to design this scheme.

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes / No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7. Yes

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

Consultation will take place as part of the wider consultation for the scheme and will include disabled groups such as partially sighted and blind, as well as groups with mobility difficulties. These groups will be contacted through the Council's 'Active Travel' group, via e-mail.

Other stakeholders that will be consulted include elected members, internal departments of WBC, and local residents.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting its legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**