

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Steve Atkins

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Head of Section: Simon Fox

Chief Officer: Nicola Butterworth

Directorate: Neighbourhood Services

Date: 14/06/2021

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

The Council's Communities Equalities Officer has been consulted and involved in the decision. The Council has an obligation under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality duty (Sect 149 2011) to show due regard to the duty and show due regard to mitigate any negative impacts that may affect people with protected characteristics under the Act.

The proposals are to approve a variety of parking charges options; including introducing on-street parking at new town centre areas (New Brighton, West Kirby, Hoylake, Heswall, Moreton etc.) and coastal locations (West Kirby, Hoylake, Meols, New Brighton, Leasowe), and off-street parking at car parks (Bromborough, Bebington, Irby, Hoylake, New Brighton etc.) that we don't currently charge. These budget saving proposals could generate as much as £1 million pound in additional income.

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

Yes /No

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee –

Monday, 14th June 2021

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

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 (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

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	Neutral impact - effective parking control can assist vulnerable road users such as blue badge holders by reducing the likelihood of obstructions, ensuring a turn-over of spaces and to ensure better access through designated spaces close to services. Disabled badge holders do not need to pay for parking as long as they display a valid blue badge.	Commence to engage with: I. WIRED (Wirral Information Resource for Equality & Diversity) who promote the equality, dignity and independence of disadvantaged people; and II. the blue badge issuing Department. Additional disabled bays could be implemented if there is a demand. A	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue Budget

		transport strategy is currently underway which will review parking demands.			
All protected groups- .	We recognise that introducing car parking charges in areas where parking is currently free can have an impact on those in certain socio economic groups from all the protected characteristics and within the wider community.	We will actively promote alternative forms of transport and promote active travel through our ongoing work with Merseytravel to make sure travel is accessible and co-ordinated. Fees will be kept as low as possible and the effect of these will be monitored going forward. We especially note the impact in respect of age and pregnancy & maternity – information campaigns may be targeted to ensure affected groups know about the change. The appeals procedure is not affected within this change and we will assess each case on its merits.	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue Budget

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

Information will continue to be collected on the number of ticket sales and income received to check if the savings have been achieved. If the savings target is met, the proposals will be considered to have been fully successful and will be regularly reviewed. All communications from car park users will be noted.

Further consultation and ongoing discussions with the Blue Badge issuing Department and WIRED (Wirral Information Resource for Equality and Diversity).

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

The proposals will assist the Council to control and manage its parking assets on street and in Council operated car parks for all road users.

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

Road Traffic Act 1991, Traffic Management Act 2004, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, Equalities Act 2010. Benchmarking of parking charges with other councils in the region.

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.

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?

Further consultation and ongoing discussions with the Blue Badge issuing Department and WIRED (Wirral Information Resource for Equality and Diversity) will take place following approval of the various budget proposals.

The legal traffic regulation order making process will be followed subject to committee approval. Residents have the opportunity to raise any concerns or objections to the proposals.

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 it's 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?**