

## Appendix 3

# Equalities and Diversity Impact Assessment

## Surface Water Management Plan



## Durham County Council – Altogether Better equality impact assessment form

**NB: Equality impact assessment is a legal requirement for all strategies plans, functions, policies, procedures and services. We are also legally required to publish our assessments.**

**You can find help and prompts on completing the assessment in the guidance from page 7 onwards.**

### Section one: Description and initial screening

**Section overview: this section provides an audit trail.**

Service/team or section: Drainage and Coastal Protection Team, Technical Services, Neighbourhood Services, Durham County Council

Lead Officer: Drainage & Coastal Protection Manager

Start date: 11/05/11 and 5/10/11

Subject of the Impact Assessment: (please also include a brief description of the aims, outcomes, operational issues as appropriate)

#### **Surface Water Management Plan**

Neighbourhood Services have developed the Surface Water Management Plan in accordance with the recommendations of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the EU Flood Directive 2007. The SWMP identifies potential problem areas with respect to surface water run off in the Durham County area and considers the most effective methods by which to manage the risk of surface water flooding. Action plans have been developed for those areas identified as being most at risk. As the SWMP process evolves it is intended to engage with all stakeholders through stakeholder meetings, public consultation and meetings with partners.

Who are the main stakeholders: General public / Employees / Elected Members / Partners/ Specific audiences/Other (please specify) –

- Durham County Council
- Environment Agency
- Northumbrian Water Ltd
- Landowners/developers
- Adjoining local Authorities
- General Public
- Elected Members

Is a copy of the subject attached? No

If not, where could it be viewed? Drainage and Coastal Protection Team, Technical Services, Neighbourhood Services, Durham County Council

#### **Initial screening**

The SWMP has been produced to look at the sources of surface water flooding in the County Durham area and considers the most effective methods by which to manage the risk of surface water flooding. The plan provides a strategic approach whereby key local

partners, such as Northumbrian Water Limited, Environment Agency, developers/landowners and the Council, with responsibility for surface water and drainage can work together. Surface water poses a widespread risk across County Durham, concentrated in the urban areas to the east of the County. The SWPM will benefit all areas of the County, especially those identified as being at risk of flooding by guiding limited resources to areas of greatest need; addressing the surface water flood risk to existing and proposed development; informing emergency planning and feeding into Durham County Council's Flood Plan; and protect and improve water quality in accordance with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WDF).

Prompts to help you:  
 Who is affected by it? Who is intended to benefit and how? Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups? Is it likely to affect relations between different communities or groups, for example if it is thought to favour one particular group or deny opportunities for others? Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality?

**Is there an actual/potential positive impact on specific groups within these headings?**  
 Indicate :Y = Yes, N = No, ?=Unsure

|        |    |            |    |     |    |                |    |                    |    |                    |    |
|--------|----|------------|----|-----|----|----------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Gender | Y+ | Disability | Y+ | Age | Y+ | Race/ethnicity | Y+ | Religion or belief | Y+ | Sexual orientation | Y+ |
|--------|----|------------|----|-----|----|----------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|

**How will this support our commitment to promote equality and meet our legal responsibilities?**

- Reminder of our legal duties:
- Eliminating unlawful discrimination & harassment
  - Promoting equality of opportunity
  - Promoting good relations between people from different groups
  - Promoting positive attitudes towards disabled people and taking account of someone's disability, even where that involves treating them more favourably than other people
  - Involving people, particularly disabled people, in public life and decision making

**What evidence do you have to support your findings?**

**Decision: Proceed to full impact assessment – No                      Date: 05/10/2011**

**If you have answered 'No' you need to pass the completed form for approval & sign off.**

**Section two: Identifying impacts and evidence- Equality and Diversity**

**Section overview: this section identifies whether there are any impacts on equality/diversity/cohesion, what evidence is available to support the conclusion and what further action is needed.**

|               |   |  |   |
|---------------|---|--|---|
|               | Identify the impact : does this increase differences or does it aim to reduce gaps for particular groups? | Explain your conclusion, including relevant evidence and consultation you have considered. | What further action is required? (Include in Sect. 3 action plan) |
| <b>Gender</b> |   |  |   |
| <b>Age</b>    |   |  |   |

|                           |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Disability</b>         |  |  |  |
| <b>Race/Ethnicity</b>     |  |  |  |
| <b>Religion or belief</b> |  |  |  |
| <b>Sexual Orientation</b> |  |  |  |

**How will this promote positive relationships between different communities? N/A**

**Section three: Review and Conclusion**

Summary: please provide a brief overview, including impact, changes, improvements and any gaps in evidence.

The SWMP will provide a better, more comprehensive management of surface water flooding which will benefit people, homes, businesses, landowners, developers, partners and adjoining Authorities. There is no adverse impact on our customers and no equality and diversity issues have been identified.

| Action to be taken | Officer responsible | Target Date | In which plan will this action appear |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
|                    |                     |             |                                       |

When will this assessment be reviewed? Date: N/A

Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?

Lead officer - sign off: Strategic Highways Manager Date:05/10/2011

Service equality representative - sign off: Policy Performance and Communications Manager Date:05/10/2011

**Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.**

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