

Appendix 5

Equalities and Diversity Impact Assessment

Service Delivery Options for Supporting the Growth and Enhancement of County Durham's Street Markets



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: Consumer Protection Service, Environment Health and Consumer Protection, Neighbourhood Services	
Lead Officer: Consumer Protection Manager, Consumer Protection Service, Environment Health and Consumer Protection Planning and Policy Team Leader, Planning and Policy, Neighbourhood Services	Start date: Screening 11 May 2012
Service Improvement Officer (Equalities)	Reviewed date : After consultation - 4 th December 2012
Subject of the Impact Assessment: (please also include a brief description of the aims, outcomes, operational issues as appropriate) In February 2011, the County Council completed a review of market provision in order to highlight risks and opportunities to inform options for future service delivery. The review involved the collection of baseline information on the current market offer and consultation with shoppers, traders and licensed operators. This work has enabled a picture to be formed of the current characteristics and performance of the individual markets to give a position from which to work. The findings went to Cabinet on 30 May 2012 and approval was given for the draft strategy for 'Revitalising Markets' within County Durham' to go for public consultation. Options for the future management and operation of markets across the county were also presented for further consideration: It was agreed that a further report be considered by Cabinet on completion of the consultation and soft market testing exercises, to seek approval of the final market strategy and agreement of future management arrangements with relevant timescales for their implementation. Markets can play a significant role in adding to a sense of place and engendering a sense of belonging, identity and common ownership. To be effective, the market needs to be located in a sensible position and offer traders	

uniformity of quality in pitches but with a degree of flexibility built in. The first element of the vision is that County Durham will seek a structured, weekly cycle of markets, each sensibly located within a major centre and offering a well-planned, efficiently-managed, quality trading environment to be readily accessible to all and to offer a range of quality/value goods with a complementary mix of proactive traders and the active support of local retail interests and shoppers. It is recommended that the preferred, future management regime for the county's markets adopts these core principles of the DCLG guidance paper on management models for markets. The new management model should **enable the council to use its influence and resources to invest in the future of markets, direct strategic policy and implement initiatives, as part of wider town centre regeneration strategies, to maximise the economic effectiveness of markets.** Specific objectives are:

- Increasing footfall and customer spend in our town centres.
- Achieving a more structured approach to the location, frequency, style, quality and operation of the county's markets.
- Attracting day visitors and tourists and increasing dwell time.
- Promoting markets as drivers for improved town centre management and regeneration.
- Encouraging markets to become involved in business start-ups, entrepreneurial activity and local speciality goods, arts and crafts.
- Attracting new traders to underpin the sustainability of markets for the future.
- Encouraging links between street markets and private indoor markets where appropriate.
- Further developing links with local produce, healthy eating and healthy lifestyle promotion.
- Establishing better links with schools and communities.
- Modernising and improving the promotion of markets as part of the branding and image of the county.
- Implementing reduced packaging and recycling initiatives.

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

- Market Traders
- Local Businesses
- Entrepreneurs
- Visitors
- Everyone living working and visiting County Durham

Is a copy of the subject attached? Yes

Initial screening

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 negative or positive impact on specific groups within these headings?

Indicate :Y = Yes, N = No, ?=Unsure

Positive Impact

Gender	y	Disability	y	Age	y	Race/ethnicity	y	Religion or belief	y	Sexual orientation	y
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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?

The design and implementation of a more effective management model (fully reflecting local circumstances and respecting the character of individual centres) should enable consistency and standardisation of the markets provision; including ensuring equality and diversity requirements are met. It is hoped that the proposed **Strategy for Supporting the Growth and Enhancement of County Durham's Street Markets** will help to improve the markets across the county including more choice with speciality markets, improved access for those with disabilities, a wider mix of local traders with more customers coming into town centre. This

will be addressed within the licence / contractual agreement to be made with the future provider

The comments received via the consultation highlight the need to ensure that access issues are addressed. It is essential that this area is given reasonable consideration and the need to ensure maintenance of current levels of service provision for the protected groups, in-particular through physical access standards, will be addressed within the licence / contractual agreement to be made with the future provider. Markets were included on the original schedule for inclusion on Disabled-Go website which went live Oct 2012, this is ongoing and more details will be added over the coming months.

Decision: Proceed to full impact assessment – Yes/No– Date: 10/12/2012

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)
Gender	Changes to the service delivery model for the operation of markets	It is expected that the proposed Strategy for Supporting the Growth and Enhancement of County Durham’s Street Markets will help to improve the markets across the county including more choice with speciality markets, improved access for those with disabilities, a wider mix of local traders with more customers coming into town centres	N/A
Age	Changes to the service delivery model for the operation of markets	Although there is a lower age limit for applicants (18 years or over) this follows health and safety legislation and follows recognised protocol . This	N/A

		will be addressed within the licence / contractual agreement to be made with the future provider	
Disability	Changes to the service delivery model may impact access to services	The comments received via the consultation highlight potential access issues. It is important that current levels of service provision are maintained if not improved. Physical access standards, will be addressed within the licence / contractual agreement to be made with the future provider. Markets were included on the original schedule for inclusion on Disabled-Go website which goes live in Oct 2012, this is ongoing and more details will be added over the coming months. Disabled-Go is a web-based (www.disabledgo.com) portal aimed at providing information for disabled people and their families, on whether places and services are accessible for their individual needs. This is provided through an access guide which sets out detailed information on places to visit and council buildings, enabling more disabled people to participate in local activities	N/A
Race/Ethnicity	No negative impact has been identified.		N/A
Religion or belief	No negative impact has been identified.		N/A
Sexual orientation	No negative impact has been identified.		N/A

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.

Action to be taken	Officer responsible	Target Date	In which plan will this action appear
When will this assessment be reviewed?	Date: April 2013		
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?	No		
Lead officer sign off: Head of Environment Health and Consumer Protection			Date: 10/12/12
Service equality representative:- signed off by Customer Relations, Policy and Performance			Date: 10/12/12

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

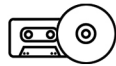
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