

Equality Impact Assessment

Introduction

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a method for assessing the effects or impacts of a council policy or function on removing barriers to equality.

The Equality Act 2010 includes a public sector equality duty which requires public authorities to try and eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it and promote equality and good relations across a range of protected characteristics.

The protected characteristics are:

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment
Marriage and civil partnership	Pregnancy and maternity	Race
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	Sex	Sexual orientation

An EqIA should be completed with the full range of protected characteristics considered during the initial stages of developing new strategies, policies, functions or services, prior to starting a procurement exercise and before decisions are made.

Examples of when an EqIA should be completed are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any proposals to introduce or add to a service | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any proposals to adopt policy priorities, strategies and plans |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any proposals to remove, reduce or alter a service | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Changes to staffing structure where groups of employees are likely to be negatively affected |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any new policies or changes to policies | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any proposals in relation to procured or commissioned services |

Stage 1 - Equality Screening

Whenever a policy/service or function is reviewed, changed, developed or removed an initial equality impact assessment stage 1 will need to be undertaken. This is a screening template and will help establish whether a full assessment is needed. This should be done at an early stage of the process so that it is part of policy development.

Stage 2 – Equality Impact Assessment

This is the full EqIA and seeks to identify the equality considerations that have been taken into account including any mitigating actions proposed and ensures decisions are based on evidence. The EqIA will need to be agreed with the appropriate Head of Service or Director and should be included on the decision making report, along with commentary on the assessment in the main body of the report.

STAGE 1 – Equality Screening

1. Identify the policy, project, function or service change

a. Person responsible for this EqIA

Officer responsible: Richard Gibson

Service Area: Communities

Title: Head of communities, wellbeing & partnerships

Date of assessment: 12.3.25

Signature: R J Gibson

b. Is this a policy, function, strategy, service change or project?

Policy

If other, please specify:

c. Name of the policy, function, strategy, service change or project

Collections Development Policy

Is this new or existing?

Already exists and is being reviewed

Please specify reason for change or development of policy, function, strategy, service change or project

Last reviewed in 2019

d. What are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes and who is likely to benefit from it?

Aims:

The collection development policy sets out the following:

- the museum's statement of purpose,
- an overview of current collections,
- themes and priorities for future collecting,
- themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal,
- information about the legal and ethical framework for acquiring and disposing of items

Objectives:

Outcomes:

To enable the Wilson to deliver its statement of purpose:

The Wilson aims to be a regional centre of excellence for all ages. It is friendly and curious in everything that it does and provides creative space for people to engage with Cheltenham's stories through exhibitions, displays, art, crafts,

	and events. We do this by caring for and interpreting our outstanding collections to support discovery, enjoyment and learning for all
Benefits:	<p>Achieving the Accreditation standard has many benefits for a museum and has helped museums to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve planning skills • assess achievements • improve morale • raise awareness to stakeholders • attract financial support from external sources • show their fitness to receive sponsorship and donations

e. What are the expected impacts?	
Are there any aspects, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could have an impact on the lives of people, including employees and customers.	Yes
Do you expect the impacts to be positive or negative?	Positive
Please provide an explanation for your answer:	
The collection tells, in part, the story of Cheltenham and therefore has positive benefits for our communities	

If your answer to question e identified potential positive or negative impacts, or you are unsure about the impact, then you should carry out a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment.

f. Identify next steps as appropriate	
Stage Two required	Yes
Owner of Stage Two assessment	Richard Gibson
Completion date for Stage Two assessment	

Please forward this completed form to [add email address] and move on to Stage 2 if required.

STAGE 2 – Full Equality Impact Assessment

2. Engagement and consultation

The best approach to find out if a policy etc, is likely to impact positively or negatively on equality groups is to look at existing research, previous consultation recommendations, studies or consult with representatives of those equality groups.

a. Research and evidence

List below any data, consultations (previous, relevant, or future planned), or any relevant research, studies or analysis that you have considered to assess the policy, function, strategy, service change or project for its relevance to equality.

None currently.

b. Consultation

Has any consultation be conducted?

No, but planned to take place

Describe the consultation or engagement you have conducted or are intending to conduct. Describe who was consulted, what the outcome of the activity was and how these results have influenced the development of the strategy, policy, project, service change or budget option.

If no consultation or engagement is planned, please explain why.

The Cheltenham Trust has secured funding to undertake a programme of significant community engagement to shape the future of the Museum. Called the Big Museum project, there are three phases:

Phase One – Community Consultations

A broad range of consultations both at The Wilson and out in our communities which have been used to inform phase two of the project.

Phase Two – Testing Ideas with Communities

This part of the project will see the launch of the Cheltenham's BIG Museum Project: Test Space. To include:

- An interactive exhibition designed to shape the future of the museum.
- A community outreach programme through the 'Museum on Wheels' mobile feedback stations.

Phase Three – Reopening the Museum

Feedback collected throughout the year within the Test Space and mobile stations will contribute to the design and curation and interpretation of the new museum.

3. Assessment

a. Assessment of impacts

For each characteristic, please indicate the type of impact (positive – contributes to promoting equality or improving relations within an equality group, neutral – no impact, negative – could disadvantage them).

Please use the description of impact box to explain how you justify the impact and include any data and evidence that you have collected from surveys, performance data or complaints to support your proposed changes

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Protected Characteristic	Specific Characteristic	Impact	Description of impact	Mitigating Action
AGE	Older people (60+)	Neutral		
	Younger People (16-25)	Neutral		
	Children (0-16)	Neutral		
DISABILITY A definition of disability under the Equality Act 2010 is available here . <i>See also carer responsibilities under other considerations.</i>	Physical disability	Neutral		
	Sensory Impairment (sight, hearing)	Neutral		
	Mental health	Neutral		
	Learning Disability	Neutral		
GENDER REASSIGNMENT		Neutral		
MARRIAGE & CIVIL PARTNERSHIP	Women	Neutral		
	Men	Neutral		
	Lesbians	Neutral		
	Gay Men	Neutral		
PREGNANCY & MATERNITY	Women	Neutral		
RACE* Further information on the breakdown below each of these headings, is available here .	White	Positive	New acquisitions could better reflect the diversity of contemporary Cheltenham	
	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	Positive	As above	
	Asian	Positive	As above	

For example Asian, includes Chinese, Pakistani and Indian etc	African	Positive	As above	
	Caribbean or Black	Positive	As above	
		Choose an item.		
RELIGION & BELIEF** A list of religions used in the census is available here	See note	Neutral		
SEX (GENDER)	Men	Neutral		
	Women	Positive	4.7.3 - Develop the collection of three-dimensional items telling the history of Cheltenham from the 17th century onwards; particularly items relating to women's suffrage, GCHQ, gender issues, sport, and horseracing	
	Trans Men	Neutral		
	Trans Women	Neutral		
SEXUAL ORIENTATION	Heterosexual	Neutral		
	Lesbian	Choose an item.		
	Gay	Choose an item.		
	Bisexual/Pansexual	Choose an item.		
Other considerations				
Socio-economic factors (income, education, employment, community safety & social support)		Positive	New acquisitions could better reflect the diversity of contemporary Cheltenham	
Rurality		Neutral		

i.e. access to services; transport; education; employment; broadband				
Other (e.g. caring responsibilities)		Neutral		

* To keep the form concise, race has not been included as an exhaustive list, please augment the list above where appropriate to reflect the complexity of other racial identities.

** There are too many faith groups to provide a list, therefore, please input the faith group e.g. Muslims, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, Hindus, etc. Consider the different faith groups individually when considering positive or negative impacts. A list of religions in the census is available [here](#)

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4. Outcomes, Action and Public Reporting

a. Please list the actions identified through the evidence and the mitigating action to be taken.

Action	Target completion date	Lead Officer
Undertake the Big Museum consultation project and reflect on outcomes to inform the next iteration of the collections development policy	2027	Richard Gibson

b. Public reporting

All completed EqIA's are required to be publicly available on the Council's website once they have been signed off. EqIA's are also published with the papers for committee and full council decisions.

Please send completed EqIA's to [email address]

5. Monitoring outcomes, evaluation and review

The Equalities Impact Assessment is not an end in itself but the start of a continuous monitoring and review process. The relevant Service or Lead Officer responsible for the delivery of the policy, function or service change is also responsible for monitoring and reviewing the EqIA and any actions that may be taken to mitigate impacts.

Individual services are responsible for conducting the impact assessment for their area, staff from Corporate Policy and Governance will be available to provide support and guidance, please email xxxx if you have any questions.

6. Change log

Name	Date	Version	Change