

Equality Impact Assessment

EIA Title: Moorings

Author: Jackie Taylor Group Head Neighbourhood Services

Michael Graham-Head of Corporate governance

Date: 25 June 2019

1. The public sector equality duty (2011) covers the following eight protected characteristics:

Age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender, reassignment, pregnancy & maternity. The duty also covers marriage and civil partnership, but only relating to the elimination of unlawful discrimination

2. The General Equality Duty:

SBC in the exercise of its functions should:

- a. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- b. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- c. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Scope of Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Review of unauthorised moorings

- Communication with consultees
- Anti-social behaviour
- Mooring options on the Thames in Spelthorne
- Mooring costs
- Houseboats moored without consent
- Displacement
- Impact on rough sleepers or the homeless

Information used to support findings and/or impacts

- Joint working with other neighbouring authorities along the Thames
- Monitoring of sites
- Complaints and information received from residents, visitors and river users

Is this:-

Policy	No	New or proposed	Yes
Strategy	No	Already in existence and being reviewed	No
Function	Yes	Changing	No
Service	Yes		

What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy, strategy function or service and who is likely to benefit from it?

Aims	To improve access to and from the river Thames for residents, visitors and river users.
Objectives	To open up access to the river and enable more river users to moor and use local facilities.
Outcomes	Reduce ASB and officer time & costs when dealing with unauthorised moorings. Enable more river users to make use of the legal mooring sites.
Benefits	Bigger turnover of legally moored boats, reduced complaints, reduced ASB.

Which groups may be affected by the policy, strategy, function or service?

Consider how they may be affected, whether it is positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this.

Group affected	What might be the effect	Information to support this
Disability	Little if any affect as access to all mooring sites listed within the Spelthorne Borough Council byelaws will not change.	SBC Byelaws
Age	Little if any affect as access to all mooring sites listed within the Council byelaws will not change. Evidence suggests that there is a need for more affordable housing for younger people who cannot afford to buy land based accommodation.	The need for more affordable housing is contained within the Spelthorne & Runnymede strategic housing market assessment. This need is being met through existing policies, local plan and wider corporate commitments.
Gender reassignment	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	
Marriage & civil partnership	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	
Pregnancy & maternity	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	
Race	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	
Religion or belief	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	

Sex & sexual orientation	There is no evidence to suggest that there will be a greater impact on this group than any other	
All groups	Those who choose not to or through matters of homelessness are unable to abide by rules set out by the Environment Agency and Spelthorne Borough Council in their byelaws.	EA river rules and regulations SBC byelaws The Councils housing service has no recent record of approaches from owners or occupiers of houseboats in relation to accommodation needs

Result	
Are there any aspects of the policy, strategy, function or service including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?	No
Will the policy, strategy, function or service have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees & service users?	No
<p>Please provide an explanation for your answer:</p> <p>The River Thames is regulated by the EA who require all boats on the river to be licenced and abide by EA rules, byelaws and regulations for boat users and river dwellers. The Byelaws are made under Section 233 of the Thames Conservancy Act 1932 and are detailed within the Thames Navigation Licensing and General Byelaws 1993.</p>	
Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Public consultation exercise required?	Yes/No

Signed Jackie Taylor Group Head of Neighbourhood Services

Michael Graham Head of Corporate Governance

Date 25 June 2019