

Appendix 7

Denbighshire Caravan Site Strategy for Managing Residential Occupancy

05 June 2015
(updated 06 October 2015)

Equality Impact Assessment

Denbighshire Caravan Site Strategy for Managing Residential Occupancy

Contact: Isobel Bourke-Bennett, Business Improvement & Modernisation
Updated: 06.10.15

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A project proposal

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

The purpose of this activity is to conduct a review of the occupancy of caravans across Holiday sites within Denbighshire and to identify a strategy for implementation across all services within the Council.

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

Yes

<If no, briefly summarise the reasons for this decision here, and skip ahead to the declaration at the end>

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

Research was previously undertaken within Planning and Public Protection which identified the wider issues associated with the residential use of holiday caravans. These issues included the impact on a wider range of council services than initially anticipated and the range of people who would be affected if enforcement action was taken against sites. From early indications, there are a number of protected characteristics impacted which will be considered throughout the project and any proposed implementations will capture the requirements of people with protected characteristics.

- 5. Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

Age & Disability

Previous studies have shown that those living in caravans tend to be from the more vulnerable sectors of society (including those older in age, with higher social care needs). As such if the decision is made to allow some sites to become residential and therefore that the quality of accommodation is improved (to allow for year long residency) or that individuals are re-housed in more appropriate accommodation then this cohort will significantly benefit from the project.

Race - Gypsy & Travellers

For gypsies and travellers it may be that through establishing clarity in terms of the eligibility of caravan dwellers to council services that they gain access to additional services that they were previously unaware of.

- 6. Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

Age & Disability

Conversely, if enforcement and eviction from sites is deemed the most appropriate response, and a housing provision has not been allocated, then this cohort may be at a significant risk of becoming homeless and therefore be negatively impacted.

Race - Gypsy & Travellers

The project may negatively impact upon gypsy and travellers as if the eligibility criteria for some services were changed or enforced then they may no longer be able to access these services.

- 7. Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

No	We are within the early stages of the project (particularly in relation to what enforcement action may or may not be taken), as such the full extent of any negative impact of the project
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	are yet to be identified. Any potentially negative impacts will be mitigated against as and when they are identified
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8. Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?

Yes	<If yes please complete the table below. If no, please explain here>
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Action(s)	Owner	By when?
Continue to identify and monitor risks, issues and disbenefits and note these in the business case on verto and ensure any positive or negative impact on those with protected characteristics are noted in this EqIA	Isobel Bourke-Bennett	Continuous
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
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9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	01.01.16
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Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
Isobel Bourke-Bennett	06.10.15

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.
