

Equality Impact Assessment Form

PART 1 – Description

Directorate: Growth Directorate

Department: Planning Policy & Programmes

Assessment Lead Officer: D. Acton

Email: dacton@warrington.gov.uk

Telephone Number: 01925 442734

Name of the Service/Policy/Service Change: Warrington Local Plan Main Modifications – EqIA Addendum

Date of Assessment: - March 2023

Status: - Approved

1. Background Information and Context

This is an EqIA addendum to the EqIA of the Updated Proposed Submission Version Local Plan (UPSVLP) 2021. It relates only to the proposed Local Plan Main Modifications (2023). The addendum assesses whether the Main Modifications result in any changes to the conclusions of the EqIA of the UPSVLP 2021.

The EqIA of the UPSVLP (2021) can be viewed on the Council's website:

[Equality Impact Assessment Form - August 2021 \(warrington.gov.uk\)](#)

Consultation on the UPSVLP (2021) was held between October and November 2021 in line with Regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The Council received a total of 2,597 responses to the UPSVLP 2021 consultation containing a total of 6,922 representations. This included one response signed by around 500 separate individuals. The Council responded to each of the main issues raised during the consultation in the Local Plan Responding to Representations Report available on the Council's web site.

The UPSVLP (2021), together with all representations and the Plan's evidence base, was submitted to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for independent examination on 22 April 2022. On 06 May 2022 Inspectors Kevin Ward BA (Hons) MRTPI and Andrea Mageean BA (Hons)

BPI PhD MRTPI were appointed to hold an independent examination of the Local Plan, with the Examination in Public Hearing sessions commencing on Tuesday 06th September 2022 and ending on Thursday 06 October 2022.

Post the Examination in Public, the Inspectors issued their Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to the Council, and it is anticipated that a further round of consultation on the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications will take place for a six week period during March and April 2023.

2. Details of the Service/Policy/Service Change?

The Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Local Plan. The UPSVLP (2021) and Main Modifications set out the Council's proposed approach to meeting Warrington's need for new homes and jobs up to 2038. They also identify the infrastructure which will be required to be delivered to ensure Warrington's growth is sustainable. It closely reflects the objectives of the Council's Warrington Means Business regeneration programme and Warrington's Health and Wellbeing Strategy

3. Links to General Equality Duty and Council Equality Objectives

The Proposed Submission Version Local Plan is able to make a positive contribution to the Council's Equality Objectives – Equality Objectives and Strategy 2020-2024.

https://www.warrington.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-01/edi_strategy-objectives_2020-2024_final.pdf

PART 2 –EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL PLAN MAIN MODIFICATIONS

Assess the impact the policy will have on the lives of people, including particular communities and groups and the workforce (if applicable). Will it meet their needs?

Equality Group	Assessment of Main Modifications in context of original assessment of UPSVLP (2021)	Assessment of Modifications which may impact of an Equality Group
<p>Age (young and older people)</p>	<p>No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential – subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)</p>	<p>MM003/021 – Removing the southern parcel of land from the MD3 Fiddlers Ferry allocation will reduce the amount of land allocated for housing the Borough. However, the Inspectors have concluded that there would still be an adequate land supply compared with the overall housing requirement. As such, the Modification will not materially impact on the Council’s ability to meet the housing needs, including those of older and younger people.</p> <p>MM004 – This includes the removal of a specific reference to provision of housing for older people. However, the requirement to provide a proportion of housing to enhanced accessibility standards remains. As does the positive approach to applications for supported and extra care housing. As such, the proposed modification will not materially impact on the Council’s objective of providing housing suitable for older people.</p> <p>MM005/024 – Lower level of employment land identified and the removal of MD6 South East Warrington Employment Area. This is likely to result in a lower level of jobs provided. However, the Inspectors concluded that the lower employment land requirement will still meet Warrington’s development needs. As such, the Plan will still ensure wide ranging employment opportunities, including opportunities for younger people and older people.</p> <p>MM005 – Policy addition addressing the requirement to support Colleges and Higher education will have a further positive impact for younger people.</p>
<p>Disability (physical or sensory)</p>	<p>No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential</p>	<p>None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.</p>

Equality Group	Assessment of Main Modifications in context of original assessment of UPSVLP (2021)	Assessment of Modifications which may impact of an Equality Group
impairments, learning disability and mental health)	– subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)	
Learning Disability and Autism	No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential – subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Gender Reassignment (person proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone reassigning their sex)	No change from previous assessment: No Impact	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Pregnancy and maternity (the rights of a woman and her maternity leave)	No change from previous assessment: No Impact	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Race (include nationality, ethnicity inc. Gypsy and Travellers)	No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential– subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.

Equality Group	Assessment of Main Modifications in context of original assessment of UPSVLP (2021)	Assessment of Modifications which may impact of an Equality Group
Religious / Faith Groups	No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential – subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Sex (men, women and gender non-conforming)	No change from previous assessment: No Impact	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Sexual Orientation	No change from previous assessment: No Impact	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.
Carers of Children and Dependant Adults	No change from previous assessment: Positive impact. (Potential – subject to Local Plan addressing impacts of increasing population)	None of the proposed Main Modifications materially change the assessment undertaken at the UPSVLP (2021) stage.