

# EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## THE STAGE ONE ASSESSMENT FORM - the initial screening process

**SERVICE, POLICY OR FUNCTION BEING ASSESSED:** Planning Policy Formulation – Local Plan / LDF & associated documents

**DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE, POLICY OR FUNCTION:** (e.g. main purpose, users or beneficiaries etc)

Production of a complete planning policy framework for the district. There is already an adopted Local Plan in place with many planning policies, spanning a wide range of subject matters from the delivery of affordable housing to the protection of employment land and protected rural landscapes. In the relatively near future, this existing document will be replaced by a new planning framework, under the Council's emerging 'Local Development Framework'

**Please indicate if it is an existing area of service or a new area/project:** Both, as have existing Plan and producing a new one



<b>Target Equality Group</b>  <i>(see guidance note 2 for details)</i>	<b>Does it have a Positive Impact</b>  If yes, please explain how  <i>(see guidance note 6 for details)</i>	<b>Does it have a Neutral Impact</b>  If yes, please explain how  <i>(see guidance note 9 for details)</i>	<b>Does it have a Negative Impact</b>  If yes please explain how, indicate if it is legal and whether or not it is intended.  <i>(see guidance note 7 for details)</i>	<b>If it has a negative impact, is the level of this impact high or low?</b>  <i>(see guidance note 10 for details)</i>
<b>Belief or faith</b>	Yes Many LP policies that allow for / favour provision of new community facilities over competing land uses (including Places of Worship (PoW)) in rural areas (CR18; CR19; CR21; CR24) Others (CR20) that protect existing village community facilities (inc. PoW) Any future PoW requirements to be assessed as part of social infrastructure part of evidence base for new LDF and through public consultation in developing LDF			
<b>Disability</b>	Yes Housing needs assessed in Housing Needs Survey 2008 And Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2008			

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	Existing LP Policy (HS40) allowing for provision of specialist residential accommodation for mentally or physically handicapped occupants (including nursing / residential care / rest homes / sheltered housing)			
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>		Yes It is considered that conventional land use planning policies are neutral in effect because no specific land use or development requirements have arisen from this group of society  Widespread Public Consultations carried out in developing Plans and no specific representations received from groups of differing sexual orientation		

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<b>Gender</b>		Yes All existing (and new policies) developed that cater equally for males and females, with no form of discrimination between them		
<b>Race</b>	Yes Housing needs of BME groups assessed in Housing Needs Survey 2008 And Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2008 Housing needs of gypsies & travellers groups assessed in recent Suffolk G & T's Accommodation Assessment 2006 Existing LP Policy (HS42) allowing for establishment of permanent sites for Gypsies and other Travellers			

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<b>General / All</b>	Census data used to identify demographic structure of Babergh's local communities and their varying characteristics Babergh's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted early on in 2006, as the first step in developing its new LDF. This sets out the Council's commitment towards involving the community in planning, developing planning policy, and to ensure that traditionally 'hard to reach' groups receive particular attention			

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IF ANY AREAS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED WITH LOW LEVEL NEGATIVE IMPACT**

**IS THE IMPACT LIKELY TO CHANGE OVER TIME?**

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**IF YES, HOW WILL THE IMPACT CHANGE?**


**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MINIMISE OR REMOVE ANY *UNINTENDED* NEGATIVE IMPACT?**


**HOW COULD YOU MONITOR THIS WORK?**


**IF YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED ANY AREAS WHERE THE LEVEL OF NEGATIVE IMPACT IS HIGH PLEASE REFER TO YOUR HEAD OF SERVICE PRIOR TO COMPLETING A STAGE TWO ASSESSMENT FORM**



Signed: .....Service Manager undertaking the Assessment.

Date: 16 September 2008.....