



London Borough of Hackney Equality Impact Assessment Form

The Equality Impact Assessment Form is a public document which the Council uses to demonstrate that it has complied with Equalities Duty when making and implementing decisions which affect the way the Council works.

The form collates and summarises information which has been used to inform the planning and decision making process.

All the information needed in this form should have already been considered and should be included in the documentation supporting the decision or initiative, e.g. the delegate powers report, saving template, business case etc.

Equality Impact Assessments are public documents: remember to use at least 12 point Arial font and plain English.

The form must be reviewed and agreed by the relevant Assistant Director, who is responsible for ensuring it is made publicly available and is in line with guidance. Guidance on completing this form is available on the intranet.

<http://staffroom.hackney.gov.uk/equalities-based-planning-and-decision-making>

Title and purpose of this Equality Impact Assessment:

The adoption of Section 4 and 5 of the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2013

Purpose of this Equality Impact Assessment:

To assess equality of the proposal to adopt the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2013
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Officer Responsible: *(to be completed by the report author)*

Name: Joshua Wright	Ext: 8995
Directorate: Streetscene	Department/Division: Heath & Community Services

Assistant Director: Aled Richards
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Date: 25/8/16

Comment : none

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1. Please summarise the service, function, policy, initiative or saving.** Describe the key objectives and outcomes you expect. Make sure you highlight any proposed changes.

<p>Currently a Wayleave Agreement needs to be signed for Council to use external walls to fix lights and signs with private owners. This method can be costly and slow and deter good design should an agreement not be reached. If an agreement cannot be reached it is likely that evidence would need to be prepared and presented at Magistrates Court.</p> <p>The adoption of Section 4 and 5 of the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2013 ('the Act') will enable an ongoing power to install lighting and signage fixings to buildings with the knowledge that it is a feasible and real option that will aid in the reduction of street clutter through design all across the borough.</p>

2. Who are the main people that will be affected? Consider staff, residents, and other external stakeholders.

Private landowners, Council staff, and the general public are affected.

- Adoption of the Act will allow for creative design and streamlined process for Council staff.
- Reduction of street clutter will make areas more accessible.
- Adoption of the Act will see any works requiring Notification rather than agreement. Best efforts will be made to contact land owners and land owners can make material objections during the notification period.

3. What research or consultation(s) have been carried out? Please provide more details, together with a summary of what you learned.

Discussions with Hackney Council's legal team has clarified that the adoption of the Act and the Wayleave Agreement are the two options available to enable fixings for light and signs to be installed on private property. Should a Wayleave Agreement be issued first, Council will not be able to subsequently invoke the powers of the Act should they be adopted.

Way Leave Agreements require a signature, but if the land owner cannot be found or choose not to sign the Agreement, council do not have an power to continue with proposals.

The Act will enable powers while still offering an opportunity to object to any proposals. Should a land owner not respond during the notification period, the Council can continue with proposals identified within the notification.

4. Equality Impacts

This section requires you to set out the positive and negative impacts that this decision or initiative will have on equalities.

Detailed information on how to consider the impacts on equalities is included in 'Guidance on equalities based planning and decision making' which can be downloaded from the intranet [here](#).

4 (a) What positive impact could there be overall, on different equality groups, and on cohesion and good relations?

1. Less street clutter providing greater accessibility.
2. Larger adaptive spaces that could cater for markets, events, parades, etc.
3. Enable greater and more feasible design options.
4. Streamline the ability to deliver good lighting and signage options in all areas.

4 (b) What negative impact could there be overall, on different equality groups, and on cohesion and good relations?

Where you identify potential negative impacts, you must explain how these are justified and/or what actions will be taken to eliminate or mitigate them. These actions should be included in the action plan.

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| <p>5. Could be seen as Council holding more power over landowners. Mitigation will be achieved within the notification by providing contact details should a land owner need to objection and outlining all the benefits of proposals to the local community</p> |
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5. Equality and Cohesion Action Planning

Please list specific actions which set out how you will address equality and cohesion issues identified by this assessment. For example,

- Steps/ actions you will take to enhance positive impacts identified in section 4 (a)
- Steps/ actions you will take to mitigate against the negative impacts identified in section 4 (b)
- Steps/ actions you will take to improve information and evidence about a specific client group, e.g. at a service level and/or at a Council level by informing the policy team (equality.diversity@hackney.gov.uk)

All actions should have been identified already and should be included in any action plan connected to the supporting documentation, such as the delegate powers report, saving template or business case. You need to identify how they will be monitored. The Assistant Director is responsible for their implementation.

No	Objective	Actions	Outcomes highlighting how these will be monitored	Timescales / Milestones	Lead Officer
1	Greater accessibility in public spaces.	Adopt the Act to allow designers to have greater flexibility and confidence that the design can be implemented.	Adoption of the Act and number of Notifications issued.	Lifespan of the Act.	Josh Wright
2	Larger adaptive spaces.	Adopt the Act to allow designers to have greater flexibility and confidence that the design can be implemented.	Adoption of the Act and number of Notifications issued.	Lifespan of the Act.	Josh Wright
3	Enable greater and more feasible design options.	Adopt the Act to allow designers to have greater flexibility and confidence that the design can be implemented.	Note how more public realm schemes use wall mounted options.	Lifespan of the Act.	Josh Wright
4	Streamlined service procedures for installing lighting and signage fixings on private property.	Adopt the Act to allow designers to have greater flexibility and confidence that the design can be implemented.	Time reductions. No court appearances in Magistrates Court.	Lifespan of the Act.	Josh Wright
5	Make landowners rights known to them.	Ensure landowners understand their objection rights.	If received, landowners will provide material objections.	Lifespan of the Act.	Josh Wright

Remember

- Assistant Directors are responsible for ensuring agreed Equality Impact Assessments are published and for ensuring the actions are implemented.
- Equality Impact Assessments are public documents: remember to use at least 12 point Arial font and plain English.
- Make sure that no individuals (staff or residents) can be identified from the data used.