

Equality Impact Assessment



Read and refer to the staff [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) document whilst completing this template.

1. Name of project/policy: Proposed Plan, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Local Development Plan

Lead officer	Stuart Mearns, Head of Rural Development and Planning
Others involved in the assessment	Name : Cathy Bradley, Forward Planning, Planner
Date(s) of assessment	May 2015

2. Description of project/ policy:

Background	The Proposed Plan is being prepared to update the adopted Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Local Plan. This follows the preparation of our Main Issues Report, which included extensive engagement and participation across all community and interest groups.
Purpose and outcomes	The Proposed Plan sets out our strategy for the future use of land and when adopted it will replace our Local Plan as the basis for making decisions on planning applications for the National Park area. The Proposed Plan will be consulted upon for a six week period from 18th May 2015 until 29th June 2015 along with Draft Guidance over 8 topics. All representations received will be reviewed and we will prepare summaries to submit alongside the Plan to Scottish Ministers. Following this an appointed person (known as a Reporter) will undertake a Plan examination to review the changes requested in the representations and make recommendations.
How it links to NPPP/Corporate Plan/ Operational Plan	The Proposed Plan is based on the policy framework of the National Park Partnership Plan 2012-2017 and provides the statutory land use plan to implement the NPPP.

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<p>How we intend to implement the project/policy</p>	<p>The Proposed Plan, following the consultation, with any modifications as a result, will form the Local Development Plan which will provide the policy framework and guidance to implement the aims objectives policies and proposals for the development and use of land, and be the framework for decision making on planning applications.</p>
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3. Who is the project/ policy likely to impact on and how? If there is no significant impact proceed to Q.7

<p>Does the project/ policy have the potential to impact on the equality groups? Please provide a brief description including any evidence.</p>	<p>The Proposed Plan will impact on the wider community ie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local community including Community Councils, local groups, residents including young people. • The private sector including landowners, developers, business interests. • The visitors to the park including hill walkers, cyclists etc. • The stakeholders/key agencies including key government agencies, the local councils etc.
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4. Think about the impact the project/ policy will have on eliminating discrimination, promoting equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. Also consider whether there is potential for discrimination.

<p>Protected characteristic</p>	<p>What do we know about this group in the context of this project/ policy?</p> <p>Evidence and EqIA & http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Equality/Equalities/DataGrid</p>	<p>What is the potential impact (positive, neutral and negative) on people who share the characteristic?</p>	<p>What could we do to reduce any negative impacts, maximise positive impacts?</p> <p>What further evidence should we collect?</p>
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<p>Age</p>	<p>In general the LDP aims to strengthen communities and encourage growth in the housing and employment and tourism sectors to support the economy of the National Park. There should therefore be an overall positive beneficial impact to the community as a whole.</p>	<p>As a group, the young and the elderly suffer the most disadvantage in relation access to affordable housing, employment opportunities and community facilities(particularly in the more remote areas of the NP)</p> <p>The LDP is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to the young or the elderly. The Housing Policies include requirements for affordable homes and also to provide a diverse range of housing.</p> <p>Through public the public consultation process for the Proposed Plan, there will be a number of projects identified which will have a positive impact on this protected characteristic.</p>	<p>Implementation and monitoring of the general aims and objectives of the LDP. Monitoring (and targets in the NPPP) targets for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of affordable house built • Employment creation / business developments • Population and household change by age band • Participation of groups in the plan preparation process – measuring attendance at community engagement events, number of responses to consultation through both social media and written communication. <p>To date the consultation process on the Main Issues Report has involved a wide ranging series of community events and there was a particular emphasis on engagement events with children and young people of</p>
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			school age both primary and secondary.
Disability		<p>People with additional mobility needs may have difficulty access to services and facilities and also in accessing information/ awareness of the Proposed Plan. Printed documents and online versions may not accessible to people who have visual impairments.</p> <p>Printed documents and publicity may not be accessible to people with learning disabilities.</p>	<p>Ensure printed documents are made available in accessible formats when requested.</p> <p>Implementation and monitoring of the general aims and objectives of the LDP. Monitoring (and targets in the NPPP) targets for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the range and type of new housing including barrier free development • Population and household change by age band • Participation of groups in the plan preparation process – measuring attendance at community engagement events, number of responses to consultation through both social media and written

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			<p>communication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced provision of public transport services which include accessibility for all
Gender reassignment		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected groups.	
Race		Written material published may not be accessible / understood by non-English speakers. Negative impact.	Make available translation services for non-English speaking communities resident in the National Park.
Religion or belief		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected groups.	
Sex		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected groups.	
Sexual orientation		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected	

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		groups.	
Pregnancy and maternity		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected groups.	
Marriage/civil partnerships		Neutral Effect. The Proposed Plan is unlikely to have a negative impact or present barriers to protected groups.	

5. Who will be consulted internally or externally on this EQIA?

Internally – EqIA has been reviewed by National Park Staff and the Equalities Group.

Externally – Community and all interests can submit comments during the consultation..

6. What recommended steps should we take to improve the project/policy and monitor its equality impact?

Action	Outcome	Responsibility	Timeline
Provide an equal opportunities monitoring form as standard with key stages in consultation throughout the plan preparation process. Any significant	Reponses would allow measurement of the level of engagement in the plan preparation process and also any impacts that need to be addressed	Forward Planning /	Present to Adoption of the LDP

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<p>impacts identified through the consultation process will be reviewed.</p> <p>Apply social media to engage with the protected groups.</p>		<p>Comms. Team</p>	

7. Sign off:

<p>Assessment signed off by:</p>	<p>Stuart Mearns</p>
<p>Sign off date:</p>	<p>15th May 2015</p>