

Dacorum BC Community Impact Assessment (CIA)

Policy / service / decision

Dacorum Local Plan 2024-2040 Revised Strategy for Growth

Description of what is being impact assessed

What are the aims of the service, proposal, project? What outcomes do you want to achieve? What are the reasons for the proposal or change? Do you need to reference/consider any related projects?

Stakeholders; Who will be affected? Which protected characteristics is it most relevant to? Consider the public, service users, partners, staff, Members, etc

It is advisable to involve at least one colleague in the preparation of the assessment, dependent on likely level of impact

Dacorum Local Plan 2024-2040 Revised Strategy for Growth.

This consultation is being carried out in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. This CIA focusses on the overarching development principles and the public engagement that is essential to this part of the local plan process

The requirement to prepare a Local Plan is set out in Section 13 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended, and Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 requires Local Plans to be reviewed every five years.

Once adopted, the Local Plan will affect anyone who lives in, studies in, works in, visits, or has an interest in Dacorum, such as:

- The community (residents, businesses, voluntary and specialist groups (i.e. residents associations))
- Those who engage in planning matters in Dacorum
- Parish, Town and County Councils (including those surrounding Dacorum)
- Interested developers, landowners and agents
- Statutory consultees and various partners
- Council staff and elected members

The consultation carried out as part of the preparation of the Local plan, in accordance with the council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Local Development Scheme (LDS) and this will involve the community and other organisations and interested parties at different stages of plan preparation.

The Local Plan seeks to promote social inclusion and ensure that all people (including vulnerable groups) have access to the services and opportunities that they may need such as housing, employment, public transport and community facilities (e.g. education, health and local shopping). This will work towards meeting the public sector equality duty as the needs of these individuals are being incorporated into the Local Plan.

Evidence

What data/information have you used to assess how this policy/service/decision might impact on protected groups?

(include relevant national/local data, research, monitoring information, service user feedback, complaints, audits, consultations, CIAs from other projects or other local authorities, etc.). You should include such information in a proportionate manner to reflect the level of impact of the policy/service/decision.

The CIA has been prepared following an iterative process. This involved identifying the likely impacts arising from each draft policy and then considering these impacts as positive, negative or neutral in light of the thrust of the relevant policy. This was set against known facts, information and evidence gathered from the Council's robust evidence base which underpins the Local Plan and which relates specifically to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010.

Recommendations on ways by which the negative impacts could be removed or mitigated and the positive impacts strengthened were then sought. The draft policies affected are then reconsidered and re-examined again in the same iterative process until they emerge with no known negative impacts and became more acceptable.

Who have you consulted with to assess possible impact on protected groups? *If you have not consulted other people, please explain why? You should include such information in a proportionate manner to reflect the level of impact of the policy/service/decision.*

This version of the Plan is informed by the previous consultation stages as outlined below and evidence studies. In terms of the consultation on the Issues and Options consultation in 2017, and the Emerging Strategy for Growth Consultation in 2020, all consultees including organisations and individuals on the Council’s consultation database were emailed directly and notified on the consultation process. The following bodies which represent the interest of the protected groups were e mailed directly:

- 45 Clubs and societies
- 15 Community network groups
- 10 Disability groups
- 11 Ethnic minority groups
- 3 Local strategic partnership groups
- 18 Voluntary organisations

Analysis of impact on protected groups (and others)

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires Dacorum BC to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with protected groups. Consider how this policy/service/decision will achieve these aims. Using the table below, detail what considerations and potential impacts against each of these using the evidence that you have collated and your own understanding. Based on this information, make an assessment of the likely outcome, **before** you have implemented any mitigation.

- *The PCs of Marriage and Civil Partnership and Pregnancy and Maternity should be added if their inclusion is relevant for impact assessment.*
- *Use “insert below” menu layout option to insert extra rows where relevant (e.g. extra rows for different impairments within Disability).*

Summary of impact		Negative impact / outcome	Neutral impact / outcome	Positive impact / outcome
Protected group	<i>What do you know? What do people tell you? Summary of data and feedback about service users and the wider community/ public. Who uses / will use the service? Who doesn't / can't and why? Feedback/complaints?</i>			

<p>Age</p>	<p>The consultation on the revised strategy for growth will be undertaken using a combination of digital and non-digital methods.</p> <p>Participants are required to be above the age of 13 to register on the corporate 'let's talk dacorum' consultation platform, however participants under this age are permitted to register with the consent of a parent or guardian.</p> <p>Although the Revised Strategy is not specifically consulting on draft policies, the consultation is undertaken with the assumption that the draft policies proposed in 2020 are retained (subject to further technical work). The following policies were assessed to have a positive impact on this protected group in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy SP13 Delivering High Quality Design • Policy DM9 Housing for Older people • Policy DM42 crime and security • Policy DM61 education • Policy DM63 Open space • Policy DM64 community facilities 	□	□	☒
<p>Disability (physical, intellectual, mental)</p> <p><i>Refer to CIA Guidance Notes and Mental Illness & Learning Disability Guide</i></p>	<p>The corporate consultation platform 'Let's Talk Dacorum' is compliant with WCAG 2.1 guidelines.</p> <p>Although the Revised Strategy is not specifically consulting on draft policies, the consultation is undertaken with the assumption that the draft policies proposed in 2020 are retained (subject to further technical work). The following policies were assessed to have a positive impact on this protected group in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy DM10 Accessible and adaptable housing 	□	□	☒

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy SP13 Delivering High Quality Design 			
Gender reassignment	The Revised Strategy for Growth is neutral with regards to gender-reassignment or gender identity.	☐	☒	☐
Race and ethnicity	<p>Although the Revised Strategy for Growth is not specifically consulting on draft policies, the consultation is undertaken with the assumption that the draft policies proposed in 2020 are retained (subject to further technical work). The following policies were assessed to have a positive impact on this protected group in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DM13 Existing Accommodation for Travelling Communities DM14 Gypsies and Travellers <p>With the exception of Gypsy & Travellers housing needs, the plan is considered to be neutral in terms of race.</p>	☐	☐	☒
Religion or belief	<p>Although the Revised Strategy for Growth is not specifically consulting on draft policies, the consultation is undertaken with the assumption that the draft policies proposed in 2020 are retained (subject to further technical work). The following policies were assessed to have a positive impact on this protected group in 2020:</p> <p>Policy DM64 community facilities</p>	☐	☐	☒
Sex	The Revised Strategy for Growth is considered to be neutral with regards to biological sex.	☐	☒	☐

Sexual orientation	The Revised Strategy for Growth is considered to be neutral with regards to sexual orientation.	☐	☒	☐
Not protected characteristics but consider other factors, e.g. carers, veterans, homeless, low income, loneliness, rurality etc.	Once adopted, the Local Plan will have a Borough Wide influence on all those who reside or interact with the area. This includes businesses, local services, Parish and Town Councils, councillors, landowners and developers, charities and interest groups.	☐	☐	☒
Negative impacts / outcomes action plan Where you have ascertained that there will potentially be negative impacts / outcomes, you are required to mitigate the impact of these. Please detail below the actions that you intend to take.				
Action taken/to be taken <i>(copy & paste the negative impact / outcome then detail action)</i>	Date	Person responsible	Action complete	
n/a	Select date		☐	
If negative impacts / outcomes remain, please provide an explanation below.				

n/a	
Completed by (all involved in CIA)	Keeley Mitchell (Strategic Planning and Regeneration)
Date	25/09/2023
Signed off by (<i>AD from different Directorate if being presented to CMT / Cabinet</i>)	
Date	
Entered onto CIA database - date	
To be reviewed by (officer name)	Keeley Mitchell
Review date	TBC (CIA will be updated at the next stage of Local Plan preparation, currently proposed to begin in October 2024)