

Dacorum BC Community Impact Assessment (CIA) Template

Policy / service / decision

Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter

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

2Hertfordshire Growth Board has prepared and endorsed a Development Quality Charter to set and achieve a new benchmark for high quality and sustainable development. It is a voluntary agreement that councils, council-owned development companies, developers, landowners and others will sign in order to improve the quality of their developments.

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 built environment is responsible for about 25% of greenhouse gas emissions. This means that improving the construction, heating, cooling and powering of homes and buildings is one of the best things that can be done to tackle climate change. It is also recognised that people are more supportive of development if it is well designed, uses high quality materials and fits into its surroundings.

This is a voluntary pledge for developers to make in order to improve quality of their development. This will improve quality of new residents/users and wider community in terms of the public realm and how new developments fit into existing communities.

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.*

The Hertfordshire Development Quality Charter was launched at the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Developer Board (HIBD) meeting in September 2023. This is attended by all Hertfordshire councils and a large number of developers and landowners operating in the county.

The charter would have a positive impact on any protected groups occupying a building built to higher environmental standards. They may see positive benefits such as reduced bills reduced need for retrofitting and a more comfortable living environment, for example limiting impacts of solar gain.

There is a risk that a development may cost more to provide this quality, but early evidence shows any extra cost is likely to be absorbed as part of the development and the improve quality of the development would outweigh this cost. However, each application in the future will have the opportunity to consider this on a scheme basis and balance any increased costs associated with meeting the charter against the quality of the scheme. Therefore, ensuring no protected groups would be detrimentally affected.

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>			
Age	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to age	□	⊗	□
Disability (physical, intellectual, mental) <i>Refer to CIA Guidance Notes and Mental Illness & Learning Disability Guide</i>	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to disability	□	⊗	□
Gender reassignment	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to gender-reassignment or other gender identity.	□	⊗	□

Race and ethnicity	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to race and ethnicity.	□	⊗	□
Religion or belief	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to religion or belief.	□	⊗	□
Sex	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to sex.	□	⊗	□
Sexual orientation	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral with regards to sexual orientation.	□	⊗	□
Not protected characteristics but consider other factors, e.g. carers, care leavers, veterans, homeless, low income, loneliness, rurality etc.	The Hertfordshire Development Quality Review Charter is neutral in relation to these factors	□	⊗	□

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

(copy & paste the negative impact / outcome then detail action)

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)

Sara Whelan, Assistant Director – Planning

Date

5 July 2024

Signed off by

David Barrett, Assistant Director – Strategic Housing & Delivery

Date

5th July 2024

Entered onto CIA database - date	
To be reviewed by (officer name)	
Review date	