

Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of proposals and consider mitigating action.

Name or Brief Description of Proposal	Land Quality Strategy 2018-2023
Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)	
The Council has a statutory responsibility to continually inspect its area for land contamination and document how it intends to undertake that process in an ‘Inspection Strategy’. Where significant contamination is identified the land must be remediated to prevent further harm. SCC’s Land Quality Strategy 2018-2023 has been published to demonstrate how it will deliver its duties under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (Part IIA) in the absence of central government funding. As well as fulfilling the responsibility to provide an “Inspection Strategy” it also details the Council’s wider role in managing and maintaining confidence in the quality of land in the City.	
Summary of Impact and Issues	
The proposed land quality strategy aims to achieve statutory compliance by inspecting the land in its area and where appropriate ensure land is suitable for its current use. This means that residents will be less likely to be exposed to potentially harmful contaminants in, on or underground and will therefore see health in those areas affected by land contamination.	
Potential Positive Impacts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve confidence in the city’s land quality. • Reduce the potential for land contamination to negatively impact human health and the wider environment. • Ensure the council achieves full legal compliance with Part IIA. 	
Responsible Service Manager	Steve Guppy
Date	11/06/2018
Approved by	Mitch Sanders, Service Director – Transaction and

Senior Manager	Universal Services
Date	

Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Age	Children aged 0-6 are considered those most at risk to the effects of land contamination. Implementation of the strategy will reduce the potential for children to be exposed to potentially harmful land.	N/A – positive impact
Disability	No impact	
Gender Reassignment	No impact	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No impact	
Pregnancy and Maternity	Pregnant mothers and unborn children are sensitive to the effects of land contamination. Implementation of the strategy will reduce the potential for pregnant mothers to be exposed to potentially harmful land and therefore reducing the potential for birth defects.	N/A – positive impact
Race	22.3% of the Southampton population are non-White British, including 14% which are residents from Black or Minority Ethnic backgrounds. Citywide improvements in land quality will also mean all ethnic groups across the city will experience positive health benefits.	N/A – positive impact
Religion or Belief	No impact	
Sex	No impact	
Sexual Orientation	No impact	
Community	No impact	

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Safety		
Poverty	By determining land as 'contaminated land' the appropriate person will be required to fund remediation. Remediation costs could be significant depending on the level and type of contamination.	We will only look to recover the cost of remediation where doing so will not cause undue hardship
Health & Wellbeing	Health impacts associated age and pregnancy and maternity are previously discussed.	
	<p>Wellbeing Determining land as contaminated land could increase stress levels to those who are either responsible for the remediation of the land and/or the owner/occupiers due to the financial implications and potential for property blight.</p>	<p>Wellbeing A communication strategy will ensure that accurate and clearly reported across all relevant groups.</p> <p>Costs will only be recovered where appropriate, Where there is evidence that cost recovery would cause undue hardship, the council will consider each matter on a case by case basis.</p>
Other Significant Impacts		