

# **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

It is proposed that the existing Clean Air Strategy for Southampton 2016-2025 is updated to reflect the latest progress in air quality for Southampton. The Strategy will outline the council's vision and priorities for improving air quality in the city up to 2025.

## **Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)**

The strategy provides a high level overview of the key actions and measures the council will look to implement in order to reduce emissions, improve local air quality and achieve sustained improvements in the health of the population of Southampton.

#### **Summary of Impact and Issues**

Air quality is a national public health priority. Of all environmental factors, it has the largest impact on health in the UK. The latest estimates suggest that air pollution (particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide) is an effect equivalent to 28,000 to 36,000 deaths in 2013\*. Air pollution has health effects across the course of a person's life; from the underdevelopment of the unborn baby through to dementia in the later years of life. The strongest evidence of health impact is worsening symptoms of respiratory diseases including asthma, COPD and cardio-vascular disease.

Currently, nitrogen dioxide and particulates are the pollutants causing the largest health impacts in the UK. These pollutants are mostly associated with road transport. The public health outcome framework indicator for air pollution Associations of long term nitrogen dioxide concentrations with mortality (COMEAP 2018) is mortality attributable to particulate matter. For Southampton, this equates to https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment data/file/over\_0\_100\_deaths, per year caused by long term exposure to particulate air

pollution.

Poor air quality is known to have more sever effects on vulnerable groups including the elderly, children and people already suffering from existing conditions such as respiratory and cardiovascular conditions<sup>†</sup>.

## **Potential Positive Impacts**

Southampton is typically an urban environment with concentrations above the ambient background concentration of NO<sub>2</sub> and particulates. By updating and continuing to implement the Clean Air Strategy for Southampton which promotes active, healthy and sustainable means of travel and aims to reduce concentrations of pollutants, health benefits will be achieved.

Responsible	Steve Guppy
Service Manager	
Date	28/02/2019
Approved by	
Senior Manager	
Date	

## **Potential Impact**

Impact	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions &
Assessment		Mitigating Actions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> World Health Organization, 'Review of evidence on health aspects of air pollution – REVIHAAP Project', 2013 <a href="http://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0004/193108/REVIHAAP-Final-technical-report-final-version.pdf?ua=1">http://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0004/193108/REVIHAAP-Final-technical-report-final-version.pdf?ua=1</a>

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Age	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Disability	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Gender	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Reassignment	-	
Marriage and	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Civil	-	
Partnership		
Pregnancy	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
and Maternity		
Race	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Religion or	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Belief		
Sex	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Sexual	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Orientation		
Community	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Safety		
Poverty	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Health &	Benefits for health and wellbeing	N/A
Wellbeing	will be achieved by updating and	
	continuing to implement the	
	Clean Air Strategy for	
	Southampton.	
Other	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Significant		
Impacts		