

Your reference number is EQIA239935605.

Thank you for submitting Equality Impact Analysis (EqIA)

**Service area/Team conducting EqIA:** Planning Services

**Officer conducting the EqIA::** Ian Johns

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**Responsible Cabinet Member::** Cllr David Ritchie

**Title of project / policy / Initiative or Action relating to this EqIA::** Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Review.

**Brief description of what the project / policy / initiative or action aims to achieve::** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan which covers the period 2018-2036, sets out the level of growth to be planned for and identifies where that growth should be located and how it should be delivered, in the former Suffolk Coastal area.

**Date of EqIA::** 19/08/2020

**Age:** Positive

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan includes policies for the provision of housing and facilities for different age groups. It also provides guidance about the provision of new accommodation for elderly people. Therefore, the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan is considered to have a positive effect upon people of different age groups.

**Disability:** Positive

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan includes policies which would support those with a disability. Design policies look to create dementia friendly environments. Therefore, the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan is considered to have a positive effect upon those with a disability.

**Gender reassignment:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**Marriage and civil partnership:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**Pregnancy and maternity:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**Race:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**Religion or belief:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against those of different religious beliefs.

**Sex:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development,

where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**Sexual orientation:** No impact

**Reason for your decision:** The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan contains planning policies relating to development, where it should be located and how it should be delivered. It will therefore not discriminate against this group.

**What evidence or data has been collated or used to support the completion of this Equality Impact**

**Analysis?:** Public consultations and engagement (stating any specific groups you engaged with or surveys referred to), Engagement with other internal teams/ departments, Information from statutory partner organisations

**Please give details for Public Consultations:** The Local Plan has been subject to public consultation at the Issues and Options stage, the First Draft Local Plan and the Final Draft Local Plan. Documents were made available online and in Council offices and public libraries. These were accompanied by public meetings and drop-in sessions. Every public consultation included a mailout to those on the consultation database including statutory organisations, members of the public and organisations representing different community groups, including those who were disabled, informing them of the consultation and how to participate. An Equalities Impact Screening Assessment was undertaken as part of the preparation of the Local Plan, this was initially published alongside the consultation on the First Draft Local Plan and was subsequently reviewed and published alongside the publication of the Final Draft Local Plan.

During the Examination of the Local Plan, consultation was undertaken on proposed Main Modifications. The Main Modifications were considered in relation to the Equalities Impact Assessment and an Equalities Impact Assessment was also published as part of this consultation.

The Main Modifications consultation took place during the Covid-19 pandemic, which resulted in the closure of Council offices and libraries. This would have meant that members of the public could not view the documents in hard copy in those locations, which could disadvantage some groups. Informed by an Equalities Impact Assessment, to ensure fair and equal access to Local Plan documents the Main Modifications consultation was extended to 10 weeks and the Council provided hard copies of consultation documents in the post free of charge on request to those who were unable to access the documents online.

**Please give details for Engagement:** Colleagues working within other teams were also consulted throughout the preparation of the Local Plan.

**Please give details for Information from Statutory partner:** All statutory consultees, including but not limited to Suffolk County Council, NHS England, the Clinical Commission Groups and parish and town councils within and bordering the former Suffolk Coastal area have been consulted throughout the production of the Plan.

**Do you require any information or outcome relating to the policy, project, initiative or action to be presented to the public in a different language or form and how do you propose to do this?:** The adopted document will be published on the Council's website as well as in hard copy. Whilst Council offices and the libraries are not open for viewing documents in the usual way due to Covid-19, hard copies will be offered by post free of charge, on request, for those who are unable to view them online. Should the document be requested in another language the customer services team will be involved with ensuring this request is actioned.

**As a result of completing this EqIA, has the Author, Service Team, Project Manager etc. made any changes or adjustments to the Policy / Project / Initiative or Action?:** No

**Is the policy, project, initiative or action subject to equality monitoring?:** No