

Equality Impact Assessment / Equality Analysis

(updated May 2021)

Title of service or policy	Bath Christmas Market 2021
Name of directorate and service	Weddings and Events
Name and role of officers completing the EIA	Mick Heath: Event Operations Manager
Date of assessment	03.06.2021

Equality Impact Assessment (or ‘Equality Analysis’) is a process of systematically analysing a new or existing policy or service to identify what impact or likely impact it will have on different groups within the community. The main aim is to identify any discriminatory or negative consequences for a particular group or sector of the community, and also to identify areas where equality can be better promoted. Equality impact Assessments (EIAs) can be carried out in relation to services provided to customers and residents as well as employment policies/strategies that relate to staffing matters.

This toolkit has been developed to use as a framework when carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) or Equality Analysis. **Not all sections will be relevant – so leave blank any that are not applicable.** It is intended that this is used as a working document throughout the process, and a final version will be published on the Council’s website.

1. Identify the aims of the policy or service and how it is implemented.		
	Key questions	Answers / Notes
1.1	Briefly describe purpose of the service/policy e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How the service/policy is delivered and by whom ● If responsibility for its implementation is shared with other departments or organisations ● Intended outcomes 	<p>The Bath Christmas market is an annual open access free public event held in the city of Bath between Mid-November and Mid-December. It is planned and delivered primarily by the Event Operations Team.</p> <p>It is a council run event that normally requires full planning permission and is scrutinised as part of the Safety Advisory Group for Events process.</p> <p>The event provides an uplift to the tourism, accommodation, and retail sectors.</p>
1.2	Provide brief details of the scope of the policy or service being reviewed, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is it a new service/policy or review of an existing one? ● Is it a national requirement?). ● How much room for review is there? 	<p>The event has been operating for 20 years although this is the first year of operation through Bath and North East Somerset Council. In previous years the event was planned and delivered by Visit Bath Ltd, the Destination Management Organisation for Bath.</p> <p>It is not a public service or national requirement.</p> <p>The event is reviewed annually, and a visitor survey is carried out both online and face to face, reports and findings are shared and reviewed with any recommendations taken forward for consideration.</p>
1.3	Do the aims of this policy link to or conflict with any other policies of the Council?	<p>The event does not directly conflict with other council policy although its sustainability policy will be reviewed to reflect some additional messaging</p>

around sustainable transport and temporary generation of power.

2. Consideration of available data, research and information

Monitoring data and other information should be used to help you analyse whether you are delivering a fair and equal service. Please consider the availability of the following as potential sources:

- **Demographic** data and other statistics, including census findings
- Recent **research** findings (local and national)
- Results from **consultation or engagement** you have undertaken
- Service user **monitoring data** (including ethnicity, sex, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation and age)
- Information from **relevant groups** or agencies, for example trade unions and voluntary/community organisations
- Analysis of records of enquiries about your service, or **complaints** or **compliments** about them
- Recommendations of **external inspections** or audit reports

	Key questions	Data, research and information that you can refer to
2.1	What equalities training have staff received to enable them to understand the needs of our diverse community?	Security and stewards are briefed by a supervisor before every event with regards to their public facing roles and how to assist visitors when asked or real time situations arise.
2.2	What is the equalities profile of service users?	Mixed
2.4	Are there any recent customer satisfaction surveys to refer to? What were the results? Are there any gaps? Or differences in experience/outcomes?	Yes, a visitor survey is carried out both online and face to face, reports and findings are shared and reviewed with any recommendations taken forward for consideration. The visitor satisfaction levels with their whole Bath Christmas Market experience, on the whole, increased across the board compared with the 2018 market. The highest average scores were for the quality of the stalls (4.50), overall atmosphere (4.46), the site decoration, lighting etc. (4.42)

		along with the range of stalls (4.40) as was also the case during previous years. 7 of the 11 indicators explored by the survey received an average score of 4.21 or more. Just 4 indicators received an average score of less than 4.00: the number of new traders (3.70), the visitor information available on site (3.71), the ease of finding your way around/signage (3.96) and the ease of getting around the site/accessing the stalls (3.97)	
2.5	What engagement or consultation has been undertaken as part of this EIA and with whom? What were the results?	No engagement to date as new service.	
2.6	If you are planning to undertake any consultation in the future regarding this service or policy, how will you include equalities considerations within this?	Yes. Ongoing annual review with council departments (Corporate Equalities)	
3. Assessment of impact: 'Equality analysis'			
	Based upon any data you have considered, or the results of consultation or research, use the spaces below to demonstrate you have analysed how the service or policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets any particular needs of equalities groups or could help promote equality in some way. • Could have a negative or adverse impact for any of the equality's groups 		
		Examples of what the service has done to promote equality	Examples of actual or potential negative or adverse impact and what steps have been or could be taken to address this
3.1	Issues relating to all groups and protected characteristics	Physical changes to the event site and infrastructure have been carried out to give access to all members of the public. This includes operating a clear kerb policy and additional temporary kerbs built to enable wheelchair access to all areas. Some Chalets have been modernised with lower counters for	

		<p>wheelchair users. There is an ongoing maintenance programme to reduce the heights of all chalet counters within the next three years and to introduce open style chalets that can be accessed from all sides.</p> <p>Public information around visiting the market is on the Bath Christmas Market website. Key messaging is around the best times to visit to avoid busy periods.</p> <p>The website gives information about planning your journey and advises on travel and transport to and from the city.</p> <p>Assessable parking facilities will be highlighted and included in the market map that can be downloaded for free.</p>	
3.2	Sex – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on women and men.	The event is open and free to all members of the public both male and female.	
3.3	Pregnancy and maternity	<p>The event is open and free to all members of the public. Additional seating has been introduced for those requiring rest and recuperation. Baby changing facilities are included in both male and female temporary WC public units.</p> <p>Physical changes to the event site have been carried out. This includes operating a clear dropped kerb policy and adding additional temporary sloped kerbs to</p>	

		enable better access for pushchairs and prams.	
3.4	Gender reassignment – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on transgender people	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	
3.5	Disability – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on disabled people (ensure consideration both physical, sensory and mental impairments and mental health)	<p>Physical changes to the event site have been carried out to give access to all members of the public. This includes operating a clear dropped kerb policy and additional temporary kerbs built to enable wheelchair access to all areas. Some Chalets have been modernised with lower counters for wheelchair users. Many of the chalets are of a barn door style and can be accessed by both wheelchair users and people with limited mobility.</p> <p>Accessible toilet units are located in two locations within the event footprint.</p> <p>Additional stewards are on hand to assist members of the public who may have reduced mobility or physical, sensory and mental impairments. The 'Mobility Helpers' will be on call to help, guide and assist anyone in need during the events operational period.</p> <p>Additional provision for accessible parking is created nearby to the event in Quiet Street, Terrace Walk and</p>	

		<p>Broad Street-car park. Where possible accessible parking is maintained in the city centre.</p> <p>Additional security is placed at the walkway between Milson Street and Broad Street car park to ensure that those people using the assessable car parking spaces can access the car park after the normal closing times of the walkway.</p>	
3.6	<p>Age – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on different age groups</p>	<p>The event is open and free to all members of the public. Midweek visits are promoted to those who may wish to visit during less busy periods.</p> <p>The nature of the event gives rise to the possibility of a number of young people on the site; thus a policy for dealing with lost children and other vulnerable persons will be established and communicated to all members of staff:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any steward or member of staff finding (or being presented with) a lost person or child should immediately contact Event Control (07981 136 612) and pass a description of the person, their name, location and any other relevant information. If a member of production staff makes initial contact, then Event Control shall send a steward to the location. 2. Event Control shall alert the police, all 	

		<p>stewards and site personnel that a child has been found – in case the parents/guardians present themselves to another member of staff. Recommended timescale 30 minutes prior to contacting police but each case to be assessed on an individual basis according to vulnerability.</p> <p>3. The steward should remain with the child at the initial location for no less than 10 minutes. In all likelihood the child will be reunited with their family/carers within this time. Removing the child too quickly can easily escalate an otherwise minor event.</p> <p>4. If the child has not been reunited after 10 minutes, Event Control will delegate a DBS checked member of staff to collect the lost child/person who shall then be taken to the Event Control Room. Depending on circumstances a second DBS checked steward may be asked to assist.</p> <p>5. All details of any reported lost child/vulnerable person will be logged.</p> <p>6. Any public announcements will avoid using children's names. Instead a request will be made for named parents or "anyone who is missing a member of their party to visit Event Control Room.</p> <p>If a member of the public reports that they have lost a member of their family or group, this information should be immediately conveyed to Event Control. Information that should be gleaned includes name, age, what</p>	
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		<p>wearing, height, hair colour, last seen and mobile phone number of parents.</p> <p>Event Control will issue a general alert to all stewards and staff to monitor the crowd for the child. Particular attention should be paid to the main entry points (alongside the Abbey and Roman Baths – Main Square, York Street [Bog Island and Stall Street end], Abbey Gate Street) to ensure that no unaccompanied minors leave the site.</p> <p>Any child or vulnerable persons still in the facility at the end of the event shall be passed to Avon and Somerset Police</p> <p>A 'Text All' service is operated during the event operational phase; this enables the event team to contact and relay messages to all of the stallholders and caterers at the same time with one text message. This gives us the ability to increase the level of surveillance and call for assistance in the event of an incident involving a lost child or vulnerable adult.</p>	
		Examples of what the service has done to promote equality	Examples of actual or potential negative or adverse impact and what steps have been or could be taken to address this
3.7	Race – identify the impact/potential impact on across different ethnic groups	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	

3.8	Sexual orientation – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual people	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	
3.9	Marriage and civil partnership – does the policy/strategy treat married and civil partnered people equally?	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	
3.10	Religion/belief – identify the impact/potential impact of the policy on people of different religious/faith groups and also upon those with no religion.	The Bath Christmas market is open to all people of all religions and faith groups. A service of thanksgiving is held in Bath Abbey on the first Wednesday of the market and welcomes people of all faiths to participate.	
3.11	Socio-economically disadvantaged* – identify the impact on people who are disadvantaged due to factors like family background, educational attainment, neighbourhood, employment status can influence life chances (this is not a legal requirement, but is a local priority).	The security teams are briefed to work closely and respectfully with groups of vulnerable people such as rough sleepers and to forge good relationships with those who earn a living through a supported work scheme such as the Big Issue vendors. The objective is not always to displace but assist and respond to those in need.	
3.12	Rural communities* identify the impact / potential impact on people living in rural communities	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	
3.13	Armed Forces Community ** serving members; reservists;	The event is open and free to all members of the public.	

<p>veterans and their families, including the bereaved. Public services will soon be required by law to pay due regard to the Armed Forces Community when developing policy, procedures and making decisions, particularly in the areas of public housing, education and healthcare (to remove disadvantage and consider special provision).</p>		
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*There is no requirement within the public sector duty of the Equality Act to consider groups who may be disadvantaged due to socio economic status, or because of living in a rural area. However, these are significant issues within B&NES and have therefore been included here.

** The Equality Act does not cover armed forces community. However, when the Armed Forces Bill becomes law there will be a requirement to pay 'due regard' to make sure the Armed Forces Community are not disadvantaged when accessing public services.

4. Bath and North East Somerset Council & NHS B&NES Equality Impact Assessment Improvement Plan

Please list actions that you plan to take as a result of this assessment/analysis. These actions should be based upon the analysis of data and engagement, any gaps in the data you have identified, and any steps you will be taking to address any negative impacts or remove barriers. The actions need to be built into your service planning framework. Actions/targets should be measurable, achievable, realistic and time framed.

Issues identified	Actions required	Progress milestones	Officer responsible	By when

5. Sign off and publishing

Once you have completed this form, it needs to be ‘approved’ by your Divisional Director or their nominated officer. Following this sign off, send a copy to the Equalities Team (equality@bathnes.gov.uk), who will publish it on the Council’s and/or NHS B&NES’ website. Keep a copy for your own records.

Signed off by:

(Divisional Director or nominated senior officer)

Date: