

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Before completing this EqIA please ensure you have read the EqIA Guidance Notes

Title	Somerley Household Recycling Centre		
Date assessment started:	29 May 2019	Version No:	3
		Date of completion:	6 June 2019

Type of Strategy, Policy, Project or Service:

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing, update or revision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New or proposed:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain):	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Internal:	<input type="checkbox"/>	External:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Both:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Report Created By:

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Job Title:	Group Manager (Commissioning)
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Members of the assessment team:	Anna Beach, Ian Manley

Step 1: Aims

What are the aims of your strategy, policy, project or service?
<p>Create a policy of cross border Household Recycling Centre (HRC) usage with neighbouring authorities – there is an option whereby Dorset Council pays Hampshire to maintain free access to Somerley HRC for Dorset residents. A paper is to be presented to Dorset Council Place Scrutiny on 10 July 2019 https://moderngov.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=158&MIId=269 and Cabinet on 30 July 2019 https://moderngov.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=158&MIId=269</p>
What is the background or context to the proposal?
<p>Somerley HRC is provided by Hampshire County Council. It is close to the Dorset border and convenient for the residents from Verwood, West Moors, Ashley Heath, Alderholt and surrounding areas. An onsite survey carried out by Hampshire suggest that 59% of users come from Dorset. Hampshire have indicated that they will charge non-residents to use the site from April 2020. Dorset already pays Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council for Dorset residents to use their HRC at Nuffield.</p> <p>Dorset provide and alternative HRC at Wimborne – summer hours are the same as Somerley but winter hours are reduced. Wimborne HRC is however already oversubscribed with congestion and lengthy queues at peak times and when the site</p>

closes for the exchange of skips. In addition Wimborne HRC is single level which requires residents to climb gantry steps, though the contractor is instructed to give reasonable assistance.

Step 2: Intelligence and Communication

What data, information, evidence and research was used in this EqIA and how has it been used to inform the decision-making process?

During February and March 2019 we undertook a public survey to inform usage of Somerley HRC and residents' attitudes to the proposed charging. A total of 1586 responses were received. It is believed that this provides an adequate representation by sex - though a slightly higher percentage of those responding were female (55%) than the population of east Dorset (52%)

Under-representation of residents below the age of 18 years – survey results 0.1% under 18 but otherwise reflects the remaining population (63.3% age from 18 to 64, 33% from 65 to 84, 1.6% are 85+, 2% prefer not to say)

This compares to profile for the area:

All Males	42,980	48.1%
All Females	46,400	51.9%
0-15 yrs	13,760	15.4%
16-64 yrs	47,660	53.3%
65+ yrs	27,970	31.3%

(source East Dorset Area Profile:

<https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/AreaProfiles/PreUnitaryAuthority/east-dorset>)

What data do you already have about your service users, or the people your proposal will have an impact on?

User survey undertaken 2019 includes user profile. Of those responding 137 (8.2%) declare a disability which includes physical disability, long term health and mental health condition.

What engagement or consultation has taken place as part of this EqIA?

User survey undertaken 2019

Is further information needed to help inform this proposal?

none

How will the outcome of consultation be fed back to those who you consulted with?

Results of policy change and mitigations will be communicated to residents via social media, newsletters, libraries and via town and parish councils, through a media strategy devised by our communication officer

Step 3: Assessment

Who does the service, strategy, policy, project or change impact?

- If your strategy, policy, project or service contains options you may wish to consider providing an assessment for each option. Please cut and paste the template accordingly.

For each protected characteristic please choose from the following options:

- Please note in some cases more than one impact may apply – in this case please state all relevant options and explain in the ‘Please provide details’ box.

Positive Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups • Significant positive impact on a small proportion of protect characteristics group
Negative Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disproportionate impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups • Significant disproportionate impact on a small proportion of protected characteristic groups.
Neutral Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change/ no assessed significant impact of protected characteristic groups
Unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough data/evidence has been collected to make an informed decision.

Age:	Unclear
What age bracket does this affect?	+17 (driver age plus)
Please provide details:	<p>The vast majority of visitors will use a car to access Somerley HRC as it impractical to deliver waste to the site any other way. Car access will also be required to access an alternative HRC. Impact to non-drivers and those too young to drive will be the same though travel distance will be further.</p> <p>While elderly members of the community may have less mobility and experience more difficulty accessing a HRC further away or using steps at an alternative facility this is identified in the disability section below.</p>

Disability:	<i>Negative impact</i>
Does this affect a specific disability group?	Physical, long term illness, mental health conditions
Please provide details:	<p>Somerley HRC is split level so residents do not have to climb steps to access bins. Alternative HRC at Wimborne has steps to access bins but contractor has to give all reasonable assistance. However, this may not be sufficient for those with conditions that limit their ability to manage change or be away from facilities for a certain length of time, particularly in light of the increased congestion that would be caused at an already congested site.</p> <p>Those with disabilities that result in greater requirement to use an HRC but that do not wish to have increased bin capacity at the kerbside could also be adversely impacted.</p>

Gender Reassignment & Gender Identity:	Neutral Impact
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Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Pregnancy and maternity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Race and Ethnicity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Religion or belief:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Sexual orientation:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Sex:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Marriage or civil partnership:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Carers:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Rural isolation:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Residents in rural areas may need to travel further to access an alternative HRC but closest areas affected are populated areas on the Hampshire border
Single parent families:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	No identifiable impact on this characteristic.
Poverty (social & economic deprivation):	Negative Impact
Please provide details:	Hampshire may charge residents direct to use HRC, adversely affecting those on lower incomes. Alternative Dorset HRC further distance causing increase costs of travel.
Military families/veterans:	Neutral Impact

Please provide details:

No identifiable impact on this characteristic.

Step 4: Acton Plan

Provide actions for **positive**, **negative** and **unclear** impacts.

If you have identified any **negative** or **unclear** impacts, describe what adjustments will be made to remove or reduce the impacts, or if this is not possible provide justification for continuing with the proposal.

Issue	Action	Person(s) responsible	Deadline	How will it be monitored?
Poverty	The option for Dorset Council to pay for Dorset residents to continue to use Somerley HRC will be considered by the Council's Cabinet in July 2019	Jason Jones	July 2019	Decision by Cabinet
Disability	Consider additional staff at alternative HRC to assist with steps	Jason Jones	April 2021	Monitor any complaints, issues experienced / reported by users with protected characteristics over 12 months from implementation
Disability	Investigate additional operating hours for alternative sites to reduce congestion and enable assistance	Ian Manley	April 2021	Monitor any complaints, issues experienced / reported by users with protected characteristics over 12 months from implementation
Disability	Produce business case for replacement HRC in the area, split level site with capacity to avoid congestion and queuing	Jason Jones	April 2021	Monitor any complaints, issues experienced / reported by users with protected characteristics over 12 months from implementation

Step 5: EqIA Sign Off

Officer completing this EqIA:	Jason Jones	Date:	2 July 2019
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Equality Lead:	Susan Ward-Rice	Date:	25/07/19
Relevant Focus Groups*:	Pete Bartlett	Date:	22/07/19
Directorate Board Chair:		Date:	

* To include Diversity Action Groups

Please send this completed EqIA to Equality Leads:

Equality Leads:

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