

**Arne Neighbourhood Plan**  
**Equality Impact Assessment**  
(Pre-submission Consultation)

**June 2018**

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# Arne Neighbourhood Plan Policy Impacts – Equality Impact Assessment

## What is the title of the strategy, policy, service or review

1. **Arne Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) pre-submission publication draft version**
2. **Which officers are involved in the EqlA?** Steve Boyt, Planning Policy Officer
3. **Date of assessment** March 2019
4. **What are you impact assessing?** Policies in the ANP pre-submission draft version.
5. **Existing/new/ changing/revision** New
6. **Other (additional information)** None

## What are the aims and objectives of the plan and which Corporate priorities are they designed to meet?

### Relevant corporate priorities

7. All of the Purbeck District Council corporate priorities and targets for 2016 – 2021 are relevant to the ANP:
  - Protecting and enhancing the local environment
  - Meeting the housing needs of local people
  - Improving the local economy and infrastructure
  - Enhancing local communities and involvement
  - Being an efficient and effective council

### Vision and objectives of the plan

8. The ANP sets out what the people of neighbourhood plan area wish their parish to be like in the years to 2018 and beyond. The ANP vision provides a summary of the aspirations for the village:

“Arne Parish has a unique natural environment formed by past cultural, economic, social, industrial and agricultural practices. While recognising and protecting its heritage, we seek to ensure the long term sustainability and viability of the parish

through environmental and economic measures that will develop the community and its charm, so that all its residents, young or old, will continue to live in a community where they feel safe, cared for and happy.”.

9. The ARNP sets out a number of key land use policies in order to achieve the vision:
- Delivering a mix of different types of homes to meet community need – Policy 1: House Types;
  - Ensuring development responds to local context – Policy 2: Local Character;
  - Encouraging sustainable design – Policy 3: Sustainable Design;
  - Supporting small numbers of new homes in appropriate locations – Policy 4: Small Sites;
  - Supporting appropriate windfall development – Policy 5: Infill Development;
  - Supporting new homes for the elderly in appropriate locations – Policy 6: Sheltered Housing;
  - Managing ecological sites – Policy 7: Management of Ecological Sites;
  - Supporting the local primary school – Policy 8: Stoborough Primary School;
  - Retaining community facilities – Policy 9: Community Facilities;
  - Retaining and developing new pedestrian routes – Policy 10: Key Pedestrian Routes;
  - Encouraging tourism related development at suitable locations – Policy 11: Tourism; and
  - Identifying and retaining local green spaces – Policy 12: Local Green Spaces.

### **Who will the ANP have an impact on e.g. public, visitors, staff, members, and partners?**

10. The main impact of the pre-referendum ANP will be on:
- Residents in the neighbourhood plan area;
  - Service users in the neighbourhood plan area; and
  - Businesses operating in the neighbourhood plan area.

### **Are there any potential barriers to implementing changes to the plan, e.g. capacity or financial issues?**

11. None are anticipated.

### **Who will be involved in implementing the plan?**

12. The plan has been prepared by the ANP Steering Group, working closely with officers at Purbeck District Council and other key organisations (including Natural England).
13. Officers have provided the ANP Steering Group with advice on plan content, communication style and the format of the plan which is written in plain English, jargon free and supplemented with appropriate images.

## What data do you already have, broken down by equality strands, about your service users or the people your plan will have an impact on?

### Population

14. The population of Arne Neighbourhood Plan Area is around 1,322<sup>1</sup>.

### Age profiles

15. Almost 36% of the population are aged 65 and over, which is higher than the Dorset average of 28.3%<sup>1</sup>.
16. 12.9%<sup>1</sup> of people in Bere Regis are 16 years and under compared to the Dorset average of 15.9%<sup>1</sup>.

### Ethnic groups

17. 98.6%<sup>1</sup> of the neighbourhood plan areas population are White British with 1.4%<sup>1</sup> from Black and minority ethnic groups. Comparable data for Dorset is 95.5%<sup>2</sup> and 4.5%<sup>2</sup>.

### Socio-economic classifications

18. 0.7% of the Purbeck population claim housing/council tax benefit<sup>2</sup> (data only available at District level).

### Access

19. 8.1%<sup>1</sup> of households in the neighbourhood plan area do not own a car or van compared to 15.5%<sup>1</sup> across Dorset.

### Type of housing

20. 80.9% of homes in the neighbourhood plan area are owner occupied, 6.6% are social rented and 11.4% are private rented<sup>1</sup>.

### Economic activity

21. Almost 16% of the population is retired<sup>2</sup>.

## Why undertake an EqIA?

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<sup>1</sup> Area Profile for Arne: <https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/AreaProfiles/Parish/arne>

<sup>2</sup> Dorset Statistics: <https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/AreaProfiles/District/dorset>

22. Purbeck District Council is required to undertake EqIA of its policies, plans and strategies to ensure that they do not discriminate against any group or individual in the community. The duty to undertake EqIA arises from the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000. Following the referendum of the LMNP, Purbeck District Council will formally 'make' or adopt the plan as part of the Council's Local Development Plan. As such, the policies within the LMNP must be subject to an EQIA.
23. Previous EqIAs undertaken in Purbeck have included a range of equalities issues as required by law. To incorporate EqIAs into the plan-making process, we also need to take into account some of the wider issues of social inequalities, in particular rural isolation and related deprivation, for example fuel poverty. Therefore the following nine equality areas are used in a matrix to determine whether the LMNP policies have potential implications in relation to: age (**Ag**), disability (**D**), ethnicity (**E**), faith or belief (**F**), gender (**G**), gender reassignment (**GR**), sexual orientation (**SO**), social inequalities (**SI**), rural isolation (**RI**). The matrix identifies where the policies are compatible, have potential conflict or likely conflict with the equality areas.

### Which BRNP policies are subject to the EqIA?

24. The following policies from the pre-submission draft ANP are subject to the EqIA:
  - Policy 1: House Types;
  - Policy 2: Local Character;
  - Policy 3: Sustainable Design;
  - Policy 4: Small Sites;
  - Policy 5: Infill Development;
  - Policy 6: Sheltered Housing;
  - Policy 7: Management of Ecological Sites;
  - Policy 8: Stoborough Primary School;
  - Policy 9: Community Facilities;
  - Policy 10: Key Pedestrian Routes;
  - Policy 11: Tourism; and
  - Policy 12: Local Green Spaces.

## EqIA of the Arne Neighbourhood Plan Policies

Issues in relation to:	House type	Local Character	Sustainable Design	Small Sites	Infill Development	Sheltered Housing	Management of Ecological Sites	Stoborough Primary School	Community Facilities	Key Pedestrian Routes	Tourism	Local Green Spaces
<b>Age</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Disability</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Faith of belief</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Gender</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Social Inequalities</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
<b>Rural isolation</b>	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible

## Comments on the EqIA

25. In undertaking the assessment, it is important to note that existing adopted policies in the PLP1 will continue to apply to the neighbourhood plan area even when the ANP is 'made' unless policies in the neighbourhood plan supersede a specific adopted policy. The status of these policies is also taken into consideration in the EqIA. The emerging Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034), and other plans prepared by the District Council, will address a range of policies that are not included in the ANP. For example, options to meet the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople in accordance with the equality area of ethnicity are to be addressed through the District Council's local plan.
26. The ANP aims to 'ensure the long term sustainability and viability of the parish', by facilitating a range of new housing to suit the needs of the plan area, support community facilities to enrich the lives of the residents, support existing and new employment opportunities and to enhance and protect the environment. The neighbourhood plans vision and policies provide an opportunity for sustaining and enhancing the vitality of existing communities in the neighbourhood plan area. These improvements will also serve to reduce existing inequalities and rural isolation for those who do not benefit from public or private transport. For example, for disabled people, older people and young people without access to cars or a regular bus service. This is why all of the ANP policies score well in terms of compatibility with issues of age, disability, social inequalities and rural isolation.
27. Encouraging further tourism related development in the neighbourhood plan area is also compatible with the EqIA assessment objectives. Creating further employment opportunities in the neighbourhood plan area may allow existing/residents to find work locally meaning that they no longer need to travel out of the neighbourhood plan area for work. Without such the plan would conflict with a number of equality areas in terms of access to suitable transport and service/ facility provisions.
28. The plans emphasis on important local green spaces and the European protected sites are particularly welcomed and are compatible with a range of equality areas providing safe, sustainable and pleasant environments for the community to live amongst.

## EqIA recommendations

29. All of the ANP policies assessed in the EqIA were compatible with the equality areas. However, this assessment assumes that the adopted policies in PLP1 will also be fully taken into account when detailed development schemes are considered by the Council at the planning application stage. It also assumes that the emerging policies in the Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034) will be progressed and adopted to ensure that equality needs, for example, those of the gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople community will be met over the plan period. The following recommendation is therefore made:
  - Ensure that emerging policies in the Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034) are fully progressed and adopted to ensure that any equality needs which are not included within the ANP are addressed at a district wide level.