

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Final

Name of policy___/strategy___/function_✓_ being assessed. Please ✓ what it is.

Proposed six-month Park and Float trial

1. Is this policy, strategy or function new _✓_ or an existing___ one? Please ✓ what it is.**1a. Briefly describe the reasons for developing or reviewing this?****Eg: change in legislation or requirements, results of consultation, part of a regular review cycle, etc.**

The council has been approached by Gosport Ferry Ltd (GFL) requesting assistance with this proposed scheme to stimulate patronage which has substantially dropped due to the Covid Lockdown. As well as the financial benefit for GFL, and possibly GBC, there will be environmental benefits from the reduction in people travelling to Portsmouth via car.

2a. Describe the main aim or purpose of this item? Who will it benefit? Why is it needed?

The main purpose of the scheme is to promote clean air, which is a local authority obligation under the Environment Act 1995. A secondary aim is to increase patronage for GFL to ensure their financial security and thirdly is to promote Gosport Town Centre. An additional purpose is to provide local residents with an affordable method of having a day out, or commute to Portsmouth.

3a. The Public Sector Equality Duty is part of the Equality Act 2010. The Duty requires the Council to have due regard to the following three aims:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equal opportunities between people from different groups
- foster good relations between people from different groups.

Having due regard means considering how this policy, strategy or function has or will advance equal opportunities for each of the protected groups below.

It is proposed that the six month trial will start around June 2021. It will involve the sale of permits to allow motorists to park in Walpole Car Park and also take the ferry to Portsmouth at a discounted fee. Bookings will be made through MiPermit, GBC's present paperless parking provider, through an app or a website.

The function has been considered in relation to the above and is not believed to affect any. However, it is acknowledged there is a risk that those who are not computer literate or able to access the internet would not be able to book through the app or webpage. This may disproportionately affect some groups of people. It is hoped that this can be mitigated by the use of the MiPermit call centre which could allow telephone bookings, but the process has yet to be fully designed and evaluated.

Using a dedicated parking ticket machine was considered, but discounted on grounds of expense, practicality and also that utilisation of the complicated menu would lead to difficulties for the same group, but to a greater extent including those wishing to just purchase car parking.

3b Identify how this item demonstrates due regard to the three aims above for each of the protected groups below.

(For marriage and civil partnership, legislation requires you only need to demonstrate how you would eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation)

Protected characteristic	This item demonstrates due regard by: Describe how it furthers equal opportunities. You can cite examples of any disadvantage this item removes or minimises, how it meets the specific needs of any groups, how it encourages participation, promotes understanding or integration between groups	Describe any negative impact or potentially negative impact of this item for any group. For any negative impact identified, describe actions already taken to address it. Any planned actions must be identified in section 4.	List data sources/ evidence used to assess impact and whether this item furthers the aims of the Equality Duty. Insert links to data used where possible
Age	None	As above, the scheme may not be as easily accessible to those who are not computer literate, which could potentially include some older persons, some persons with a disability for instance.	It is intended that a MiPermit administered telephone booking system would be made available to offset any disadvantage to those unable to book via the internet or who have questions about how the scheme will work. Current discussion with MiPermit indicates that a phone line could be made available between 08:00 and 20:00 on weekdays, with reduced hours over a weekend. Due to system limitations only single use tickets (not monthly or 10 trip tickets) could be purchased over the telephone. It is intended that Customers will be
Disability	None		
Gender reassignment	None		
Marriage and Civil Partnership	None		
Pregnancy and Maternity	None		
Race (ethnic or national origin, colour, nationality)	None		
Religion or Belief (and lack of belief)	None		
Sex	None		

Sexual Orientation	None		<p>able to leave feedback about their booking with MiPermit (which in turn they could report to GBC Streetscene).</p> <p>User experience of the scheme will be reviewed and included in the overall evaluation of the new scheme to help ensure it is operated fairly across protected characteristics.</p> <p>It is intended that a variety of accessible communications media will be used to introduce the scheme and how it works.</p>
<p>3c. Are there any other groups in addition to those above which could be impacted (e.g. socially or financially excluded) by this item?</p> <p>No</p>			

4. Please Identify any further actions you will take resulting from this assessment.

Action	Officer Responsible	Completion date
Full Council to consider proposals and changes to Fees and Charges- 19/05/2021	Wayne VOLLER Andrew BROSTER	
<p>Booking queries, customer feedback and any complaints will be reviewed within the first two months of the scheme to assess whether any changes need to be made to ensure fair and successful operation of the trial scheme.</p> <p>Queries, feedback and complaints would need to be carefully reviewed. In taking on board any comments, suggestions or amendments would likely require input from GBC, Gosport Ferry Ltd, and other interested parties (e.g. Hampshire County Council and First Bus).</p>	Wayne VOLLER via liaison with MiPermit	

5. Do you have any additional comments? If so, please add.

NONE

6. Date 29/04/2021	Officer(s) completing assessment Wayne Voller	Section Date Approved
7. Name of Section Head: Stevyn Ricketts	Date review completed. 29/04/2021	
8. Date submitted to Board/Full Council	Date review by ED Lead officer completed 10/05/21	

ED lead officer Recommendation:

- This assessment form is incomplete and requires additional information for its review by EDSG.
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This assessment has been successfully reviewed with the following outcome:

- No major change** – The assessment of this policy/strategy/function shows no potential for discrimination and the aims of the Equality Duty have been met.
- ✓ **Adjust the policy/strategy or function** – This item will meet the aims of the Equality Duty if actions identified in Sections 3 and 4 to remove barriers or to better advance equality are implemented.
- Continue the policy/strategy/function** – There is some potential for adverse impact or missed opportunities to promote equality, but no unlawful discrimination has been identified. Ensure effective equality monitoring is in place to regularly assess the actual impact on different groups
- Stop and Rethink** – Adverse equality impacts have been identified/ may not be justified and have not been sufficiently mitigated. Unlawful discrimination could be taking place. Do not adopt or continue until a full equality investigation has been completed.