

## Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, ([graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk) or 01223 457044).

<b>1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service</b>
Litter Strategy
<b>2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)</b>
Will be published with committee papers for the 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023
<b>3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?</b>
<i>For Cambridge to be a city which is free of litter, fly-tipping, and dog waste.</i>  Through the Strategy, we aim to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maximise the number of people who dispose of their litter responsibly by providing appropriate facilities in the right places and collecting litter in a timely fashion.</li><li>• Minimise the proportion of people who feel it is acceptable to litter, fly tip and not pick up after their dog</li></ul>

- Minimise the environmental impact and maximise the productivity of the Council's streets and open spaces waste management service.
- Minimise the volume of streets and open spaces derived waste going to landfill.
- Apply an evidence based, data led approach to monitoring and reviewing the Strategy's effectiveness; and informing any required changes to it.

#### 4. Responsible service

Environment Services

#### 5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

(Please tick all that apply)

- Residents
- Visitors
- Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

**Relevant to all residents and visitors to the City. No specific group affected**

#### 6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?

- New
- Major change
- Minor change

#### 7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)

- Yes
- No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

**Shared Waste Service**

#### 8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?

Environment and Community Scrutiny [Committee](#) for approval to adopt.

**9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**

The Strategy was developed using the following terms of reference, as agreed at Environment and Community Services Committee in January 2021:

- a) To investigate how street and outdoor public space litter is managed in Cambridge.
- b) Review the statutory and non-statutory obligations that the Council has. This will include consideration of key areas such as:
  - Dog fouling
  - General street litter (including cigarettes, gum, street flyers, fast food litter)
  - Roadside litter (including litter from cars, gulleys and weeds, fly tipping)
  - Litter in green spaces (focusing on litter in parks and other green spaces).
- c) To consider how other authorities, in the UK and abroad, manage the issue of litter and identify and evaluate examples of best practice and their potential application in Cambridge.
- d) To raise community awareness of litter in Cambridge and investigate how it can become a cleaner city.
- e) To review the Council's performance in terms of managing litter, including benchmarking against comparator authorities.

The development of the strategy was informed by a public survey, this sought views on the issue of littering in Cambridge and effectiveness of the Council's current streets and open spaces management service, including.

- Determining what respondents think about the various types of litter in Cambridge.
- Understanding levels of awareness of existing regulations and penalties relating to these issues and views on the effectiveness of its enforcement and,
- Seeking comments and suggestions on what else could be done to reduce litter in Cambridge.

## 10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

### (a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (b) Disability

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (c) Gender reassignment

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (d) Marriage and civil partnership

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (e) Pregnancy and maternity

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(g) Religion or belief**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(h) Sex**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(i) Sexual orientation**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group

**(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on low income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**

Volunteering opportunities arising from the strategy are all free to access or be involved in through volunteering. Officers will explore alternative ways of promoting the sites and volunteer events to ensure broad engagement. We will work with existing community groups, including those working with people on low-incomes.

**11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)**

Research conducted during the Strategy has highlighted that littering is fundamentally a behavioural problem and the Strategy states that good infrastructure and clear expectations, supported by proportionate enforcement, helps reinforce social pressure to do the right thing.

It is evident from the research that litterers need to both understand what they ought to be doing and be motivated to do the right thing. It also suggests that they must have the opportunity to do so, and that is where the provision of necessary infrastructure, based on the 'right bin – right place' principle, comes in.

Research suggests that infrastructure alone is not enough to solve the problem; information is required to build capability to properly use different types of bins, and campaigns and/or enforcement activity are required to create the motivation for people to use them.

This Strategy creates policies for waste reduction and recycling and in general seeks solutions so that recycling is made clearer and easier, so that people understand which is the correct bin for disposing of different waste items. This also applies to infrastructure where a simpler system is expected to help cut littering by making the expected behaviour clearer for users.

Effective local infrastructure is not just having the right number and type of bins but also siting them in appropriate locations and using visual cues to maximise the chances of them being used properly.

Infrastructure is just one part of a holistic approach to tackling littering behaviour that involves motivation and capability, as well as opportunity to behave correctly. The proposed Strategy reflects this. However, it is recognised that the procurement, siting, fixing, emptying and maintenance of new and improved litter bins carries a cost, so the Action Plan pays special attention to this aspect.

## 12. Do you have any additional comments?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## 13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Alistair Wilson, Streets and Open Space Development Manager.

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Heather Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer

Date of EqIA sign off: 8th March 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: [Click here to enter text.](#)

**All EqIAs need to be sent to Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer. Ctrl + click on the button below to send this (you will need to attach the form to the email):**

**Send form**