

Hartlepool Local Planning Framework

Local Plan

Equality Impact Assessment



June 2017



Hartlepool Borough Council Submission Local Plan 2017: Equality Impact Assessment

Author, Service area, Date

Fiona Riley (Senior Planning Policy Officer), Planning Policy Team, June 2017

Who else has been involved in writing this EIA?

Matthew King (Planning Policy Team Leader), Jim Ferguson (Planning and Development Manager) and Steve Russell (Support Manager).

What proposal is this EIA assessing?

The EIA is assessing the Hartlepool Borough Council's Local Plan Submission version. The Local Plan details the planning policies proposed by Hartlepool Borough Council for the period up to 2031. Hartlepool Borough Council is committed to promoting a community and organisational culture that fully respects and values everyone's differences and needs. Equality and diversity is integral to our core business, our staff and our service users. In working towards our commitment to equality we will:

- Work towards providing services which meet the needs of all sections of our communities.
- Ensure that respect and dignity is valued as a core principle for all.
- Promote equality and fair treatment and equal access to our services and services commissioned by us.
- Offer a range of translation and interpretation services for those whose first language is not English and also provide information in other formats such as Braille and audio.
- Actively seek the views of our customers and take account of their comments and complaints and allow a reasonable timescale for consultations.
- Consult a range of communities and avoid selecting single minority ethnic organisations or individuals.
- Assess and monitor the impact of new and existing policies and plans on equality groups.
- Publish an annual report that outlines progress on eliminating discrimination and promoting equality of opportunities.
- Promote the community cohesion framework.
- Provide straight forward information about our service.
- Strive for a workforce that reflects the diversity of the population of Hartlepool.

What is the purpose of your proposal and what is it expected to achieve?

The purpose of the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is to assess the potential impact of the policies in the Local Plan on different groups within Hartlepool. An assessment of Local Plan policies has been undertaken in relation to:

- Age: older age groups
- Age: younger age groups / children
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership status
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation

The following questions were used to undertake the EIA:

- Does the policy/decision target or exclude a specific equality group or community?
- Does it affect some equality groups or communities differently and can this be justified?
- Is the policy or service likely to be equally accessed by all equality groups and communities? If not can this be justified?
- Are there any barriers that might make access difficult or stop different groups or communities accessing the policy or service?
- Could the policy promote equality and good relations between different groups? How?

The Local Plan sets out proposals for development and growth and policies to protect and enhance the natural and built environment of Hartlepool. This will replace the 2006 Local Plan and contains:

- A long term vision for the borough and objectives for future development up to 2031 which describes how key issues that have been identified will be tackled and how the borough will evolve over the course of the plan period.
- Site allocations to deliver that development.
- More general development focussed policies.

The Draft Local Plan has been developed in consideration of the evidence base, National Planning Policy and guidance, feedback from public consultations, a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment has been undertaken on the local plan.

In addition to the EIA, the assessment undertaken considers the impact of the policies within the plan on child and adult poverty, this is a strategic priority for Hartlepool Borough Council, as such the assessment ensures that any negative impacts have been considered and mitigated.

Is there any relevance to the aims of the public sector equality duty?

There are three aims of the Equality Act, these are:

- **Eliminate Unlawful discrimination**, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct prohibited by the act
- **Advance Equality of Opportunity**, between people who share protected characteristics and those who don't.
- **Foster Good Relations**, between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

How the implementation of the Local Plan will relate to these is outlined in brief below.

Aim	Yes, No, or N/A	Details if 'yes'
<p>Eliminate Unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct prohibited by the act.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Plan aims to ensure the sustainable development of Hartlepool for the next 15years. The promotion of balanced and inclusive communities that benefit all is integral to achieving this. The polices set out within the plan guide development and promote opportunities, for example they include polices for the allocation of housing sites to meet need, allocate employment sites and spaces for commercial development to boost and support the economy as well as protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment.</p>
<p>Advance Equality of Opportunity, between people who share protected characteristics and those who don't.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Plan aims to promote balanced, inclusive and sustainable communities that benefit all. Many of the policies within the Plan will benefit the wider community in Hartlepool and not specifically those with protected characteristics, either positively or negatively. However, some policies will have the potential for some direct or indirect impact on equalities issues, such as Policy HSG13: Gypsy and Traveller provision.</p>
<p>Foster Good Relations, between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The plan and the policies set out within it are inclusive and aim to foster good relations with all sections of the community; this includes those within the protected characteristics classifications.</p>

Analysis of Policies – Equality and Poverty Impact Assessment of Each Local Plan Policy

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence	
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity			
Policy SUS1: The Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Reflects national policy. No impact on any particular characteristic.
Policy LS1: Locational Strategy	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy sets out the locations of key strategic development of the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy CC1: Minimising and adapting to Climate Change	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to improve energy efficiency of development and mitigate to minimise the impact on climate change. The outcome of implementation of such a policy has clear benefits to all members of society.
Policy CC2: Reducing and Mitigating Flood Risk	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to mitigate flood risk. The outcome of implementation of such a policy has clear benefits to all members of society.
Policy CC3: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy promotes renewable and low carbon energy generation, which has a benefit to all. No protected characteristic it positively or negatively affected.
Policy CC4: Strategic Wind Turbine Developments	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	There is no bias either positively or negatively towards any protected characteristic. The policy does require that development proposals have community support.
Policy CC5: Large scale solar Photovoltaic Developments	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy supports renewable energy generation through development of Large scale solar Photovoltaic Developments, again this suggests community engagement where appropriate. However the policy remains neutral to all protected characteristics.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy INF1: Sustainable Transport Network	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy promotes the enhancement of the sustainable transport network throughout the borough and into the wider sub-region. The policy covers the wide range of transport options focusing on providing more alternatives for all members of the community, there is the potential for a particularly positive impact towards those who may have reduced mobility.
Policy INF2: Improving connectivity in Hartlepool	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to improve the connectivity through sustainable transport options. Whilst this has benefits for all residents and employees there is the potential for a particularly positive impact towards those who may have reduced mobility.
Policy INF3: University Hospital of Hartlepool	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	The policy aims to safeguard the University Hospital site for the provision of health and related facilities. There are certain protected characteristics groups where this will have a potentially positive impact, where they are more likely to access services.
Policy INF4: Community Facilities	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	This policy aims to ensure community facilities (including education and health service provision) are delivered as part of strategic site development. This is particularly positive for those with children and those who are more likely to access services. Providing community infrastructure to facilitate services can have a positive impact on addressing poverty indicators.
Policy INF5: Telecommunications	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The policy will benefit all groups by promoting the development of telecommunications which will improve access to services and information regarding employment opportunities.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy QP1: Planning Obligations	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	This policy ensures that development provides services, facilities and mitigation to ensure that sustainable development is achieved. The Planning Obligations SPD lists a number of categories including play, sports facilities and education. The policy can directly help to address affordable housing need.
Policy QP2: Compulsory Purchase Orders	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy provides a mechanism to address sites and buildings which create problems. The aim is that this will have benefits for the town, the impact on protected characteristics is neutral.
Policy QP3: Location, Accessibility, Highway Safety and Parking	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy seeks to ensure that development is accessible in terms of location, accessibility, highway safety and parking. This will have clear benefits for all, however the preamble to the policy specifically identifies the needs of people with reduced mobility and disability.
Policy QP4: Layout and Design of Development	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to ensure that development design and layout takes into account the needs of residents and users. The preamble refers specifically to the use of material and colour through design and layout to assist those with dementia or visual impairment. As well as the design of lifetime homes and delivery of homes which meet the needs of older people.
Policy QP5: Safety and Security	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The aim of the policy is to ensure that development doesn't have a negative impact on safety and security. This includes public safety issues of providing adequate shading, this is particularly relevant for the more vulnerable in society.
Policy QP6: Technical Matters	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community.
Policy QP7: Energy Efficiency	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The policy will benefit all sections of the community. However improvements to address fuel poverty will be particularly positive to those who are most vulnerable in society (older people and those with disabilities).

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy QP8: Advertisements	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community.
Policy HSG1: New Housing Provision	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by meeting the needs of current and future residents by creating new homes in attractive and sustainable environments which people want to live in.
Policy HSG2: Overall Housing Mix	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	This policy will make a positive contribution to the identified housing needs of the borough and will assist in developing diverse communities. It will have a positive impact on older people and those with specialist housing needs, the evidence to support this information is set out in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2015 and SHMA Addendum (2016).
Policy HSG3: Urban Local Plan Sites	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by meeting the needs of current and future residents by creating new homes in sustainable urban locations.
Policy HSG4: The South West Extension Strategic Housing Site	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will benefit all sections of the community as it promotes development with services, facilities and improved transport infrastructure.
Policy HSG5: High Tunstall Strategic Housing Site	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will benefit all sections of the community as it promotes development with services, facilities and improved transport infrastructure.
Policy HSG5a: Quarry Farm Housing Site	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will benefit all sections of the community as it promotes development with improved transport infrastructure.
Policy HSG6: Wynyard Housing Developments	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will benefit all sections of the community as it promotes development with services, facilities and improved transport infrastructure.
Policy HSG7: Elwick Village Housing Development	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy supports the provision of additional homes to be developed in the village, this will help to address housing need within the village and support local and community services.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy HSG8: Hart Village Housing Developments	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy supports the provision of additional homes to be developed in the village, this will help to address housing need within the village and support local and community services.
Policy HSG9: Affordable Housing	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Promoting affordable housing will contribute towards a mix of housing provision to cater for all groups. The policy will be used to ensure affordable provision is developed to address needs helping to address affordability issues.
Policy HSG10: Housing Market Renewal	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The aim of the policy is to support Housing Market Renewal Programmes, addressing and removing low quality substandard homes to provide sustainable homes which meet the needs of the growing population.
Policy HSG11: Extensions to Existing Dwellings	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The aim of the policy is to allow homeowners to improve their homes to address changing needs. The policy encourages the improvement of housing stock without detrimental impact on neighbours which benefits the whole community.
Policy HSG12: Residential Annexes	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy allows for the development of residential annexes in carefully considered locations. The provision of annexes often allows for the elderly, young adults and those with disabilities to live semi independently within the dwelling thus providing alternative residential solutions.
Policy HSG13: Gypsy and Traveller provision	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy is specifically to consider those from the travelling community with a criteria based policy to meet their needs.
Policy EMP1: Prestige Employment Site Wynyard Business Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by allocating land for the provision of Prestige Employment uses, thus providing employment opportunities.
Policy EMP2: Queen's Meadow Business Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by allocating land for the provision of High Quality Employment uses, thus providing employment opportunities.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy EMP3: General Employment Land	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by allocating land for the provision of General Employment uses, thus providing employment opportunities.
Policy EMP4: Specialist Industries	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by allocating land for the provision of Specialist Industries Employment uses, thus providing employment opportunities.
Policy EMP5: Safeguarded land for new Nuclear Power Station	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all sections of the community by allocating land for the provision of nuclear energy generation. The policy ensures development will be sustainable and adverse impact on the protected environmental sites should be avoided, minimised and mitigated.
Policy EMP6: Underground storage	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy ensures that there is no increase in potential risk to people in the area of the brine cavities as a result of any underground storage use.
Policy RUR1: Development in the Rural area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy ensures that development in rural areas is appropriate within the location, protecting and enhancing the rural area for future generations to access and enjoy.
Policy RUR2: New Dwellings Outside of Development Limits	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to ensure that the provision of new dwellings outside the development limits is justified and of good design to ensure that there is no detrimental impact on the rural area.
Policy RUR3: Farm Diversification	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy allows for farm diversification within the rural area, this allows for opportunities for growth in the rural area, which could provide job opportunities which the wider community could benefit from.
Policy RUR4: Equestrian Development	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The aim of the policy to ensure that equestrian development is in safe and appropriate locations. Provision of such facilities will improve access to such facilities available for all to access.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy RUR5: Rural Tourism	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy supports the development of the rural area for rural sustainable tourism. Such development will be appropriate to the location and help to support the rural economy benefiting all sections of society.
Policy RUR6: Rural Services	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The aim of the policy is to support and retain rural services. Retention of such services and amenities supports the sustainable development of the rural economy. Access to such services in the rural community is of particular importance to those in society who are vulnerable from isolation due to mobility issues.
Policy RC1: Retail and Commercial centre Hierarchy	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will ensure town centre development is focussed towards the existing centre as a priority which is expected to have a neutral impact for all. Thus ensuring that services are accessible within the town centre.
Policy RC2: The Town Centre	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy promotes a town centre first approach to town centre development and aims to maintain the health and vitality of the existing town centre.
Policy RC3: Innovation and Skills Quarter	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to encourage and promote the development of an innovation and skills quarter, this will create benefits for all through increased training opportunities and as well as employment opportunities. This will have a particular benefit for young adults through developments associated to the two colleges.
Policy RC4: Avenue Road/Raby Road Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC5: The Brewery and Stranton Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that edge of town centre areas develop appropriately. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy RC6: East of Stranton Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that edge of town centre areas develop appropriately. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC7: Lynn Street Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that edge of town centre areas develop appropriately. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC8: Mill House Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that edge of town centre areas develop appropriately. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC9: Park Road West Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that edge of town centre areas develop appropriately. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC10: West Victoria Road Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC11: York Road South Edge of Town Centre Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail and leisure provision is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC12: The Marina Retail and Leisure Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail and leisure provision is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy RC13: West of Marina Way Retail and Leisure Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail and leisure provision is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC14: Trincomalee Wharf Retail and Leisure Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail and leisure provision is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC15: Tees Bay Retail and Leisure Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to ensure that retail and leisure provision is appropriately located throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy RC16: The Local Centres	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy will benefit all sections of the local community, particularly those with limited mobility issues as it encourages the development and retention of amenities of local centres within neighbourhoods.
Policy RC17: Late Night Uses Area	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy ensures that late night uses within the borough are focused to a particular area to minimise impact on communities and neighbourhoods.
Policy RC18: Hot Food Takeaway Policy	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to control the proliferation of hot food takeaways. It sets thresholds for the appropriateness of additional hot food takeaways. Proximity to schools and obesity levels was key evidence used in policy development.
Policy RC19: Main Town Centre Uses on Employment Land	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to ensure that town centre uses are only permitted in employment areas in controlled circumstances, protecting a town centre first approach and benefits for accessibility.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy RC20: Business Uses in the Home	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy supports businesses in the home providing there are no detrimental impacts on the neighbourhood. This strengthens the opportunities for self-employment.
Policy RC21: Commercial uses in Residential Areas	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy considers that appropriateness of commercial uses in residential areas. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy LT1: Leisure and Tourism	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy benefits all members of the community by supporting leisure and tourism developments. This has amenity benefits for local people and provides opportunities to enhance the local economy.
Policy LT2: Tourism Development in the Marina	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy benefits all members of the community by supporting development of the marina for leisure and tourism activities. This has amenity benefits for local people and provides opportunities to enhance the local economy and provide job opportunities.
Policy LT3: Development of Seaton Carew	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy benefits all members of the community by supporting the regeneration and development of Seaton Carew for leisure and tourism activities. This has amenity benefits for local people and provides opportunities to enhance the local economy and provide job opportunities.
Policy LT4: Tourism Accommodation	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to increase the provision and diversity of tourism accommodation across the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy LT5: Caravan Sites and Touring Caravan Sites	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims control the appropriate development of Caravan Sites and Touring Caravan Sites across the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy LT6: Business, Tourism, Events and Conferencing	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy has benefits for all, as it promotes the provision of events and conferencing, providing skills, leisure and employment opportunities benefitting the local economy.
Policy HE1: Heritage Assets	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit the community by not allowing development which will cause harm to the significance of heritage assets.
Policy HE2: Archaeology	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit current and future populations by ensuring that development deals with archaeological heritage.
Policy HE3: Conservation Areas	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit the community by not allowing development which will cause harm to the significance of heritage assets.
Policy HE4: Listed Building and Structures	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit the community by not allowing development which will cause harm to the significance of heritage assets.
Policy HE5: Locally Listed Buildings and Structures	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit the community by not allowing development which will cause harm to the significance of heritage assets.
Policy HE6: Historic Shopping Parades	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit the community by not allowing development which will cause harm to the significance of heritage assets.
Policy HE7: Heritage at Risk	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will have a positive impact on the current and future community by addressing heritage assets which are considered at risk.
Policy NE1: Natural Environment	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy will benefit all, it aims to protect and enhance the natural environment, increasing accessibility as appropriate and ensuring protection of specialist environments for the benefit of future communities.
Policy NE2: Green Infrastructure	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy encourages access to green infrastructure for all.

Local Plan Policy	Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?									Poverty Impact	Explanation and Evidence
	Age	Disability	Gender Re-assignment	Race	Religion	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity		
Policy NE3: Green Wedges	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	This policy aims to protect the green wedges throughout the borough from development, providing accessible amenity space for the benefit of all.
Policy NE4: Ecological Networks	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to protect and enhance the ecological networks across the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.
Policy NE5: Playing Fields	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy benefits all of the community, by protecting and enhancing accessible playing fields and other sports facilities.
Policy NE6: Protection of Incidental Open Space	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy protects the provision of incidental open space, which provides pockets of useable amenity space in communities.
Policy NE7: Landscaping along main transport corridors	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	The policy aims to enhance the image of the key transport corridors throughout the borough. The policy is written positively and there is no positive or negative discrimination of any of the protected characteristics.

Analysis by characteristic - Summary

The Local Plan contains 87 policies and has the underlying principle to deliver sustainable development to secure a better quality of life for everyone now and for future generations. All the policies within the Local Plan contribute towards achieving sustainable development with policies promoting the location of new homes, jobs and economic growth, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment and built heritage, improved infrastructure (both highway and community), renewable energy, green spaces and the development of balanced communities.

Many of the policies within the Plan will benefit the wider community across Hartlepool and not specifically those with protected characteristics. However, some policies will have the potential for some direct or indirect impact on different groups. Each policy has been assessed for their potential positive, negative or neutral impact on potentially vulnerable equalities groups as well as the potential to impact on Child and Adult poverty.

Age

The age protected characteristic includes the consideration of all ages in society, the assessment of which recognises that vulnerability can change across age groups and the impact of a policy will not necessarily be uniform across all ages. The assessment identified that the impact of Local Plan policies were generally positive for all with some having a particularly positive impacts on this group. The Local Plan aims to provide sustainable development addressing the needs of current and wider population; this includes provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities. The policies within the plan are written positively to ensure that needs are appropriately assessed and addressed through individual development proposals, for example Policy QP1 (Planning Obligations) ensures that education provision is enhanced to accommodate increased demand from new development and Policy HSG2 (Overall Housing Mix) ensures that new housing provision meets the identified need at the local level, including bungalows and affordable housing. Which are needed to support the ageing population.

Disability

The policies within the Local Plan were identified as being generally positive for all within society, the policies within the plan are written positively with some policies having positive impacts on this group. The policies in the Local Plan should address the needs of those with disabilities, for example Policy INF3 (University Hospital of Hartlepool) and INF4 (Community Infrastructure) support accessibility to health, education and community facilities for all, this has the potential to be of particular benefit for people with disabilities.

Gender reassignment

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all and as having no impact on this group. The promotion of equal opportunities is integral to the integrity of the plan to support sustainable development. The Plan is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any gender reassignment.

Race

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all, the only policy within the Local Plan which had positive impact directed particularly at the Race

protected characteristic group in HSG13 (Gypsy and Traveller provision). It provides a criteria based policy which directs appropriate site development should the need arise.

Religion

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on this group. The promotion of equal opportunities is integral to the integrity of the plan to support sustainable development. The Plan is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any religion.

Gender

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on this group. The promotion of equal opportunities is integral to the integrity of the plan to support sustainable development. The Plan is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against gender.

Sexual orientation

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on this group. The promotion of equal opportunities is integral to the integrity of the plan to support sustainable development. The Plan is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against sexual orientation.

Marriage and civil partnership status

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact this group. The promotion of equal opportunities is integral to the integrity of the plan to support sustainable development. The Plan is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any relationship status.

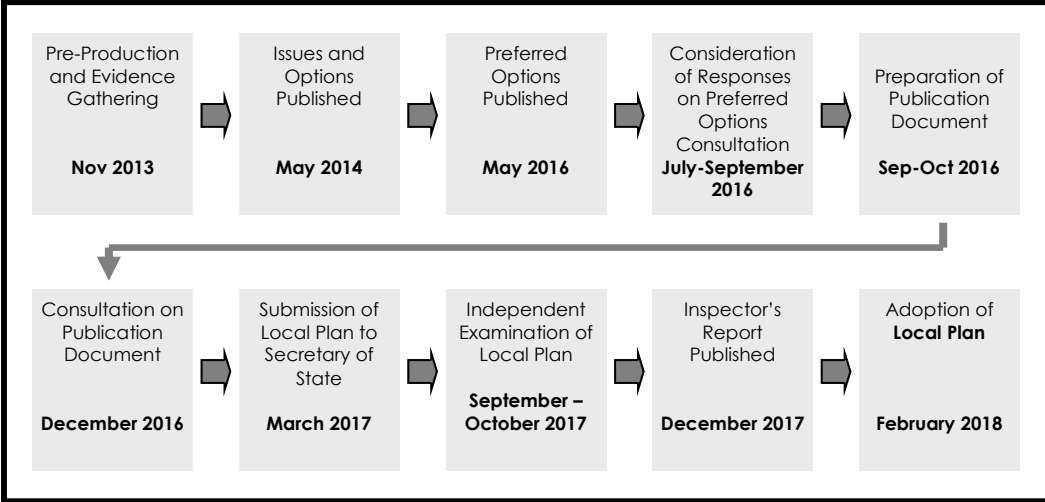
Pregnancy and maternity

The policies within the Local Plan are regarded as being generally positive for all. Given the potential health care and community infrastructure needs of this protected characteristic group, some of the policies in the plan have highlighted a positive impact through assessment.

Child and Adult Poverty

The assessment of the impact of the policies in the plan on Child and Adult poverty supports that the plan is written in a positive manner with the aim of benefitting all of those in society. The plan supports the development and enhancement of the local economy, which will support the employment sector, with the aim of providing jobs for the local community. The Housing Section of the Local Plan ensures that the development of housing provision across the borough provides for the needs of all. HSG9 (Affordable Housing Provision) aims to ensure that this includes appropriate levels of affordable housing. The Infrastructure Chapter aims to ensure that the Borough is well connected and different forms of sustainable transport are encouraged. The Local Plan allocates local centres across neighbourhoods, with the aim of encouraging local services within neighbourhoods, improving access to service and amenities for all. The Local Plan includes a policy (QP7) which aims to improve the energy efficiency of new homes, as well as benefits to help minimising climate change; the policy will help to lower running costs of homes.

Consultation and Mitigation

<p>Has there been consultation / is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this Policy? How has this affected your decision making?</p>	<p>The development of the Hartlepool Local Plan has been through a number of regulatory stages prior to the document being submitted to the Secretary of State to be considered for soundness. This has taken place over a the last couple of years and included three stages of statutory consultation, giving residents, businesses and statutory partners the opportunity to comment on the developing policies within the plan. Consultation statements have been prepared to respond to the comments made through the consultation process which details how the Council will respond to the comments made. At the last round of consultation, notification of the process was sent to every household in the town, public consultation events were held across the town, these were widely advertised to ensure everybody had the opportunity to engage with the Local Plan development process if they wished to do so. The key stages of the development of the Hartlepool Local Plan are detailed below.</p>  <pre> graph LR A[Pre-Production and Evidence Gathering Nov 2013] --> B[Issues and Options Published May 2014] B --> C[Preferred Options Published May 2016] C --> D[Consideration of Responses on Preferred Options Consultation July-September 2016] D --> E[Preparation of Publication Document Sep-Oct 2016] E --> F[Consultation on Publication Document December 2016] F --> G[Submission of Local Plan to Secretary of State March 2017] G --> H[Independent Examination of Local Plan September - October 2017] H --> I[Inspector's Report Published December 2017] I --> J[Adoption of Local Plan February 2018] </pre>
<p>As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative / maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships?</p>	<p>The development of the policies have included equality and sustainability assessments which have been undertaken, these have thoroughly assessed each of the policies within the emerging plan, where necessary mitigation requirements have been written into the emerging policies. The EIA does not identify any negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics as a result of the implementation of the emerging policies.</p>
<p>Describe how you will address and monitor the impact</p>	
<p>1. No Impact - No Major Change</p>	<p>The assessment outcome demonstrates no negative impact on any protected characteristics or poverty has been identified. As a result no changes have been identified for the emerging plan. There is an accompanying monitoring framework to the plan, this set out the key indicators which will inform progress on the plan. An annual monitoring report will be produced.</p>
<p>2. Adjust / Change Policy</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>3. Adverse Impact but continue as is</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>4. Stop / Remove Policy / Proposal</p>	<p>N/A</p>

