



Equality Screening Assessment

The Equality Screening Assessment form must be completed to evidence what impact the proposal may have on equality groups within our community or workforce. Any proposal that identifies a negative impact must have a full Equality Impact Assessment completed before the proposal progresses further.

1: Proposal

| Requirement | Detail |
|--|--|
| Title of proposal | Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy |
| Type of proposal: new policy / change to policy / new service / change to service / removal of service / project / event/ budget | As required by the Education and Inspections Act (2006), the Council is required to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport of educational provision. The authority is required to produce and publish its Sustainable Modes of Travel to School Strategy (SMoTS) with the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy meeting this requirement. |
| What is the objective of this proposal? | To support and promote the use of active and sustainable travel to education within North Northamptonshire. |
| Has there been/when will there be consultation on this proposal? (List all the groups / communities, including dates) | <p>In 2023, the Council conducted a consultation exercise seeking views on the Council's proposed Home to School policy changes and options affecting the discretionary transport. As part of this consultation, we asked the community for their view of possible travel options for the journey to school. The views provided have informed the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy.</p> <p>Furthermore, the consultation of the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy will be undertaken for six weeks commencing mid-September and running to mid-October.</p> |

| Requirement | Detail |
|---|--|
| Did the consultation on this proposal highlight any positive or negative impact on protected groups? (If yes, give details) | N/A |
| What processes are in place to monitor and review the impact of this proposal? | The plan is required to be maintained and updated annually corresponding to the school year. This provides the opportunity to update the plan. |
| Who will approve this proposal? (Committee, CLT) | Executive |

2: Equality Consideration

In turn, consider each protected group to ensure we meet our legal obligations of the Equality Act (2010).

| Protected Groups | General Equality Duty Considerations | Changes | Impact |
|--|---|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? | Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group. |
| Age Different age groups that may be affected by the proposal in different ways. | <p>In North Northamptonshire according to the 2021 census year, there are just over 70,000 people 15 years or under living in North Northamptonshire.</p> <p>Travel and journey patterns change throughout people's lives and journey to schools is one of the earliest and most common journeys that a child or young person makes.</p> <p>The 2011 school census from NNC schools shows that 61% of pupils walk to primary school and 46% walk to secondary school.</p> | No barriers identified. | Positive |

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|---|--|---|---|
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| <p>Sex</p> <p>Is one sex affected more than another or are they affected the same?</p> | <p>The Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) Home to School Transport Policy (April 2020) has been consulted to inform the acceptable walking and cycling distances for journeys to schools in the county. The Policy defines the appropriate walking distances for pupils under the Education Act 1996, stating:</p> <p>“Section 444(5) defines walking distance as 2 miles for pupils under 8, and 3 miles for older pupils, in both cases measured by the nearest available route.”</p> <p>Travelling to nursery, school or college by walking, wheeling, bus or train is good for children’s health, wellbeing and the environment. From arriving refreshed, supporting socialising whilst providing an opportunity for children to learn road safety skills in an interactive and safe environment.</p> | All strategies, policies, interventions should be subject to an equality assessment. | Positive Neutral |
| <p>Disability</p> <p>It is likely to have an effect on a particular type of disability? Why?</p> | <p>Every day NNC provides transport for 4,133 mainstream students to and from 54 schools. Ten schools alone account for 3,614 of those pupils. In addition, there are a further 173 students using the Home to School service under the Post 16 policy.</p> | No barriers identified. | Neutral |

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|--|--|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? | Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group. |
| | <p>Children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) are also potentially entitled to free transport where it is deemed unreasonable to expect them to be able to walk to school, even if accompanied by an adult, due to their SEND or disabilities. In the case of young people with SEND, their nearest suitable school will be the one named in their Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).</p> <p>The Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy proposes the establishment of an Independent Travel Training programme which supports children and young people with SEND to travel independently if considered appropriate.</p> | | |
| Gender Reassignment | No identified impact or factors to consider. | N/A | Neutral |
| Will there be an impact on trans males and/or trans females? | | | |
| Race | No identified impact or factors to consider. | | Neutral |
| Are people from one ethnic group affected more than people from another ethnic group? | | | |
| Sexual Orientation | Sexual orientation can impact on personal safety risk and sense of feeling safe. No identified impact or factors to consider. | N/A | Neutral |
| Are people of one sexual orientation affected differently to people of another sexual orientation? | | | |

| Protected Groups | General Equality Duty Considerations | Changes | Impact |
|---|--|--|---------------------|
| Marriage & Civil Partnership Are people in a Marriage or Civil Partnership treated less favourably? | No identified impact or factors to consider. | N/A | Neutral |
| Pregnancy & Maternity Are people who are pregnant, or have a baby of 6 months old or younger, effected by this proposal? | There can be changes to how people choose to travel during pregnancy and maternity, tending to decrease active travel during pregnancy. ¹ Given the life change with a baby, travel patterns and mode choice are also adjusted. Supporting those in early years to travel actively can improve socialisation, reduce isolation whilst increasing physical activity. | N/A | Positive Neutral |
| Religion or Belief Does the proposal effect people differently depending on whether they have or do not have a religion or a belief? | No identified impact or factors to consider. | N/A | Neutral |
| Health & Wellbeing 1. Health behaviours (E.g. diet, exercise, alcohol, smoking) 2. Support (E.g. community cohesion, rural isolation) 3. Socio economic (E.g. income, education). | 3 in 10 children in North Northamptonshire do not achieve their minimum recommended physical activity level of one hour per day. The policy encourages and supports active and sustainable travel the former of which contributes to increasing or maintaining physical activity in children and young people. The policy will inform decision making that includes key aims of improving health and wellbeing | All strategies, policies, interventions should be subject to an equality assessment. | Positive Neutral |

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4721300/>

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|--|---|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? | Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group. |
| 4. Environment (E.g. green spaces, fuel poverty, housing standards). | promoting active lives, active and sustainable transport, and the environment. | | |

3: Equality Impact

| Question | Response |
|--|--|
| What overall impact does the proposal have on the protected groups? If a negative impact is identified anywhere in section 2, the response will be Negative Impact. | No Impact / Positive Impact |
| Does an Equality Impact Assessment need to be completed? (Yes, if any negative impact is found.) | No If yes, this Equality Screening Assessment must be adjoined to the Equality Impact Assessment. |
| Copy attached to relevant report? | Yes |
| Is this document going to be published with the relevant report? | Yes |

4: Ownership

| Question | Response |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Directorate | Children's Services |

| Question | Response |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Service area | Children, Families, and Education |
| Lead officer's name | Marsha Brown |
| Lead officer's job title | Project Manager, School Organisation |
| Lead officer's contact details | marsha.brown@northnorthants.gov.uk |
| Lead officer's signature | Marsha Brown |
| Date completed | 25/07/2023 |

Completed forms must be sent to Equalities@northnorthants.gov.uk