

Appendix 4 – Equality Impact Assessment Screening

**Equality Impact Assessment: conversation screening tool**

*[Use this form to prompt an EIA conversation and capture the output between officers, stakeholders and interested groups. This completed form or a full EIA report will be published as part of the decision-making process]*

<b>Policy/Service under development/review:</b>	Pokesdown Railway Station Improvement
<b>What changes are being made to the policy/service?</b>	<p>At present the platforms are accessed by long steep stairs from street level which makes the station inaccessible to wheelchair users, disabled and non-disabled persons with limited mobility and difficult to use for many others, for example anyone with heavy luggage, and those with cycles or young children, or that are pregnant.</p> <p>The proposal is in partnership with Network Rail and South Western Railway to facilitate works to provide working lifts that will enable easy access to the platforms from the station forecourt. Thus, overcoming the accessibility issues mentioned in the paragraph above.</p>
<b>Service Unit:</b>	Transport and Engineering
<b>Persons present in the conversation and their role/experience in the service:</b>	Richard Pincroft – Head of Transportation John McVey – Sustainable Transport (inc. Policy) Manager Richard Barnes – Strategic Public Transport Manager
<b>Conversation dates:</b>	Various during last decade. EIA conversation: 05/10/21
Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?	<p>Would be Pokesdown Station Rail users from Pokesdown, Boscombe and Southbourne areas that are wheelchair users and non-wheelchair users that are less mobile and any pregnant persons.</p> <p>The catchment for the station includes areas of BCP that has very low levels of car ownership. People without access to cars, particularly those with a disability are often amongst the lowest income groups and are therefore more reliant on public transport.</p>
Do different groups have different needs or experiences in relation to the policy/service?	Yes. In addition to providing better physical access the lifts also need to be designed to accommodate blind and partially sighted people.
Will the policy or service change affect any of these service users?	Yes.
<b>[If the answer to any of the questions above is 'don't know' then you need to gather more evidence and do a full EIA. The best way to do this is to use the Capturing Evidence form]</b>	
What are the benefits or positive impacts of the policy/service change on current or potential service users?	<p>It will positively impact some disabled persons (wheelchair users and any other persons with limited mobility) who are currently unable to access or find accessing the platforms (trains) difficult. It will also benefit the elderly (if less mobile), blind and partially sighted people and any pregnant persons by making it easier to access the platforms (trains).</p> <p>More widely, people that are unable to access the platforms (trains) or find it a barrier at present will be able to use the</p>

	station instead of other stations in the town that are further away but have better access.
What are the negative impacts of the policy/service change on current or potential service users?	The EIA conversation team does not consider there are any negative impacts.
Will the policy or service change affect employees?	Improved accessibility at Pokesdown Station could potentially benefit some colleagues for travel to work and their household travel arrangements – for example by easier travel to school. The BCP Council Travel Plan aims to encourage sustainable travel which includes public transport.
Will the policy or service change affect the wider community?	There are anticipated benefits provided through better access to local services, facilities, healthcare, retail and leisure.
What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by the policy/service change?	The EIA conversation team does not consider there are any negative impacts.
<b>Summary of Equality Implications:</b>	There are not any envisaged negative equality implications as this is an improvement to the transport network which does not result in any detrimental impacts elsewhere. The improvement has been long lobbied for by the local community and is a significant benefit for people that are currently unable to access rail services via this station.

For any questions on this, please contact the Policy and Performance Team by emailing [performance@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:performance@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)