

# Equality Impact Analysis Form

## 1. Equality Impact Analysis (EqIA) Form

<b>Title of EqIA</b>	East Hertfordshire Air Quality Action Plan 2024-2029	<b>Date</b>	January 2024
<b>Team/Department</b>	Environmental Health / Housing and Health		
<b>Focus of EqIA</b>	<p>This equality impact analysis (EqIA) has been written to accompany the new East Hertfordshire Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2024-2029 which is being considered by the council's Executive Committee on 13/02/2024. The AQAP sets out the current position with regards to air quality in East Hertfordshire and focuses on three areas of the district where air quality exceeds national air quality objective.</p> <p>Many of the actions focus on implementing behavioural change within the population and are at the exploratory stage. It is envisioned that when these exploratory actions are looked at in more detail and before they are implemented, if appropriate, a further action specific EqIA will be undertaken to ensure there are no unintended consequences leading to discrimination. At this stage we have identified in the tables below which actions have potential to impact on someone with a particular protected characteristic, and therefore would require an EqIA.</p>		

## 2. Review of information, equality analysis and potential actions

Please fill in when appropriate to the change. If it does not, please put N/A

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
Age	<p>The median age for people living in the Bishop's Stortford AQMA is 35; the Hertford AQMA is 41 &amp; the Sawbridgeworth AQMA is 47. This does not show the number of children or older people living in these areas, however, children and older people are both particularly susceptible to the effects of air pollution.</p> <p>Children - Poor air</p>	<p>During the consultation on the AQAP, members for the public identified that some of the actions within the AQAP, such as exploring the benefits of a ULEZ or differential parking charges could adversely affect those with mobility issues. These actions would be subject to separate EqIAs if and when they move from the exploratory stage to</p>	<p>The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.</p>	<p>We will undertake more detailed EqIAs for the following actions when appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5</li> <li>• 3.5</li> <li>• 3.7</li> </ul>

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
	<p>quality can lead to reduced cognitive development, an increased risk of asthma and has been linked to depression and obesity. The latter issues are linked more widely to decreased levels of physical activity in areas deemed to have the worst air quality.</p> <p>Older people – Poor air quality can significantly increase health risks for older people, including increased risk of heart problems and stroke.</p>	<p>the implementation stage.</p>		

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
<b>Disability</b>	<p>People with certain existing health conditions are particularly susceptible to the effects of air pollution. Exposure to poor air quality can exacerbate symptoms of asthma and cardiovascular disease. It also increases the risk of heart problems and stroke for those with existing cardiovascular and respiratory conditions.</p>	<p>During the consultation on the AQAP, members for the public identified that some of the actions within the AQAP, such as exploring the benefits of a ULEZ or differential parking charges could adversely affect those with mobility issues. These actions would be subject to separate EqlAs if and when they move from the exploratory stage to the implementation stage.</p>	<p>The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.</p>	<p>We will undertake more detailed EqlAs for the following actions when appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.2</li> <li>• 1.3</li> <li>• 1.6</li> <li>• 1.7</li> <li>• 3.2</li> <li>• 3.5</li> <li>• 3.6</li> </ul>

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
<p><b>Gender reassignment</b></p>	<p>There are no known specific risks associated with gender reassignment and air pollution.</p> <p>While there are no known specific risks for people in this group, information found on the ONS website, suggests that the percentage of people who's gender identity is the same as that registered at birth is consistent whether or not individuals live in an AQMA.</p>	<p>No comments received as part of the consultation.</p>	<p>The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.</p>	<p>No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are part of this protected characteristic.</p>

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	<p>Exposure to poor air quality can affect a foetus within the first few weeks, with evidence emerging for resulting low birth weights and premature birth. Therefore, pregnant women are also particularly susceptible to air pollution.</p>	<p>During the consultation on the AQAP, members for the public identified that some of the actions within the AQAP, such as exploring the benefits of a ULEZ or differential parking charges could adversely affect those with mobility issues. These actions would be subject to separate EqlAs if and when they move from the exploratory stage to the implementation stage.</p>	<p>The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.</p>	<p>No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are part of this protected characteristic.</p>

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
<b>Race</b>	<p>No known specific risks associated with a person's ethnicity and air pollution.</p> <p>Data from the ONS website indicates that a higher proportion of people from BME backgrounds live in or adjacent to each of the three AQMAs than the rest of the town.</p>	No comments received as part of the consultation.	The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.	<p>We will undertake more detailed EqIAs for the following actions when appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.7</li> </ul>
<b>Religion or belief</b>	No known specific risks associated with religion/beliefs and air pollution.	No comments received as part of the consultation.	The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on	No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are part of this protected characteristic.

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
			the basis of public exposure.	
<b>Sex/Gender</b>	No known specific risks associated with sex/gender and air pollution.	No comments received as part of the consultation.	The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.	No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are part of this protected characteristic.
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	<p>No known specific risks associated with sexual orientation and air pollution.</p> <p>While there are no known specific risks for people in this</p>	No comments received as part of the consultation.	The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air quality management areas (AQMAs) which have been declared on	No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are part of this protected characteristic.



Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
	<p>group, information found on the ONS website, suggests more people who identify as part of the LGBTQI+ community live in the AQMA in Hertford (3.26%) as opposed to the surrounding areas (2.27%). This trend is not the same for the Sawbridgeworth or Bishop's Stortford AQMAs which does not show any significant difference.</p>		<p>the basis of public exposure.</p>	
<p><b>Marriage and civil partnership</b></p>	<p>No known specific risks associated with marriage/civil partnership and air</p>	<p>No comments received as part of the consultation.</p>	<p>The AQAP aims to improve air quality across East Hertfordshire, with a focus on the three air</p>	<p>No actions appear at this stage to specifically disadvantage individuals who are</p>

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know?	What do people tell you?	What does this mean?	What can you do?
	pollution.		quality management areas (AQMAS) which have been declared on the basis of public exposure.	part of this protected characteristic.
<b>Assessment of overall impacts and any further recommendations</b>				
<p>The actions contained within the AQAP have the potential to disproportionately affect some individuals who identify as being part of one of the protected characteristics. Race, disability and age are the main protected characteristics which, at this stage, have the potential to lead to residents being differentially affected. For these, an action specific EqIA will need to be undertaken to ensure individuals who identify as being in one of these protected characteristics are adequately considered at the project design stage.</p>				

### 3. List detailed data and/or community feedback which informed your EqIA (If applicable)

Title	Date	Gaps in data	Actions to fill these gaps: who else do you need to engage with?
<p>ONS Census Map – Ethnicity</p> <p><a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/ethnic-group/ethnic-group-tb-6a/white?lad=E07000242">https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/ethnic-group/ethnic-group-tb-6a/white?lad=E07000242</a></p>	<p>Census 2021</p>	<p>Output areas, are relatively large and do not fit exactly with the boundary with the AQMAs, therefore for the purpose for this report data has been extrapolated.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ONS Census Map – Gender identity</p> <p><a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/gender-identity/gender-identity-4a/gender-identity-the-same-as-sex-registered-at-birth?lad=E07000242">https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/gender-identity/gender-identity-4a/gender-identity-the-same-as-sex-registered-at-birth?lad=E07000242</a></p>	<p>Census 2021</p>	<p>Output areas, are relatively large and do not fit exactly with the boundary with the AQMAs, therefore for the purpose for this report data has been extrapolated.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Title	Date	Gaps in data	Actions to fill these gaps: who else do you need to engage with?
<p>ONS Census Map – Sexual orientation</p> <p><a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/sexual-orientation/sexual-orientation-4a/straight-or-heterosexual?lad=E07000242">https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/identity/sexual-orientation/sexual-orientation-4a/straight-or-heterosexual?lad=E07000242</a></p>	Census 2021	Output areas, are relatively large and do not fit exactly with the boundary with the AQMAs, therefore for the purpose for this report data has been extrapolated.	N/A
<p>ONS Lower Super Output Areas</p> <p><a href="https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/3f6c84f1-9da1-4ee0-82a7-50086a775e22/lower-layer-super-output-areas-2021-boundaries-ew-bgc">https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/3f6c84f1-9da1-4ee0-82a7-50086a775e22/lower-layer-super-output-areas-2021-boundaries-ew-bgc</a></p>	Census 2021	Output areas, are relatively large and do not fit exactly with the boundary with the AQMAs, therefore for the purpose for this report data has been extrapolated.	N/A
World Health Organisation (WHO)	Various	Data from WHO is very comprehensive, no	N/A

Title	Date	Gaps in data	Actions to fill these gaps: who else do you need to engage with?
<a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a>		gaps identified.	
Public Health England (PHE) – Health matters: air pollution <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-air-pollution/health-matters-air-pollution">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-air-pollution/health-matters-air-pollution</a>	14/08/2023	Data from PHE is very comprehensive, no gaps identified.	N/A

#### 4. Prioritised Action Plan (If applicable)

These actions must now be transferred to service or business plans and monitored to ensure they achieve the outcomes identified.

Impact identified and group(s) affected	Action planned	Expected outcome	Measure of success	Timeframe
N/A				

**EqIA sign-off:** (for the EQIA to be final an email must sent from the relevant people agreeing it or this section must be signed)

**Lead Equality Impact Assessment officer:**

**Date:**

Jonathan Geall, Head of Housing and Health

**Directorate Management Team rep or Head of Service:**

**Date:**

Jonathan Geall, Head of Housing and Health

**Author of Equality Impact Analysis:**

**Date:**

Paul Thomas-Jones, Service Manager (Environmental Health)