

ROCHDALE COUNCIL

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DRAFT GUIDELINES & STANDARDS FOR HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY USES

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

November 2014

ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

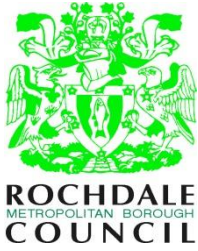
This document is an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the draft Guidelines & Standards for Hot Food Takeaway Uses Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which has been prepared by the Council. The attached Pro-forma sets out how equality impacts have been assessed.

Context

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 (RRAA) requires the council to carry out race equality impact assessments on new and proposed policies. The council's race equality scheme, as adopted 21 March 2005 lays down the council's commitment to undertake race equality impact assessments.

The Equality Standard for Local Government also requires equalities impact assessments to be evidenced in order to achieve progress against the levels contained in the Standard. The council has committed itself to implementation of the Standard across nine protected characteristics: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex (gender); and sexual orientation. In addition to these, the Council also includes the following two categories: carer and Armed Forces and Ex-Armed Forces personnel. This means that the council will ultimately be required to undertake equalities impact assessments that address all of these equalities areas.

Equality Impact Assessment



What are you assessing? Please tick the appropriate box below.

Function	Strategy	Policy	Project	Other, please specify below
		X		

Service: Economy and Environment	Section: Strategic Planning
Responsible Officer: Wayne Poole	Name of function/strategy/ policy/ project assessed: Draft Guidelines and Standards for Hot Food Takeaway Uses Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Date of Assessment: 24 th September 2014	
Officers Involved: Wayne Poole Sohida Banu	
1.What is the purpose of the policy assessed?	
The draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared to guide planning decisions relating to hot food takeaways. The SPD sets out the Council's approach to deciding which locations in the borough are appropriate for hot food takeaway premises and whether measures are required to minimise impacts on local neighbourhoods.	
2.Who are the key stakeholders?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general public • Hot food takeaway proprietors • Fast food outlets 	

- Schools

3. What is the scope of this equality impact assessment? That is, what is included in this assessment.

This assessment covers the general impact of the guidance contained within the SPD's. It is important to note that SPD's are intended to supplement, clarify and explain the interpretation of existing policy as opposed to making new policy.

4. Which needs is this function/strategy/ policy/ project designed to meet?

The SPD is intended to provide clarity and consistency in terms of both process and planning decision-making, of benefit to future owners/operators of hot food takeaways, decision makers and those who may wish to comment on a takeaway application.

The wider borough population may also benefit as the SPD will control and minimise any negative environmental impacts that may arise from hot food takeaways, particularly those impacts that affect residential neighbourhoods such as noise, litter/waste, odour, etc.

5. Has a needs analysis been undertaken?

A specific needs analysis has not been undertaken. However, it is important to have up to date guidance in respect of hot food takeaway uses in place to maintain local amenity and promote healthier eating.

6. Who is affected by this function/strategy/ policy/ project?

- The general public
- Hot food takeaway proprietors
- Fast food outlets
- Schools

7. Who has been involved in the review or development of this function/strategy/ policy/ project and who has been consulted? State your consultation/involvement methodology.

SPD's are governed by specific regulations in terms of consultation. Prior to the approval of any final document a Consultation Statement must be produced setting out who was consulted, the comments received and how they have been addressed within the final document. As well as general consultees this will include key stakeholders who would have a particular interest in this document such as schools and hot food takeaway owners. In terms of developing the draft document this has taken account of national guidance and internal discussions between officers, including those from public health and environmental health.

8. What data have you considered for this assessment and have any gaps in the data been identified. What action will be taken to close any data gaps?

In 2012 Public Health England published data on excess weight in adults for all local authorities in England . According to the survey, 68.6% of adults in Rochdale are obese or overweight, which is the 7th highest out of all the local authorities in the North West and is higher than the North West and England averages.

In terms of childhood obesity rates in Rochdale, data is collated as part of the National Child Measurement

Programme (NCMP) which weighs and measures reception and year six children across England. For 2012/13 8.8% of reception year children were obese (5th highest in GM) whereas 12.9% were overweight (4th lowest in GM). In year six 20.7% of children were found to be obese (3rd highest in GM) and 13% were overweight (2nd lowest in GM). Rochdale is below the England and North West averages for all of the above groups except obesity in year 6 children.

Rochdale Council is working hard to support weight loss initiatives and healthier lifestyles across the borough. A Healthy Lifestyles Strategy has been developed together with a Healthy Weight Action Plan which is one of several action plans aimed at supporting healthier living. Further details of the strategy and action plans are available on the councils website:

http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/the_council/policies_and_plans/health_and_well_being/healthy_lifestyles_strategy.aspx

In addition to the above strategy and action plans, Rochdale Council offers a number of services to help people lose weight and live a healthier life. Details of these services are available in the Health & Wellbeing area of the Councils website:

http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/health_and_wellbeing/live_well/how_to_be_a_healthy_weight.aspx.

Rochdale Council continues to build on work previously undertaken with hot food providers particularly traditional fish and chip shops, where a successful scheme has reduced salt content by the use of differently designed dispensers. A "Healthier Chip Shop" scheme provides technical expertise to fish and chip shops to reduce transfats usage and encourage the selection of peas and alternative healthier options when chip meals are ordered.

Expansion of this scheme into "Healthy Choices" will allow for more outlets to become engaged and successfully complete the programme resulting in healthier options for Rochdale residents. Also an expansion of the current evaluation will take place. The expanded evaluation plan will look at business engagement and success as well as customer response and lifestyle change to healthier options such as grilled fish and healthier chips.

The Healthier Chips Scheme is available to all takeaways in the borough who can obtain gold, silver or bronze accreditation. Further advice and details on how to participate are available at:

http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/campaigns/healthier_chips.aspx

No gaps have been identified at this stage. Any identified through the consultation will be considered appropriately.

9.Are there any other documents or strategies which are linked to this assessment? If so, please include hyperlinks to these documents below, where available.

See links within the response to question 8.

10.What impact will this function/strategy/policy/project have on all the protected groups? This includes both positive and potentially negative impacts.

Race Equality

There is no evidence that the SPD will have a negative or positive impact on any specific ethnic group.

However, there is a perception that a significant proportion of takeaways are owned, operated and provide employment for minority ethnic groups, and consequently imposing planning controls through the SPD will affect these groups.

The SPD will be applicable and will impose planning controls for all future planning applications for any hot food takeaway, regardless of the race/ethnicity of the owners/operators/employees. In determining applications, decisions will take into account and balance the relevant factors as set out within the SPD principles.

The numbers of future planning applications which may be refused as a result of the SPD are likely to be relatively few in number, and will be limited to specific geographic locations.

Disabled People

It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Carers

It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Gender

It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Age

The SPD proposes the restriction of new takeaways within close proximity of the borough's secondary schools. This principle will support other local initiatives to tackle childhood obesity, and therefore has potential to positively benefit the health of secondary school aged children.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Armed Forces and Ex-Armed Forces Personnel

It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Sexual Orientation

It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.

Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.

Gender Reassignment

<p>It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.</p> <p>Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.</p>
<p>Religion or Belief</p>
<p>It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.</p> <p>Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.</p>
<p>Pregnant Women or Those on Maternity Leave</p>
<p>It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.</p> <p>Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.</p>
<p>Marriage or Civil Partnership</p>
<p>It is not anticipated that this SPD is likely to have a negative impact upon this group.</p> <p>Generally the SPD will have a positive impact of those living in close proximity to hot food takeaways since policies within the SPD are aimed at protecting local environmental quality and residential amenity.</p>
<p>11.What are your main conclusions from this analysis?</p>
<p>Generally the overall impacts are positive in ensuring that environmental quality is maintained and this has potential benefits for all members of the community.</p> <p>It also has potential positive impacts in terms of promoting healthy eating habits amongst secondary school aged children.</p> <p>There is a perception that a higher proportion of hot food takeaways are owned, operated and provide employment for minority ethnic groups. However, as noted above, the guidance and controls contained within the SPD will be applied to all hot food takeaway uses, regardless of the race/ethnicity of the owners/operators/employees.</p>
<p>12.What are your recommendations?</p>
<p>No further recommendations at this stage.</p>
<p>13.What actions are you going to take to address the findings of this assessment? Please attach an action plan including details of designated officers responsible for completing these actions.</p>
<p>No actions required at this stage.</p>

Signed (Completing Officer): *W.Poolle*

Date: 6th October 2014

Signed (Head of Service): *M. Robinson*

Date: 6th October 2014