

Appendix C: Equality Impact Assessment – Initial Screening

Proposal: Review of Parking Charges.

	Likely Impact			Brief Explanation
	High	Low	None	
Age			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p> <p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a particular age who rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Disability			✓	<p>Residents in CPZs who hold valid disabled persons Blue Badges are eligible for free permits. Blue Badge holders are also exempt from parking charges at on and off-street parking spaces. The proposal is envisaged to have no impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Race			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p> <p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a race who rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Sex			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p>

				<p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a particular gender who rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Sexual Orientation			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p> <p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a particular sexual orientation which rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Religion or belief			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p> <p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a particular religion or belief group who rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.</p>
Gender re-assignment			✓	<p>The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety.</p> <p>I have considered whether the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on this characteristic / an element of this characteristic, over another and as there does not appear to be a particular gender reassignment who rely on and use cars more than another, the proposal is not likely to</p>

				have a disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Pregnancy & maternity			✓	The proposed variation to charges aims to promote a shift to more active modes of travel and greater use of more sustainable transport modes leading to a reduction in car use and improved air quality, congestion and road safety. The proposal is envisaged to have no impact on this protected characteristic.
Marriage & civil partnership (employment only)			✓	Marriage & civil partnership is protected only in relation to employment, not to the provision of services. As the proposal does not relate to employment this protected characteristic has not been considered for this screening.
Caring responsibilities			✓	Residents in CPZs who require regular carers to visit their homes are eligible, on application and provision of appropriate documentation, for a free carer's permit. The proposal is therefore expected to have no impact on this protected characteristic.

Background

The proposal that this Equality Impact Assessment – Initial Screening applies to is a review of all parking charges in the Royal Borough for permits (residents, businesses etc.), car park permits and on and off-street Pay & Display (P&D) charges.

The Council's Draft Carbon Neutral Plan recognises that most of the emissions in Royal Greenwich come from transport and energy used by homes and businesses. Some of the key changes required in achieving the ambitious goals set out in the Plan are dependent on behavioural changes around transport by reducing the number of journeys made by polluting motor vehicles, encouraging a move to more active and sustainable modes and an ambition in the Draft Carbon Neutral Plan to achieve a 45% reduction in car use by 2030.

Increased parking charges can positively contribute to a change in behaviour to more active travel options of walking and cycling and more sustainable modes of transport. The proposals therefore support and are consistent with the key aims of the Mayor's Transport Strategy, Draft Carbon Neutral Plan and wider transport objectives to reduce traffic congestion improve air quality and road safety.

The proposed charges, as with the existing charge structure, provide that residents of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) who hold a valid disabled persons Blue Badge will be eligible for a free permit on application. Furthermore, in relation to on and off-street parking charges Blue Badge holders can park for an unlimited time at Pay and Display bays and within council car parks (irrespective of parking in designated disabled parking bay or not).

The proposed on and off-street charges seek to increase shorter stays thereby leading to greater 'churn' of limited parking spaces. This may in turn lead to greater parking opportunity for Blue Badge holders.

Residents within CPZs who require carers to attend their homes to provide regular care may also apply for a Carer's Permit which is similarly free of charge.

Based on this Initial Screening the proposal is therefore expected to have no impact on the protected characteristics listed above and further Equality Impact Assessment is therefore not required.

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