

**Shropshire Council****Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)****Initial Screening Record 2021-2022****A. Summary Sheet on Accountability and Actions**

<b>Name of proposed service change</b>
Street Trading Policy 2023 to 2028

<b>Name of lead officer carrying out the screening</b>
Mandy Beever, Transactional Management and Licensing Team Manager

<b>Decision, review, and monitoring</b>
---

<b>Decision</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Initial (part one) ESHIA Only?	✓	
Proceed to Full ESHIA or HIA (part two) Report?		✓

*If completion of an initial or Part One assessment is an appropriate and proportionate action at this stage, please use the boxes above. If a Full or Part Two report is required, please move on to full report stage once you have completed this initial screening assessment as a record of the considerations which you have given to this matter.*

<b>Actions to mitigate negative impact or enhance positive impact of the service change in terms of equality, social inclusion, and health considerations</b>
<p>The proposed Policy stems from provisions within the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and is intended to benefit the community as a whole by generally improving the street trading regime operated by the Council. This will naturally lead to benefits for people in the nine Protected Characteristic Groupings as defined by the Equality Act 2010, because they are part of the wider community and because everyone is anticipated to benefit from the safeguarding provisions in place already that are being reinforced through this revised Policy.. The Policy will be a key tool that will drive street trading standards up for everyone.</p> <p>For all the groupings, the impact of the proposed Policy is rated as 'low positive'. However, in practice, with the exception of 'age' and 'disability' and those with caring responsibilities, thus potentially including the groupings of 'sex' and 'pregnancy and maternity', the impact in reality is likely to be neutral – neither positive nor negative – with no anticipated need to take actions to mitigate or</p>

enhance the impact beyond common sense considerations that will benefit all groupings.

Additionally, positive impacts are anticipated to accrue for our tenth grouping of consideration in Shropshire, of Social Inclusion. This is not least due to improvements anticipated for vulnerable individuals and households such as young people leaving care, and veterans and serving members of the armed forces, as well as low income households, rural households, and people living in fuel poverty.

This would include consideration of sightlines where street traders are in operation to aid those with caring responsibilities, whether of young children or of people with mental health problems, learning disabilities, or neurodiverse conditions, and consideration of practical accessibility matters for people with physical disabilities or those who may be pregnant.

In addition, as street traders may unintentionally cause intimidation or distress to vulnerable children and adults through the methods that they may choose to employ to attract business, such as loud voices, guidance will need to be given on this matter to people applying for licences. This may be a particular consideration for people with neurodiverse conditions such as autism, or with attachment disorders. Once traders are in operation, there is potential for any officer of the Council to help, e.g. attending social workers, by being made aware of the new policy and by being encouraged to act as the eyes and ears of the Council in helping feedback to the service area. This could help ensure effectiveness as well as efficiency of the new policy.

#### **Actions to review and monitor the impact of the service change in terms of equality, social inclusion, and health considerations**

With respect to 'age' and 'disability' groups and people with caring responsibilities, in particular around the Council's safeguarding responsibilities, there will be ongoing dialogue with the Shropshire Children Safeguarding Board and the Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board. Use will be made of the Communications team to aid knowledge sharing about the arrangements and about the safeguarding measures that are in place.

Applicants and licence holders, including any who may not already be aware of the revision of this policy, as a result of the informal consultation undertaken from the 21 March 2022 to the 17 April 2022 and the formal consultation undertaken from 27 June 2022 to the 21 August 2022, will be made aware of the implementation through normal licensing processes. The policy will be available on the Council's website and promoted through appropriate social media channels. This will ensure that the street traders, together with the public and other relevant stakeholders, have ongoing access to the policy that clearly sets out the Council's expectations for applicants and licence holders over the next four years.

The public consultation has already helped the Council to modify the Policy. Members of the Strategic Licensing Committee will consider the revised Policy on the 7 December 2022 and will decide whether further consultation is necessary or whether they are in a position to agree that the Policy is adopted by the Council. The aim is for the Policy to be adopted no later than 1 April 2023.

The Policy will be the subject of continuous evaluation based on ongoing feedback from stakeholders and, if necessary, formally reviewed and considered by the Council's Strategic Licensing Committee and Council every 5 years. At the time of review all relevant stakeholders will again be consulted. Anyone may request a review of the Policy at any time.

There will be ongoing dialogue with street traders through direct contact as a result of the application process. This will provide the opportunity for the trade to provide feedback to the licensing team. A generic licensing telephone number and email address is and will continue to be generally publicised on the Council's website for stakeholders, including members of the public, to provide feedback on the impact of the changes made to the Policy.

In addition, street traders must display their licence/consent on their stall; this will highlight to members of the public that Shropshire Council is the issuing authority and can be contacted in the event of any complaint or other issue that they wish to raise. All feedback will be recorded either on the licensing database used to administer the licensing regime or in appropriate electronic files maintained by the Licensing Team Manager.

Elected Member involvement will continue through the Strategic Licensing Committee and the Licensing & Safety Sub-Committee, with issues brought before these Committees as appropriate. Professional leads within the licensing team will have a key role to play in understanding the impact of the Policy on street traders. Feedback will be sought from Members and Officers to inform the ongoing informal and, where necessary, any formal review of the Policy that will be undertaken in the future.

Whilst it is not currently very likely to occur, if the street trading function is delegated to any Town or Parish Council, the primary role to review and monitor the impact will rest with those Councils; however, Elected Members and MPs, in their role as community representatives/leaders will have a key role to play in understanding the impact of this particular element of the Policy on their communities. Feedback will be sought from Members and MPs to inform the review of any delegations. Any such delegation will require formal consideration and resolution by full Council and will be the subject of a separate ESHIA.

### **Associated ESHIAs**

Street Trading Policy 2019 to 2023 (ESIIA undertaken in 2018)

ESHIA in relation to the development of the Council's Economic Growth Strategy and the Local Plan Partial Review also provide useful additional context for the




overall strategic policy of the Council towards economic growth as an integral element of place shaping approaches across the County, in which street trading plays its part.

**Actions to mitigate negative impact, enhance positive impact, and review and monitor overall impacts in terms of any other considerations. This includes climate change considerations**

In addition to the Council's corporate approach towards prioritising and measuring the overall outcomes that are set out in The Shropshire Plan (<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/shropshire-council/corporate-plan/>), the Licensing Team will continue to utilise the expertise within Environmental Protection Team in Regulatory Services, Public Health, Climate Change and Economic Growth Teams to assess the impact on both health and the environment.

Ongoing promotion and compliance with the Council's Modern Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement and Policy will further enhance the overall positive impact of the revised Street Trading Policy.



**Scrutiny at Part One screening stage**

<b>People involved</b>	<b>Signatures</b>	<b>Date</b>
<p><i>Lead officer carrying out the screening</i></p> <p><b>Mandy Beever, Transactional Management and Licensing Team Manager</b></p>		<p>22 November 2022</p>
<p><i>Any internal service area support*</i></p> <p><b>Jessica Moores, Public Protection Officer (Professional)</b></p>		<p>22 November 2022</p>
<p><i>Any external support**</i></p> <p><b>Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist</b></p>		<p>25<sup>th</sup> November 2022</p>

\*This refers to other officers within the service area

**\*\*This refers to support external to the service but within the Council, e.g., the Rurality and Equalities Specialist, the Feedback and Insight Team, performance data specialists, Climate Change specialists, and Public Health colleagues**

**Sign off at Part One screening stage**

Name	Signatures	Date
<p><i>Lead officer's name</i></p> <p><b>Mandy Beever, Transactional Management and Licensing Team Manager</b></p>		<p>22 November 2022</p>
<p><i>Accountable officer's name</i></p> <p><b>Mandy Beever, Transactional Management and Licensing Team Manager</b></p>		<p>22 November 2022</p>

*\*This may either be the Head of Service or the lead officer*

**B. Detailed Screening Assessment**

<b>Aims of the service change and description</b>
<p>Street trading is controlled through Section 3 and Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 ('the 1982 Act'). The legislation is adoptive, which means that for it to take effect across the Shropshire Council administrative area, Shropshire Council ('the Council') must take certain formal steps to adopt the legislation. Once the legislation is adopted, the Council can then determine which streets if any, within its area are to be designated as licence, consent or prohibited streets.</p> <p>Street trading means the selling or exposing or offering for sale of any article (including a living thing) in a street. Streets are designated as either prohibited, licenced or consent and they are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Prohibited Street' means a street in which street trading is prohibited.</li> <li>• 'Licence Street' means a street in which street trading is prohibited without a licence granted by the council.</li> </ul>

- ‘Consent Street’ means a street in which street trading is prohibited without the consent of the council

The Council’s existing Street Trading Policy came into effect on 1 April 2019 and is due to expire on 31 March 2023. It is essential that the Council has a revised policy from 1 April 2023 to ensure a robust framework continues to be in place to provide the basis upon which to deliver the Council’s street trading function, which is fundamental to protecting public safety.

The Policy requires updating to reflect the Council’s priorities and outcomes for 2023 – 2028, in relation to protecting people from harm, promoting health and managing the environment. In addition, ongoing improvements in licensing practices and procedures need to be embedded within the Policy to further strengthen the application process and to provide the foundations for robust enforcement to increase compliance.

The aim of the Policy is to ensure that the Council can properly regulate those who trade in the street and not from within a business premises.

Where a street has not been designated as either prohibited, licenced or consent, the Council has no regulatory responsibility under street trading legislation and, therefore, no permissions are required from the Council. However, street traders must always seek permission to use the land from the relevant land owner. This includes Shropshire Council’s Highways Service or Highways England where the land is a highway.

It is illegal to trade in those streets designated as prohibited streets and the Council cannot subsequently give permission without removing the prohibition. In order to trade legally in a licence or consent street, traders must apply for a street trading licence or consent and be granted permission to trade. Within the Council, this process is undertaken by the Licensing Team. The permission to use land is separate from gaining permission to trade and as a result, prior to submitting an application a street trader must ensure they have permission to use the land from the land owner.

The preparation and publishing of a policy is not a legal requirement under street trading legislation, it is a practical way forward to achieve the desired rationalisation and alignment. It will also enable the Council to seek to ensure that safeguarding and environmental issues and any likely equality impacts are considered alongside economic factors and considerations to be made in pursuing efficiencies in our service delivery processes.

### **Aims of the new Policy**

The proposed Street Trading Policy aims to:

- create a street trading environment which complements premises based trading, is sensitive to the needs of the public, provides diversity and

consumer choice, and enhances the character, ambience and safety of local environments for people who live, work and visit in Shropshire;

- encourage applications from street traders that aim to promote a healthy lifestyle;
- ensure public safety, prevent public nuisance, prevent crime and disorder and protect children, young persons and adults with care and support needs from harm;
- reduce potential harm or exploitation which could occur through street trading by embedding safeguarding principles into the street trading regime, including setting out processes to enable the Council to adequately scrutinise the suitability of applicants;
- provide street traders with a fairer opportunity to challenge Council decisions;
- assist street traders to correctly apply for a street trading licence/consent;
- assist street traders to comply with relevant requirements once a licence/consent is granted;
- encourage local Town and Parish Councils to seek delegated authority to undertake the street trading function where they have a desire to do so;
- provide a clear, transparent and consistent approach to the control of street trading;
- provide a key reference document setting out the Council's position on street trading;
- assist Council officers to administer the application process fairly and efficiently;
- assist the Council to properly regulate street traders; and
- assist Council officers to enforce compliance with street trading controls more effectively.

<b>Intended audiences and target groups for the service change</b>
--

The intended audiences and target groups are considered to be:
--

- The communities of Shropshire, including those who live here, visit here, and work here, regardless of whether they may or may not purchase goods from street traders.
- Persons who wish to apply to undertake street trading
- Persons who hold existing licences or consents, including those that are the subject of review
- The Council, in its capacity as the licensing authority, including licensing officers, members of the relevant licensing committees
- Licensing consultants, solicitors and barristers advising and/or representing applicants and licence/consent holders
- Magistrates and judges hearing appeals or judicial reviews against Council decisions
- Shropshire based Town and Parish Councils
- Premises based traders and market stall holders, particularly those in areas where street trading is likely to occur
- National Association of British Market Authorities
- National Farmers' Retail and Markets Association
- National Market Traders Federation
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Shropshire Chamber of Commerce
- Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board
- Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board
- Shropshire Council Highways, including Environmental Maintenance
- Highways England
- Chief inspector of West Mercia Police
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Shropshire Business Board



- Shropshire MPs
- Shrewsbury BID
- Shropshire Tourist Board
- The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership
- Voluntary Groups/Organisations
- Government Departments and Agencies

The above list is not intended to be exhaustive or in order of priority. It may be added to and amended as and when appropriate.

### **Evidence used for screening of the service change**

- Feedback, over the life of the existing policy, from the street traders, from licensing officers/managers, from enforcement and investigation officers and from other stakeholders that has been recorded and collated on an ongoing basis.
- Officer feedback in relation to the difficulties encountered when administering and enforcing the street trading regime.
- The Council's drive to increase the robustness of safeguarding practices, particularly with respect to children and vulnerable adults.
- Ongoing discussions with Town and Parish Councils that indicate there may be a desire from some to take on the street trading function at a more local level.

### **Specific consultation and engagement with intended audiences and target groups for the service change**

The Council's Strategic Licensing Committee has overseen the review of the Street Trading Policy. This is a group of Councillors drawn from across the whole of the Shropshire area.

The Members of the Committee considered and approved a draft Policy for formal public consultation through the Council's website and directly with relevant stakeholders. The relevant report can be found in the papers for the Committee meeting held on the 22 June 2022 at Agenda Item 7

[Agenda for Strategic Licensing Committee on Wednesday, 22nd June, 2022, 10.00 am — Shropshire Council](#)

The public consultation in respect of the Policy was undertaken over an 8 week period from 27 June 2022 to the 21 August 2022.

In addition to the general information about the consultation that was made available on the Council's 'Get involved' section of its website, direct engagement by email, or face-to-face discussion was undertaken with:

- Street traders who currently have or have previously held street trading consents
- Parish and Town Councils (via Shropshire Association of Local Councils)
- Highways England
- Shropshire Council Highways

The draft Policy aims to demonstrate a clear and consistent approach to the control of street trading.

Despite the steps taken to publicise the consultation the response was limited.

Views have also been sought to determine whether the existing prohibited and consents streets are fit for purpose given the very different economic climate within which street trading is now undertaken compared with the climate that existed when the legislation was originally adopted over thirty years ago by the previous District and Borough Councils.

Following feedback from Bridgnorth Town Council and the Cae Glas Charity in Oswestry, existing street designations have been amended and new streets designated as streets/areas where consent or licence does not have effect for Street Trading purposes in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 1982 Act. This includes, Severn Park (WV15 5AE), Crown Meadow (WV16 4HL), Castle Grounds (WV16 4AB) in Bridgnorth and Cae Glas Park in Oswestry.

The draft Policy has been amended to reflect these changes.

**Initial equality impact assessment by grouping (Initial health impact assessment is included below)**

*Please rate the impact that you perceive the service change is likely to have on a group, through stating this in the relevant column.*

*Please state if it is anticipated to be neutral (no impact) and add any extra notes that you think might be helpful for readers.*

<b>Protected Characteristic groupings and other groupings in Shropshire</b>	<b>High negative impact</b> <i>Part Two ESIIA required</i>	<b>High positive impact</b> <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>	<b>Medium positive or negative impact</b> <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>	<b>Low positive, negative, or neutral impact (please specify)</b> <i>Part One ESIIA required</i>

<b>Age</b> (please include children, young people, young people leaving care, people of working age, older people. Some people may belong to more than one group e.g., a child or young person for whom there are safeguarding concerns e.g., an older person with disability)				positive ✓
<b>Disability</b> (please include mental health conditions and syndromes; hidden disabilities including autism and Crohn's disease; physical and sensory disabilities or impairments; learning disabilities; Multiple Sclerosis; cancer; and HIV)				positive ✓
<b>Gender re-assignment</b> (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				neutral ✓
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b> (please include associated aspects: caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				neutral ✓
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b> (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				positive ✓
<b>Race</b> (please include ethnicity, nationality, culture, language, Gypsy, Traveller)				neutral ✓
<b>Religion and belief</b> (please include Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Nonconformists; Rastafarianism; Shinto, Sikhism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, and any others)				neutral ✓
<b>Sex</b> (this can also be viewed as relating to gender. Please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				positive ✓
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> (please include associated aspects: safety; caring responsibility; potential for bullying and harassment)				neutral ✓
<b>Other: Social Inclusion</b> (please include families and friends with caring responsibilities; households in poverty; people for whom there are safeguarding concerns; people you consider to				positive ✓


be vulnerable; people with health inequalities; refugees and asylum seekers; rural communities; veterans and serving members of the armed forces and their families)				
--	--	--	--	--

**Initial health and wellbeing impact assessment by category**

*Please rate the impact that you perceive the service change is likely to have with regard to health and wellbeing, through stating this in the relevant column.*

*Please state if it is anticipated to be neutral (no impact) and add any extra notes that you think might be helpful for readers.*

<b>Health and wellbeing: individuals and communities in Shropshire</b>	<b>High negative impact</b> <i>Part Two HIA required</i>	<b>High positive impact</b>	<b>Medium positive or negative impact</b>	<b>Low positive negative or neutral impact (please specify)</b>
<p><b>Will the proposal have a <i>direct impact</i> on an individual's health, mental health and wellbeing?</b></p> <p>For example, would it cause ill health, affecting social inclusion, independence and participation?</p> <p>.</p>				<p>positive</p> <p>✓</p>
<p><b>Will the proposal <i>indirectly impact</i> an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?</b></p> <p>For example, will it affect their ability to be physically active, choose healthy food, reduce drinking and smoking?</p> <p>.</p>				<p>positive</p> <p>✓</p>
<p><b>Will the policy have a <i>direct impact</i> on the community - social, economic and environmental living conditions that would impact health?</b></p> <p>For example, would it affect housing, transport, child development, education, employment opportunities, availability of green space</p>				<p>positive</p> <p>✓</p>

or climate change mitigation? .				
<b>Will there be a likely change in <i>demand</i> for or access to health and social care services?</b> For example: Primary Care, Hospital Care, Community Services, Mental Health, Local Authority services including Social Services? .				neutral  

**Identification of likely impact of the service change in terms of other considerations including climate change and economic or societal impacts**

The proposed Policy stems from provisions within the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and is intended to benefit the community as a whole by generally improving the street trading regime operated by the Council.

Based on the positive impact that the change will bring in relation to the human rights of both applicants and their customers, including The Right to Life (Article 2), Right to a Fair Trial (Article 6) and Right to Respect for Private and Family Life (Article 8).

On this basis, the recommendation contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and are unlikely to result in any adverse Human Rights Act implications.

The proposed Policy will naturally lead to benefits for the Protected Characteristic Groupings simply because they are part of the wider community.

The proposed Policy will be a key tool that will drive street trading standards up for everyone.

**Guidance Notes**

**1. Legal Context**

It is a legal requirement for local authorities to assess the equality and human rights impact of changes proposed or made to services. It is up to us as an authority to decide what form our equality impact assessment may take. By way of illustration, some local authorities focus more overtly upon human rights; some include safeguarding. It is about what is considered to be needed in a local authority's area, in line with local factors such as demography and strategic objectives as well as with the national legislative imperatives.

Carrying out these impact assessments helps us as a public authority to ensure that, as far as possible, we are taking actions to meet the general equality duty placed on us by the Equality Act 2010, and to thus demonstrate that the three equality aims are integral to our decision making processes. These are: eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advancing equality of opportunity; and fostering good relations.

These screening assessments for any proposed service change go to Cabinet as part of the committee report, or occasionally direct to Full Council, unless they are ones to do with Licensing, in which case they go to Strategic Licensing Committee.

Service areas would ordinarily carry out a screening assessment, or Part One equality impact assessment. This enables energies to be focussed on review and monitoring and ongoing evidence collection about the positive or negative impacts of a service change upon groupings in the community, and for any adjustments to be considered and made accordingly.

These screening assessments are recommended to be undertaken at timely points in the development and implementation of the proposed service change.

For example, an ESHIA would be a recommended course of action before a consultation. This would draw upon the evidence available at that time, and identify the target audiences, and assess at that initial stage what the likely impact of the service change could be across the Protected Characteristic groupings and our tenth category of Social Inclusion. It would set out intended actions to engage with the groupings, particularly those who are historically less likely to engage in public consultation eg young people, as otherwise we would not know their specific needs.

A second ESHIA would then be carried out after the consultation, to say what the feedback was, to set out changes proposed as a result of the feedback, and to say where responses were low and what the plans are to engage with groupings who did not really respond. This ESHIA would also draw more upon actions to review impacts in order to mitigate the negative and accentuate the positive. Examples of this approach include the Great Outdoors Strategy, and the Economic Growth Strategy 2017-2021

Meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty through carrying out these ESHIAs is very much about using them as an opportunity to demonstrate ongoing engagement across groupings and to thus visibly show we are taking what is called due regard of the needs of people in protected characteristic groupings

If the screening indicates that there are likely to be significant negative impacts for groupings within the community, the service area would need to carry out a full report, or Part Two assessment. This will enable more evidence to be collected that will help the service area to reach an informed opinion.

In practice, Part Two or Full Screening Assessments have only been recommended twice since 2014, as the ongoing mitigation of negative equality impacts should serve to keep them below the threshold for triggering a Full Screening Assessment. The expectation is that Full Screening Assessments in regard to Health Impacts may

occasionally need to be undertaken, but this would be very much the exception rather than the rule.

## **2. Council Wide and Service Area Policy and Practice on Equality, Social Inclusion and Health**

This involves taking an equality and social inclusion approach in planning changes to services, policies, or procedures, including those that may be required by Government. The decisions that you make when you are planning a service change need to be recorded, to demonstrate that you have thought about the possible equality impacts on communities and to show openness and transparency in your decision-making processes.

This is where Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessments (ESHIA) come in. Where you carry out an ESHIA in your service area, this provides an opportunity to show:

- What evidence you have drawn upon to help you to recommend a strategy or policy or a course of action to Cabinet.
- What target groups and audiences you have worked with to date.
- What actions you will take in order to mitigate any likely negative impact upon a group or groupings, and enhance any positive effects for a group or groupings; and
- What actions you are planning to review the impact of your planned service change.

The formal template is there not only to help the service area but also to act as a stand-alone for a member of the public to read. The approach helps to identify whether or not any new or significant changes to services, including policies, procedures, functions, or projects, may have an adverse impact on a particular group of people, and whether the human rights of individuals may be affected.

This assessment encompasses consideration of social inclusion. This is so that we are thinking as carefully and completely as possible about all Shropshire groups and communities, including people in rural areas and people or households that we may describe as vulnerable.

Examples could be households on low incomes or people for whom there are safeguarding concerns, as well as people in what are described as the nine 'protected characteristics' of groups of people in our population, e.g., Age. Another specific vulnerable grouping is veterans and serving members of the Armed Forces, who face particular challenges with regard to access to Health, to Education, and to Housing.

We demonstrate equal treatment to people who are in these groups and to people who are not, through having what is termed 'due regard' to their needs and views when developing and implementing policy and strategy and when commissioning, procuring, arranging, or delivering services.

When you are not carrying out an ESHIA, you still need to demonstrate and record that you have considered equality in your decision-making processes. It is up to you what format you choose.–You could use a checklist, an explanatory note, or a document setting out our expectations of standards of behaviour, for contractors to read and sign. It may well not be something that is in the public domain like an ESHIA, but you should still be ready for it to be made available.

**Both the approaches sit with a manager, and the manager has to make the call, and record the decision made on behalf of the Council. Help and guidance is also available via the Commissioning Support Team, either for data, or for policy advice from the Rurality and Equalities Specialist. Here are some examples to get you thinking.**

*Carry out an ESHIA:*

- If you are building or reconfiguring a building.
- If you are planning to reduce or remove a service.
- If you are consulting on a policy or a strategy.
- If you are bringing in a change to a process or procedure that involves other stakeholders and the wider community as well as particular groupings

*Carry out an equality and social inclusion approach:*

- If you are setting out how you expect a contractor to behave with regard to equality, where you are commissioning a service or product from them.
- If you are setting out the standards of behaviour that we expect from people who work with vulnerable groupings, such as taxi drivers that we license.
- If you are planning consultation and engagement activity, where we need to collect equality data in ways that will be proportionate and non-intrusive as well as meaningful for the purposes of the consultation itself.
- If you are looking at services provided by others that help the community, where we need to demonstrate a community leadership approach

### **3. Council wide and service area policy and practice on health and wellbeing**

We are asking service area leads to consider health and wellbeing impacts, much as they have been doing during 2020-2021, and to look at these in the context of direct and indirect impacts for individuals and for communities. A better understanding across the Council of these impacts will also better enable the Public Health colleagues to prioritise activities to reduce health inequalities in ways that are evidence based and that link effectively with equality impact considerations and climate change mitigation.

### **Health in All Policies – Health Impact Assessment**

Health in All Policies is an upstream approach for health and wellbeing promotion and prevention, and to reduce health inequalities. The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is the supporting mechanism



- Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is the technical name for a common-sense idea. It is a process that considers the wider effects of local policies, strategies and initiatives and how they, in turn, may affect people's health and wellbeing.
- Health Impact Assessment is a means of assessing both the positive and negative health impacts of a policy. It is also a means of developing good evidence-based policy and strategy using a structured process to review the impact.
- A Health Impact Assessment seeks to determine how to maximise health benefits and reduce health inequalities. It identifies any unintended health consequences. These consequences may support policy and strategy or may lead to suggestions for improvements.
- An agreed framework will set out a clear pathway through which a policy or strategy can be assessed and impacts with outcomes identified. It also sets out the support mechanisms for maximising health benefits.

The embedding of a Health in All Policies approach will support Shropshire Council through evidence-based practice and a whole systems approach, in achieving our corporate and partnership strategic priorities. This will assist the Council and partners in promoting, enabling and sustaining the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities whilst reducing health inequalities.

### **Individuals**

#### **Will the proposal have a *direct impact* on health, mental health and wellbeing?**

For example, would it cause ill health, affecting social inclusion, independence and participation?

Will the proposal directly affect an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?

This could include the following: their ability to be physically active e.g., being able to use a cycle route; to access food more easily; to change lifestyle in ways that are of positive impact for their health.

An example of this could be that you may be involved in proposals for the establishment of safer walking and cycling routes (e.g., green highways), and changes to public transport that could encourage people away from car usage. and increase the number of journeys that they make on public transport, by foot or on bicycle or scooter. This could improve lives.

#### **Will the proposal *indirectly impact* an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?**

This could include the following: their ability to access local facilities e.g., to access food more easily, or to access a means of mobility to local services and amenities? (e.g. change to bus route)

Similarly to the above, an example of this could be that you may be involved in proposals for the establishment of safer walking and cycling routes (e.g.

pedestrianisation of town centres), and changes to public transport that could encourage people away from car usage, and increase the number of journeys that they make on public transport, by foot or on bicycle or scooter. This could improve their health and well being.

## **Communities**

Will the proposal directly or indirectly affect the physical health, mental health, and wellbeing of the wider community?

A *direct impact* could include either the causing of ill health, affecting social inclusion, independence and participation, or the promotion of better health.

An example of this could be that safer walking and cycling routes could help the wider community, as more people across groupings may be encouraged to walk more, and as there will be reductions in emission leading to better air quality.

An *indirect impact* could mean that a service change could indirectly affect living and working conditions and therefore the health and well being of the wider community.

An example of this could be: an increase in the availability of warm homes would improve the quality of the housing offer in Shropshire and reduce the costs for households of having a warm home in Shropshire. Often a health promoting approach also supports our agenda to reduce the level of Carbon Dioxide emissions and to reduce the impact of climate change.

Please record whether at this stage you consider the proposed service change to have a direct or an indirect impact upon communities.

## **Demand**

**Will there be a change in demand for or access to health, local authority and social care services?**

For example: Primary Care, Hospital Care, Community Services, Mental Health and Social Services?

An example of this could be: a new housing development in an area would affect demand for primary care and local authority facilities and services in that location and surrounding areas. If the housing development does not factor in consideration of availability of green space and safety within the public realm, further down the line there could be an increased demand upon health and social care services as a result of the lack of opportunities for physical recreation, and reluctance of some groupings to venture outside if they do not perceive it to be safe.

***For further information on the use of ESHIAs: please contact your head of service or contact Mrs Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist and Council policy support on equality, via telephone 01743 258528, or email [lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk).***