

## West Wiltshire District Council

### Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form - September 2007

1. What is the name of the function, policy or service that is being assessed?

Financial Services, encompassing concessionary fares

2. What are the aims of the function, policy or service? Whose needs it is designed to meet? What are the current priorities?

The objective of the service is to deliver high quality, customer focussed financial services in accordance with professional standards and guidelines

The financial services function is designed to meet the needs and demands of its customers (internal services) and its customers business. The concessionary fares section is designed to meet the needs of all members of the public who are eligible to qualify for concessionary travel.

The current priorities are:

- Prepare annual accounts in accordance with new Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Update asset register and asset management in accordance with new SORP
- Review of Treasury Management policies
- Roll out Use of Resources action plan
- Review local concessionary fares scheme in preparation for new national scheme April 2008
- Create a corporate debt management policy
- Update Medium Term Financial Plan following announcement of Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 (CSR07)
- Introduce payments to landlords via BACS

3. In what ways might this function, policy or service affect some groups of people differently? Might some groups find it harder to access the service? Do some groups have particular needs that are not well met by the current policy or service? *Please ensure that you comment against **each** of the dimensions listed below and where no issues are identified that you state this clearly against the relevant dimension.*

Age

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – statutory requirement to be over 60 to qualify

Disability

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – statutory requirement that if registered disabled you are eligible. Potential that disabled population not aware of availability of concession or the alternatives that are offered by WWDC which benefit people with disability.

Gender

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – no issues

Race

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – potential that eligible ethnic minorities are not aware of the availability of concessionary travel.

Religion/belief

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – no issues

Sexual orientation

Financial Services – no issues

Concessionary Fares – no issues

4. What evidence do you have for your judgement? Is there evidence of public concern (e.g. complaints)? Have staff raised concerns? Is there local or national research to suggest that there could be a problem?

Disability – statistics suggest that take up of concessionary travel is significantly lower for able bodied over 60's compared to the disabled population.

Race – no figures to back up the judgement, just an awareness that the majority of passes issued are for white british.

5. How and with whom have you consulted with as part of your assessment? What were the results? Have you published the results of that consultation? If so, where?

The assessment has only been consulted with internal staff no results have been published they have only been used as management information.

6. If you have found that the function, policy or service might have an adverse impact on a particular group of people, can you justify this?

The function does not have an adverse effect, merely that if promoted more could have a more positive effect on those sections of the community.

7. If the impact cannot be justified, what do you intend to do about this? Are there changes that you could introduce which would make the function, policy or service work better for this group of people? Is further research or consultation required?

Promotion of the concessionary pass in those two areas of the community would encourage those groups to take up a pass.

8. How will you monitor the take-up or impact of the function, policy or service in the next 18 months?

The take up of disabled passes is continually monitored on a monthly basis. Work needs to be carried out to devise a way to monitor the take up of ethnic groups, however this information is currently not asked for on the form as there is no real justification to ask for this data when customers are applying for a pass.

9. What actions do you plan to take as a result of this EIA – or the actions that you would you recommend to the transitional team? *Please include target dates for completion of actions and resource implications where possible.*

As per the actions identified in response to question 7.

10. If no actions have been identified in section 9 above, please state when a further review of this assessment is planned:

11. Name of person completing form:

Andy Brown

Date assessment completed: 30.11.2007

12. Name of senior manager approving assessment:

All completed and approved equality impact assessments will be published on Wiltshire County Council's website: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

EIA Ref No:

Date assessment approved by senior manager: