

Preston City Council Equality & Human Rights Preliminary Impact Assessment (EHRIA) 2019



EHRIA Title	Greenspace maintenance in Parish Council areas
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Directorate	Customer Services
Department	Parks and Streetscene

Lead Officer	Mark Taylor
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EHRIA review date	January 2021
Date of decision making meeting: Cabinet / Council (if relevant)	NA

Signed off (approval given to publish on council website)	Neil Fairhurst 	17.1.20
Service Manager/Director	Mark Taylor 	
Internal Equality Group Representative	Stephen Daley Lesley Pritchard	

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'Due regard' to the Public Sector Equality Duty which are:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advancing equality of opportunity
- Fostering good relations

We do this by undertaking equality and human rights impact assessments (EHRIA's) to help us understand the implications of any new or changes to policies or decisions regarding services the Council makes and the impact this has on people with protected characteristics – EHRIA's are our way of evidencing this.

EHRIA Questions

Why is this assessment being carried out?

This is a retrospective preliminary assessment regarding the Council's decision to consult with the parishes. The question asked of the parishes was whether they would agree to making a financial contribution to the maintenance of greenspace.

A request was made to all parishes with greenspace for a contribution towards the cost of maintenance. The total sum of the contributions requested was £50,000 per annum from 1st April 2018. This equates to an 18% contribution towards the cost of maintenance.

The reason Council sought this contribution was due to the significant reduction in local government funding - all scenarios were being explored that would assist the sustainability of ground maintenance standards.

This was a consultation exercise to seek the views of the parishes. If they had decided not to make the contribution then a full EHRIA would have been necessary. This would have accompanied the Cabinet/ Council report and would have set out the parishes response to the consultation exercise.

Is this a statutory service?

The consultation did not relate to a statutory service

Is this activity delivered in partnership?

No

If so, who has overall control?

NA

Please briefly describe current activity:

This was a consultation exercise with the Parishes to determine whether they were willing to contribute to greenspace maintenance costs as detailed above

Why is this change necessary?

See above for reasons regarding the need to consult

Does this change contribute to the Public Sector Equality Duty and Council priorities?

Yes. The proposed scheme supports the delivery of the Council's Your City corporate priority.

Does this change pose risks for the Council with regards to meeting the Public Sector Equality Duties?

The Council was consulting on a proposed contribution to maintenance funding

As stated above the reason the Council sought this contribution was due to the significant reductions in local government funding - all scenarios were being explored that would assist the sustainability of ground maintenance standards.

There was no such risk to the Council with regards to meeting the Public Sector Equality duties. .
These would have been addressed had the Council found it necessary to carry out a full EHRIA.

Has any consultation been carried out?

Yes. All Parish Council's were consulted in both person and writing. There is also evidence that some Parish Councils consulted with their residents.