

Preston City Council Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA), January 2020



EHRIA Title	Stoneygate Regeneration Framework SPD
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Directorate	Development Directorate
Department	Planning Policy Section

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EHRIA review date	
Date of decision making meeting: Cabinet / Council (if relevant)	Cabinet [INSERT MEETING DATE]

Signed off (approval given to publish on council website)	Name	Date
Service Manager/Director	Chris Blackburn	21/01/20
Internal Equality Group Representative	Chris Blackburn	21/01/20

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 assessment is being carried out to demonstrate compliance of the Stoneygate Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) with the General Duty of the Equality Act 2010 on all public bodies to have 'Due regard' to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Is this a statutory service?

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are a material consideration in planning decisions but SPDs do not form part of the statutory development plan.

Will your activity involve the collection of new information about people? If so please complete a [Privacy Impact Screening Assessment \(PIA\)](#) ?

The Preston City Council Planning Policy Privacy Notice is available at:
<https://www.preston.gov.uk/article/1687/Planning-Policy-Privacy-Notice>

Data will be obtained where representations are made on the SPD during the statutory 4 week consultation period on the SPD.

Is this activity delivered in partnership?

No external partnership is involved in the production of the SPD. However, the Regeneration Framework upon which the SPD is based was prepared by external consultants commissioned by Preston City Council.

If so, who has overall control?

Preston City Council Planning Policy for the SPD and City Development Team for the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework.

Please briefly describe current activity:

City Development Team is drafting the Stoneygate SPD based on the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework, which was completed in June 2019 and was launched in July 2019. The Planning Policy Section is drafting the supporting documents for the SPD.

The principle of the creation of an Urban Village in the Stoneygate area by encouraging housing proposals to explore opportunities for improved and enhanced inter-connectivity, adopting effective place-making principles, is set out in Policy OP4 (Stoneygate) of the City Centre Plan. The SPD provides additional guidance to the policies of the City Centre Plan, the Preston Local Plan and the Core Strategy, as pertain to the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area and the types of development and public realm that could be provided in the Regeneration Framework area.

Why is this change necessary?

The SPD provides additional guidance to the policies of the City Centre Plan, the Preston Local Plan and the Core Strategy (the parent documents), as pertain to the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area. The SPD will provide additional guidance on the provisions of the development plan (the parent documents) to inform design and infrastructure expectations of planning applications in the Regeneration Framework area.

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

Yes. The Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area falls within the Preston Housing Zone. The Corporate Plan – Achieving Preston’s Priorities (Budget and Policy Proposals 2019/20) identifies the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area as an area of significant potential in the growth of the City Centre.

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

No because the SPD provides additional indicative guidance to the adopted policies of the City Centre Plan, the Preston Local Plan and the Core Strategy (the parent documents).

Has any consultation been carried out?

A statutory 4 week consultation will be carried out on the SPD in spring 2020 in accordance with the relevant regulations. Further details of consultation on the SPD are set out in the draft consultation statement.

Assessing Impact

Question 1: Will the proposal have an impact on people because of their protected characteristic?

	No impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Impact not known
Age		X		
Disability		X		
Gender reassignment	X			
Pregnancy & Maternity		X		
Race	X			
Religion or belief	X			
Sex (gender)	X			
Sexual Orientation	X			
Asylum Seeker / refugee	X			
Ex Offenders	X			
Carers	X			
Rurality	X			
Socio economic		X		
Armed Forces Veteran	X			
Dementia		X		
Human Rights	X			

If you find there are no negative or unknown impact **you do not need** to answer questions 3 and 4.

Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation

The Equality Act, the National Planning Policy Framework and guidance on building regulations (BS 8300:2018 Design of an accessible and inclusive built environment) all require new and existing buildings and spaces to provide access for all. The Stoneygate SPD will provide development opportunities to make improvements to inclusive design and access of the public realm, green infrastructure and should improve housing choice in the city centre. These factors have scope to

reduce discrimination of the impact of the built environment and the public realm on disabled people in respect of access to services, access to a choice of housing and access to green space. The scope for inclusive design opportunities and the development of landmark buildings / features in the Regeneration Framework area may also have scope to positively impact on the challenges that otherwise may be experienced as a consequence of age (e.g. risk of slips, trips and falls), pregnancy, maternity and dementia on opportunities as relevant for active travel, social interaction, places to rest, places comfortable to feed babies, orientation and wayfinding.

The RTPI has produced practice advice on dementia and town planning:

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/practice/dementia-and-town-planning/>

The RTPI identifies blog posts, research and RTPI publications at the following link to assist planners in inclusive planning in respect of gender and planning:

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/policy/topics/health-and-inclusive-planning/gender-and-planning/>

Fostering good relations

The Stoneygate SPD will encourage active travel and the provision of and improvement to the public realm, thereby positively impacting on public health of people within or visiting the area. This is because such measures, together with increased provision and choice of housing in the area, the resultant opportunities for human interaction and incorporation of green infrastructure, should positively impact on well-being, mental health and activity levels, thereby also contributing to improved physical health. Therefore the Stoneygate SPD is likely to have positive impacts on protected characteristics of age, disability, pregnancy & maternity in connection with fostering good relations.

Advancing equality of opportunity

There is likely scope for social value to be achieved in Preston via implementation of the Central Lancashire Employment Skills SPD where it is triggered by major development proposals in the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area. Furthermore, once any commercial developments in the area complete, they may provide new employment opportunities in the area, thereby contributing to positive impacts on socio-economic issues in Preston.

The Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area falls within the Preston Housing Zone. The Corporate Plan – Achieving Preston’s Priorities (Budget and Policy Proposals 2019/20) identifies the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area as an area of significant potential in the growth of the City Centre. The Stoneygate SPD will provide additional guidance on housing and commercial development growth in the Regeneration Framework area that will contribute to positive impacts on socio-economic issues in Preston concerning housing and employment opportunities.

The SPD will encourage development and will provide detail on how the adopted City Centre Plan should be implemented in the Stoneygate Regeneration Framework area. An equality impact assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken and found sound on the parent policy documents of the City Centre Plan (EqIA dated October 2014, adopted June 2016), the Preston Local Plan and the Central Lancashire Core Strategy (EqIA dated November 2010, Core Strategy adopted July 2012). It is considered that the SPD would not generate any additional adverse equality impacts beyond any identified in the EqIA for these parent documents.

Question 3: For those likely to receive a negative impact, describe the likely impacts. How many people are likely to be affected?

None of the above groups are anticipated to experience a negative impact as a result of the Stoneygate SPD. There is scope for the Stoneygate SPD to contribute towards the development of a more inclusively designed city centre.

Question 4: How can these negative impacts be reduced or removed?

Any potential negative impacts of any design or highway issues that may arise during the assessment of planning applications would be dealt with via the planning application process, which involves reducing or removing any such negative impacts where possible and appropriate, consistent with the requirements of the relevant policies of the parent documents and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF / The Framework).

Use of the Preston City Council pre-application Development Team service will be encouraged. This will help to identify and advise on how to reduce or remove any negative impacts of proposals on groups with any of the above characteristics. Details of the Preston City Council pre-application Development Team service are available at: <https://www.preston.gov.uk/article/1781/Major-development-advice?formid=1014>

Question 5: What data/information/analysis have you used to inform your equality impact findings?

Equality impact assessment (EqIA) on the parent policy documents of the City Centre Plan (EqIA dated October 2014, adopted June 2016), the Preston Local Plan (PLP adopted 2 July 2015) and the Central Lancashire Core Strategy (EqIA dated November 2010, Core Strategy adopted July 2012).

Corporate plan - Achieving Preston's Priorities: <https://www.preston.gov.uk/corporateplan>

The RTPI practice advice on dementia and town planning:

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/practice/dementia-and-town-planning/>

The RTPI blog posts, research and RTPI publications on inclusive planning (gender and planning):

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/policy/topics/health-and-inclusive-planning/gender-and-planning/>

Additional background documents

- Preston City Centre Plan, June 2016: <https://www.preston.gov.uk/citycentreplan>
- Stoneygate Regeneration Framework, June 2019: <http://www.visitpreston.com/invest/key-projects/current-investment-and-projects/stoneygate-Regeneration-Framework>