

Somerset Equality Impact Assessment

Before completing this EIA please ensure you have read the EIA guidance notes – available from your Equality Officer

Organisation prepared for	Somerset West and Taunton		
Version	1	Date Completed	14/11/2019
Description of what is being impact assessed			
Taunton Strategic Flood Alleviation Improvements Scheme (TSFAIS)			
Evidence			
<p>What data/information have you used to assess how this policy/service might impact on protected groups? Sources such as the Office of National Statistics, Somerset Intelligence Partnership, Somerset's Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA), Staff and/ or area profiles, should be detailed here</p> <p>The TSFAIS Project Development Plan is an objective assessment of flood risk and the technical solutions required to reduce that risk to Taunton. Data used to assess how this policy might impact on protected groups includes: property counts (homes, businesses and infrastructure); area profiles; resilient network plans, community facilities location data (i.e. health centres, residential homes, emergency services, support services – MIND, SWT), IMD, JSNA, Flood Mapping.</p> <p>There are currently 1031 properties at risk of river flooding. With no change in the current standard of flood protection the number of properties and infrastructure affected by flooding will get worse as flood risk will increase with climate change. This will mean that 2548 current properties will be affected, plus any constructed from 2020 onwards.</p> <p>The preferred approach in the TSFAIS will reduce flooding on roads in the town (including: A38, A3027 Bridge St, A3027 Staplegrove Rd and the A3038 Station Rd, High Street) ensuring that the following community assets and services remain accessible and open:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Weir Surgery; • North Town Primary School; • SWT Officers; • Police Station; 			

- Ambulance Services Stations (St Johns and SW Healthcare)
- Two nursing/care homes;
- Pharmacies;
- 6 Dental Practices;
- Train Station access;
- Bus routes.

And the following utilities infrastructure will be protected:

- 44 electricity substations;
- 5 water control/pumping stations;
- 4 waste water/waste management works;
- BT Exchange;

The following additional community facilities and services will remain open and accessible:

- 6 places of worship;
- 7 community centres/facilities.
- 1 cemetery;
- 1 Vets;
- Funeral Directors;
- 18 open spaces;
- 16 sports facilities including: swimming pool, Cricket Club, Football Club.

Who have you consulted with to assess possible impact on protected groups? If you have not consulted other people, please explain why?

The TSFAIS is a technical document presenting objective information on flood risk for Taunton both now and as a result of climate change. This work has provided an indication of possible impacts on protected groups. As each of the schemes requires further detailed design work to secure the necessary consents (EA permit, Natural England licence agreement, Planning Consent, etc.) to enable a contract to be let for their deliver, consultation will be undertaken going forward with relevant stakeholders and interested parties, as each of the preferred options is progressed to detailed design.

Analysis of impact on protected groups

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with protected groups. Consider how this policy/service will achieve these aims. In the table below, using the evidence outlined above and your own understanding, detail what considerations and potential impacts against each of the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty. Based on this information, make an assessment of the likely outcome, before you have implemented any mitigation.

Protected group	Summary of impact	Negative outcome	Neutral outcome	Positive outcome
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring access to health facilities and enabling health professionals to undertake home visits – particularly benefits the elderly and young children; Ensuring access to education, primary schools, and nurseries – benefiting young children; Ensuring utility infrastructure is protected – vulnerable elderly and young people have heating, fresh water and foul water services; Enabling ambulance services to continue running – particularly benefiting the elderly and very young who may not be able to get to hospital themselves; Ensuring Nursing/residential homes in the area's currently at risk are protected; 	□	□	☒
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons with physical impairments such as sight, dementia and mobility issues will be more adversely impacted by flooding – TSFAIS reduces impact of flooding to roads and enables access to services and facilities; Ensuring utility infrastructure is protected maintains heating, fresh water and foul water services – protects vulnerable persons with long term health conditions or disabilities; Ensuring access to health facilities and enabling health professionals to undertake home visits – particularly benefits 	□	□	☒

	<p>those have long-term health conditions or disabilities which require regular medical support;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring access to open spaces and sports facilities – provides opportunities for leisure and exercise which have a positive impact on the health and well-being of the community; providing opportunity to improve health and reduce ill-health. • Enabling persons to use sustainable modes of travel (walking and cycling) improves health and wellbeing. • Protection for support services for those with disabilities – such as Compass Disability and Albermarle Centre; 			
Gender reassignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The TSFAIS assists all persons living, working or visiting Taunton. However there are no specific policies that have direct positive or negative effect on the protected characteristic of gender reassignment. 	□	⊗	□
Marriage and civil partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The TSFAIS assists all persons living, working or visiting Taunton. However there are no specific policies that have direct positive or negative effect on the protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership. 	□	□	□
Pregnancy and maternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring access to health facilities and enabling health professionals to undertake home visits – supports pre-natal and post-natal women; • Enabling ambulance services to continue running – supports pre-natal and post-natal women who may not be able to get to hospital themselves; 	□	□	⊗
Race and ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The TSFAIS assists all persons living, working or visiting Taunton. However there are no specific policies that have direct positive or negative effect on the protected characteristic of race and ethnicity. 	□	⊗	□

Religion or belief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 places of worship will be protected by TSFAIS. These facilities also often provide support services to vulnerable persons; and community classes and events. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TSFAIS assists all persons living, working or visiting Taunton. However there are no specific policies that have direct positive or negative effect on the protected characteristic of sex. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TSFAIS assists all persons living, working or visiting Taunton. However there are no specific policies that have direct positive or negative effect on the protected characteristic of sexual orientation. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, e.g. carers, veterans, homeless, low income, rurality/isolation, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TSFAIS reduced flood risk to key roads in the town, enabling carers to undertake home visits and/or take their clients out to get essential groceries, exercise (i.e. walks in local parks and green spaces; or more active swimming of sports centre activities) and visit healthcare facilities; Flood reduction and mitigation measures prevents properties from being isolated by flood waters, and reduces the potential for those isolated in their homes; TSFAIS will keep public transport routes open, benefiting those who rely on them to access employment, education, services and facilities; 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Negative outcomes action plan

Where you have ascertained that there will potentially be negative outcomes, you are required to mitigate the impact of these. Please detail below the actions that you intend to take.

Action taken/to be taken	Date	Person responsible	How will it be monitored?	Action complete
N/A	Select date			<input type="checkbox"/>

If negative impacts remain, please provide an explanation below.

N/A

Completed by:	Ann Rhodes (Strategy Officer)
Date	4 November 2019
Signed off by:	Brendan Cleere
Date	12 November 2019
Equality Lead/Manager sign off date:	Brendan Cleere (12 November 2019)
To be reviewed by: (officer name)	
Review date:	