

Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	Report to Council on the Borders Railway
Completion Date	5 February 2019
Completed by	Ian Johnson, Head of Major Projects
Lead officer	Ian Johnson, Head of Major Projects

Type of Initiative:

Project

Updated

1. Briefly describe the policy/proposal you are assessing.

Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the policy being developed or reviewed (e.g. objectives, aims) including the context within which it will operate.

The Borders Railway came into operation in September 2015. From 2014 the three Councils, through whose areas the line passes, together with other key stakeholders committed to a programme of projects and initiatives to maximise the economic, environmental and social benefits to communities along the line.

What will change as a result of this policy?

The programme of projects and initiatives aims to boost skills and employability in Midlothian's most disadvantaged communities, attract new businesses, improve the economy and environment of town centres, and maximise tourist numbers and spend.

2. Do I need to undertake a Combined Impact Assessment?

High Relevance	Yes/no
The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people	Yes
The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality	Yes
The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes	Yes
The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact	Yes
Low Relevance	
The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality	No
The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy	No
The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment	No

If you have identified low relevance please give a brief description of your reasoning here and send it to your Head of Service to record.

If you have answered yes to high relevance above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.

3. What information/data/ consultation have you used to inform the policy to date?

Evidence	Comments: what does the evidence tell you?
Data on populations in need	Data on socio-economic indicators used in the preparation of the Single Midlothian Plan shows the need for interventions to address inequalities.
Data on service uptake/access	N/A
Data on quality/outcomes	N/A
Research/literature evidence	N/A
Service user experience information	N/A
Consultation and involvement findings	Each project and initiative has involved consultation with stakeholders including, where relevant, with the public and communities
Good practice guidelines	N/A
Other (please specify)	None
Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	No

4. How does the policy meet the different needs of and impact on groups in the community?

Equality Groups	Comments – positive/ negative impact
Older people, people in the middle years,	Improved access to local facilities in town centres and greater connectivity to more distant locations.
Young people and children	As above
Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity)	As above
Disabled people (included physical disability; learning disability; sensory Impairment; long term medical conditions; mental health problem)	Easier accessibility around town centres. Greater access to locations along the rail corridor.
Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/Travellers migrant workers non-English)	No particular impact on needs
Refugees and asylum seekers	No particular impact on needs
People with different religions or beliefs (included people with no religion or belief.	No particular impact on needs
Lesbian; gay bisexual and heterosexual people	No particular impact on needs
People who are unmarried; married or in a civil partnership	No particular impact on needs
Those vulnerable to falling into poverty	
Unemployed	Greater opportunity to secure local employment, and easier to access to labour markets and training centres.
People on Benefits	Greater opportunity to secure local employment, and easier to access to labour markets and training centres.

Single Parents and vulnerable families	Greater opportunity to secure local employment, and easier to access to labour markets and training centres.
Pensioners	As above for "Older People"
Looked after Children	No particular impact on needs
Those leaving care settings ((including children and young people and those with illness)	No particular impact on needs
Homeless People	New rail line enables an increase in the amount of housebuilding in all towns within the rail corridor
Carers (including young carers)	No particular impact on needs
Those involved in the criminal justice system	No particular impact on needs
Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas)	The rail line passes through the majority of Midlothian's most disadvantaged communities. This programme provides for improved economic, environmental and social conditions.
People misusing services	No particular impact on needs
People with low literacy/numeracy	Greater levels of access to training/ education centres
Others e.g. veterans, students	Greater local employment opportunities
Geographical Communities	
Rural/ semi rural Communities	The line passes through rural and semi rural areas
Urban Communities	The line passes through some of Midlothian's main settlements.
Costal Communities	N/A

5. Are there any other factors which will affect the way this policy impacts on the community or staff groups?

The Borders Rail Blueprint programme has to date provided around £29.5m of new investment in the rail corridor.

6. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

If yes, how have you included equality and human rights considerations into the contract?

Some consultants and/or contractors are being/will be used for certain projects/initiatives; all appointed through the standard public sector procurement process.

7. Have you considered how you will communicate information about this policy or policy change to those affected e.g. to those with hearing loss, speech impairment or English as a second language?

The variety of projects and initiatives will require each to address the most comprehensive and effective forms of communication.

8. Please consider how your policy will impact on each of the following?

Objectives	Comments
Equality and Human Rights	
Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	Promotes equalities in terms of access to jobs and training; and thereby promotes reduction in inequalities of income.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and tackles harassment	N/A
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self- control over decisions	N/A
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	Town centre improvements and provision of new community spaces.
Reduces crime and fear of crime	Improved economy and environment of town centres

Promotes healthier lifestyles including Diet and nutrition Sexual Health Substance Misuse Exercise and physical activity Life Skills	New and extended strategic and local cycle and footpath routes and networks.
Environmental	
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Midlothian (including carbon management)	Rail service seeks to encourage transport modal shift from the private car
Plan for future climate change	N/A
Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	N/A
Protect coastal and inland waters	N/A
Enhance biodiversity	N/A
Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	N/A
Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms of transport	Town centre improvements and additional local employment opportunities.
Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	Environmental improvements to buildings and spaces in town centres
Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	Increases access to employment and training
Helps young people into positive destinations	Increases access to a greater range of local positive destinations, as well as to the regional labour markets
Supports local business	Can increase town centre footfall. Reduces journey work times for prospective employees
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	Greater accessibility to education/ training centres
Improving literacy and numeracy	Greater ease of access to education/ training centres

Improves working conditions, including equal pay	Limited positive impact
Improves local employment opportunities	Potentially significant positive impact

9. Is the policy a qualifying Policy, Programme or Strategy as defined by The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005?

No

10. Action Plan

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person

11. Sign off by Head of Service/ NHS Project Lead

Name Ian Johnson, Head of Major Projects

Date 5 February 2019