

Oldham

Local

Development

Framework

Core Strategy

Regulation 25 Stage

"Preferred Options"

Equalities Impact Assessment

Core Strategy and Development Management Policies
Development Plan Document

March 2009



Oldham
Council

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Introduction

This document is an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) of the 'Preferred Options' for the Core Strategy.

The Core Strategy will set out a long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. It will also contain a spatial strategy, strategic sites, policies and a monitoring and implementation framework. The Core Strategy will set the strategic direction for the Local Development Framework (LDF) up to 2025/26.

There are a number of key steps to be undertaken in preparing the Core Strategy. These include publication stage, submission, independent examination and Inspector's binding report. The 'Preferred Options' stage forms part of the formal Regulation 25 stage, and follows on from the previous 'Issues and Options' stage. It sets out broad issues that the Core Strategy will have to consider and presents the Council's preferred spatial strategy, policy directions and strategic sites to help shape the future development pattern of the Borough.

Full details can be found in the 'Preferred Options' Report.

The purpose of the EqIA is to assess the potential impact of the 'Preferred Options' on the various equalities categories within the Borough.

Findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment

The EqIA relevance screening concluded that there was a need to carry out an initial EqIA of the 'Preferred Options'.

The initial EqIA concluded that the 'Preferred Options' is not considered to have any adverse impacts on the various equalities categories and that a full EqIA is not needed.

How to comment on the Equalities Impact Assessment

You may comment on the EqIA during the consultation period indicated on the public notice.

Appendix 1 Findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment Relevance Screening

1. Name of the Policy/Project:	Local Development Framework Core Strategy Preferred Options			
2. What are the main aims and objectives of the policy /project?	The Core Strategy will set out a long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. It will set out the strategic direction for Oldham's Local Development Framework up to 2025/26. It aims to promote social, economic and environmental well-being. The Preferred Options Report sets out a vision, a series of strategic objectives, a preferred spatial strategy, strategic sites and policy directions to help shape the future development of the Borough.			
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	DON'T KNOW
3.a What impact will this policy/project have on the public?		✓		
3.b Please explain your answer	Preferred Options aims to promote social, economic and environmental well-being and will, therefore, impact upon the public.			

	INITIAL	FULL	NONE
4. Based this screening please indicate if this policy/project should proceed to an Initial or Full EIA?	✓		

Appendix 2 Initial Equalities Impact Assessment of Preferred Option

1. Department	Regeneration	2. Section	Strategic Planning and Information
3. Who is responsible for the Assessment?	4. Lead Officer		5. Others involved
Paul McGrath	Phil Jobling		Members of Strategic Planning and Information section
6. Name of the Policy to be assessed	Local Development Framework Core Strategy Preferred Options	7. Is this a new or existing policy	New
8. Date of Assessment	3rd December 2008		
9. Describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the policy	The Core Strategy will set out a long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. It will set out the strategic direction for Oldham's Local Development Framework up to 2025/26. It aims to promote social, economic and environmental well-being. The Preferred Options Report sets out a vision, a series of strategic objectives, a preferred spatial strategy, strategic sites and policy directions to help shape the future development of the Borough.		

10.a What data do you have that you can draw upon to support this assessment?	Core Strategy spatial portrait, evidence base, Sustainability Appraisal scoping report, Annual Monitoring Report indicators.	
10.b What does this data say?	Provides information on a wide range of planning indicators that will inform the emerging LDF.	
11.a What recent consultation has been undertaken that you could draw upon to support this assessment and who was it with?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issues Survey spring 2007, ○ Issues and Options consultation autumn/winter 2007/08, ○ Call for Sites survey spring 2008. 	
11.b What did they say?	<p>These consultations provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the community to express their views on a wide range of issues relating to the emerging LDF. The following are links to the results of the Issues Survey and Issues and Options consultation:</p> <p>http://www.oldham.gov.uk/issues_survey_report_.pdf</p> <p>http://www.oldham.gov.uk/final_public_schedule_of_representations_and_responses.p df</p>	
12.a Are there any experts/relevant groups who you can approach to explore their views?	The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how the Council intends to engage with the community, including ‘hard to reach’ groups, in the preparation of LDF documents to ensure that the LDF fully represents the views of all sections of the community. The LDF Members panel is also consulted on preparation of the LDF.	
12.b Please give details of who you have approached and what they said:	The LDF Members panel and the wider community and stakeholders in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement. Web links above (Q11b) give details of what they have said.	
	13.a Taking into account the information gathered:	13.b Where Negative impact has been identified please explain what action you will take to mitigate this.

	<p><u>Could</u> this Policy/Project impact on any of the following groups differently?</p> <p><u>Could</u> any of the following groups experience of this policy/project be different?</p> <p><u>Could</u> this different impact be negative?</p> <p>Please explain drawing on evidence that supports your view:</p>	<p>If no action is to be taken please explain your reasoning.</p>
Age	Preferred Options includes policy directions relating to children and young people, and older people, to address their particular needs (such as health, community facilities, education and housing) but these will not have any negative impact on this equalities group.	
Dependants/caring responsibilities	Preferred Options will address the overarching principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.	
Disability	Preferred Options will address the overarching principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.	
Gender	Preferred Options will address the overarching	

	Race	principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.		
	Religious Belief	Preferred Options will address the overarching principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.		
	Transgender or transsexual	Preferred Options will address the overarching principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.		
	Sexual Orientation	Preferred Options will address the overarching principles of community cohesion, social inclusion and accessibility amongst others. It does not have any differential impact on this equalities group.		
	14.a How could this policy/project impact on relationships and attitudes between different groups of people? Could this impact be negative?	YES	NO	The Core Strategy seeks to promote community cohesion through the vision, objectives, spatial strategy and policy directions.

14.b What action will you take to mitigate any negative impact or to promote equality and good relations?			N/A		
			DATA	CONSULTATION	
15.a In relation to each of the groups, is there any areas where you are unsure about the impact and more information is needed?			NO		N/A
15.b. How are you going together this information?			N/A		N/A
16.a As a result of this assessment is a Full Impact assessment necessary	YES	NO	The emerging Core Strategy is not considered to have any adverse effects that warrant a full EqIA.		16.b Date on which the Full assessment to be started
					N/A