

RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Local Plan

Core Strategy - Proposed Submission

Equality Impact Assessment Report (EqIA)

Planning Policy Team
Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a tool for identifying the potential impact of a council's policies, services and functions on its residents and staff. It can help staff provide and deliver excellent services to residents by making sure that these reflect the needs of the community.
- 1.2 By carrying out EqIAs, a council may also ensure that the services that it provides fulfil the requirements of anti-discrimination and equalities legislation.
- 1.3 EqIAs offer an opportunity for council staff and their teams to think carefully about the impact of their work on local people and other members of staff. They can then take action that will promote equality for all.
- 1.4 On the whole, EqIA should make sure that equality is placed at the centre of policy development and review, as well as service delivery.
- 1.5 The equality impact assessment process focuses on:
 - Initial screening
 - Scoping and defining
 - Information gathering
 - Making a judgement
 - Action planning
 - Publication and review.
- 1.6 Equality impact assessments can achieve the following:
 - Increased participation with customers and therefore more transparency in relation to policy and service development
 - Changes to the culture of public decision making, with a more proactive approach to the promotion of equality to the heart of public policy formulation.

2.0 Equality Target Groups

- 2.1 Richmondshire District Council has identified seven equality target groups, or equality strands, that are central to the equality agenda. These are:
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Disability
 - Sexual orientation
 - Age
 - Religion and or belief
 - Travelling communities

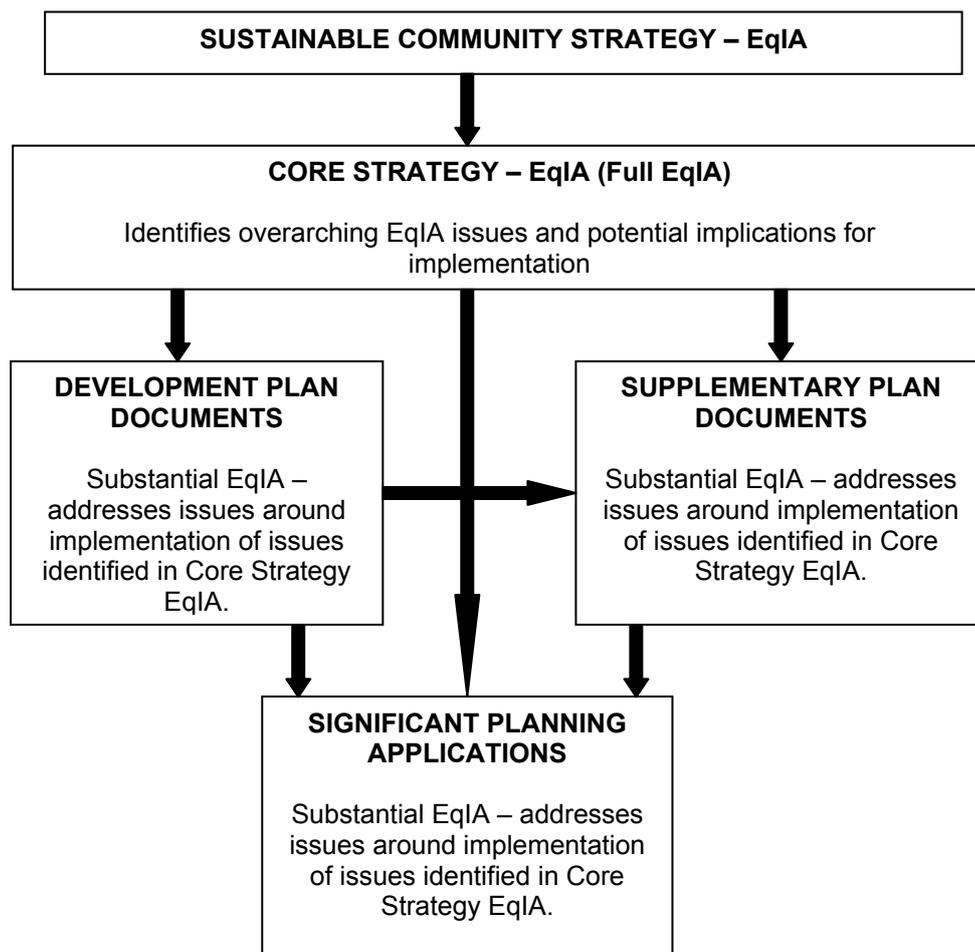
3.0 The Need for an EqIA

- 3.1 There is a legal requirement to consider the impact of Richmondshire District Council's work on race equality under the Equality Act 2010. However, in line with best practice, Richmondshire District Council is committed to carrying out equality impact assessments, which consider all its equality target groups.
- 3.2 The EqIA will support Richmondshire District Council's equalities agenda and help mainstream equality and diversity into policies and practices.
- 3.3 The EqIA provides a good practice and logistical process to help identify improvements to services and to make them more appropriate and accessible to the needs of stakeholders.

4.0 Approach to this EqIA

- 4.1 This assessment is an equality assessment and review of the Proposed Submission Local Plan Core Strategy. This EqIA is consistent with and adopts the Golden Thread approach, as shown in the below diagram:

Figure 1: Golden Thread approach to EqIAs



5.0 Methodology

5.1 The EqIA process considers the impact of policies on certain equality target groups. There are three possible impacts, which should be considered as part of the EqIA:

- Negative or adverse impact: occurs where the policy impacts upon the identified groups, disadvantaging one or more equality target groups.
- Positive impact: occurs where the policy influences on one or more of the equality target groups and either improves equal opportunities or relationships between groups.
- Neutral impact: occurs when a policy has a neutral impact or the impact upon all groups is the same so as to effectively be neutral upon all groups.

6.0 Stage One: Initial Screening

6.1 Initial screening takes place for all new and revised policies within the Core Strategy. This stage is completed at the earliest opportunity and will determine whether or not it is necessary to carry out a full equality impact assessment or EqIA for this area of activity.

6.2 The key questions assessed during the initial screening stage are:

- 1) What are you looking to achieve in this activity?
- 2) Who in the main will benefit?
- 3) Does the activity have the potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?
- 4) Does the activity make a positive contribution to equalities?

6.3 If the answer to Question 3 is 'yes' then it would be necessary to undertake further detailed consideration of the policy.

7.0 The Richmondshire Local Plan Core Strategy

7.1 The Core Strategy is a Development Plan Document and the key document for the Local Plan for the District.

7.2 The Core Strategy sets out the vision and strategic objectives for the spatial development of the Plan Area. This includes the amount of development, settlement hierarchy and broad areas for the future strategic direction of housing and employment use. Policies within this document apply to the whole of the local authority area outside of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and are not site-specific.

7.3 The Core Strategy document has regard to the National Planning Policy Framework. The Core Strategy must also have regard to other strategies produced by Council.

- 7.4 All other Local Development Documents (both statutory Development Plan Documents and non-statutory documents) within the Local Plan must be in conformity with the Core Strategy.
- 7.5 The spatial principles and priorities are linked to the Richmondshire Sustainable Community Strategy. The guiding strategic objectives are:
1. **Overall change in Richmondshire should reflect the needs of the area** and its relative lack of potential for growth, taking into account the great concern to protect its high quality environment.
 2. This should ensure consistency in its relationships with its neighbours with similar objectives.
 3. **A managed approach to ensure an appropriate level of housing and employment provision which will meet local social and economic needs.** This helps to reduce commuting out of the plan area and supports regeneration and growth in the Tees Valley. Consistent with this, housing provision will be based on 180 dwellings per annum.
 4. This will provide support for the rural economy and local social and community needs, including scope to provide for the identified need for affordable housing.
 5. **Development and provision of services will be concentrated in locations, which reflect a defined sustainable settlement hierarchy.** This hierarchy is headed by the settlements of Richmond and Catterick Garrison, where the strategy will seek to support their distinct roles in providing the main local focus for housing and employment (and also shopping, leisure, education, health, cultural activities and facilities), and will seek to encourage improvements in their accessibility from surrounding areas, and improved public transport links to other centres. Next in the hierarchy is Leyburn, which will be encouraged to fulfil its important service function to a wide rural area extending outside of the plan area, including provision of market and affordable housing, and new job opportunities to address local needs. Important priorities for Leyburn include its enhancement and protection as an attractive and vibrant place, with excellent environmental, economic and social resources serving the wider rural area.
 6. **Development in Richmond and Catterick Garrison will promote their complementary roles and provision of facilities.** Recognising they are closely related, in terms of provision of services and impacts of developments in one on the other. The balance of physical development will be concentrated in the Catterick Garrison area rather than in Richmond because of its limited physical scope for expansion.
 7. **Rural sustainability will be supported, by:**
 - i. Safeguarding local quality of life, environmental values and characteristics;
 - ii. Encouraging a more diverse, competitive and successful economy, with access to economic opportunities and increased

- self sufficiency within the rural economy, in ways which should allow people to live and work locally;
- iii. Meeting locally generated needs for both market and affordable housing, and supporting the social needs of rural communities;
 - iv. Promoting its rural cultural identity, including supporting the role of market towns and tourism;
 - v. Supporting communities to provide for their own needs.
8. **Priority will be given to protecting and conserving the rich variety of environmental and historic assets and mitigating and adapting to the prospects of climate change** including through measures which support the achievement of challenging levels of renewable energy provision and low carbon developments, together with other North Yorkshire partners.

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – SPATIAL PRINCIPLE 1: Sub Areas		
Department:		Planning Policy		
Assessing Officer:		HH		
1.	What is the main purpose of the spatial principle?	Identifies three sub areas and the strategic approach for each.		
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the spatial principle?	Population growth, employment needs, climate change, housing needs and the need to improve economic, social and environmental conditions.		
3.	List the main activities of the spatial principle?	Wensleydale, Swaledale and Teesdale give the basic framework for the local settlement pattern. The Core Strategy responds to these local differences through the identification of three broad sub areas and proposes a relevant policy response to each. The three areas broadly reflect local geography and settlement pattern. Spatial Principle 1 defines and sets out a different strategic approach for each sub-area: Central Richmondshire, Lower Wensleydale, North Richmondshire.		
4.	Who implements the spatial principle?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.		
5.	Who will be affected by the spatial principle?	Businesses, residents in the identified growth areas/settlements and the community at large.		
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions.		
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.		
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Out of date Richmondshire Local Plan 1999-2006 and Monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.		
9.	Who have you consulted on the spatial principle?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.		
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the spatial principle?	The environment and the community, private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.		
The Impact Equality Target Group				
	Positive		Negative	
	High	Low	High	Low
Race		√		Seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions in the sub areas for all, including ethnic minorities.
Gender		√		Seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions in the sub areas for all, including gender groups.
Disability	√			Greater opportunities and improved conditions for disabled workers/ residents will be provided in new development.
Sexual Orientation		√		Seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions in the sub areas for all residents.
Age	√			The strategy responds to the predicted aging profile of the population in the sub areas and includes policies that require housing to be appropriate to needs.
Religion / Faith		√		The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including faith groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			√	The Spatial Principle does not affect gypsies and travellers either positively or negatively; the impact is neutral.
Further Action				
Does the spatial principle have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2			No	

Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2	N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?	No

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – SPATIAL PRINCIPLE 2: The Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy	
Department:		Planning Policy	
Assessing Officer:		HH	
1.	What is the main purpose of the spatial principle?	It defines the levels of the hierarchy, the roles of each level and identifies the settlements and establishes the settlement hierarchy to guide the more detailed approaches in later sections of the Core Strategy.	
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the spatial principle?	The existing physical landscape and settlement and service pattern of the Plan Area, population growth, employment needs, climate change, housing needs and the need to improve economic, social and environmental conditions.	
3.	List the main activities of the spatial principle?	Improve access to a range of services and facilities by directing development according to the existing and potential service provision of settlements. Directs development to settlements where there is likely to be future demand and capacity for increased employment activity, which should achieve a better balance between homes and jobs, and Directs development away from the most sensitive environments, including areas of biodiversity importance, by focusing development on selected settlements.	
4.	Who implements the spatial principle?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.	
5.	Who will be affected by the spatial principle?	Businesses, residents in the identified settlements and the community at large	
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions in a way that is appropriate to and makes most prudent use of the existing settlement and service pattern.	
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.	
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Out of date Richmondshire Local Plan 1999-2006 and monitoring through the Annual Monitoring Report.	
9.	Who have you consulted on the spatial principle?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.	
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the spatial principle?	The environment and the community; private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.	
The Impact Equality Target Group		Negative	
		High	Low
Race			The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including ethnic minorities.
Gender			The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all gender groups.
Disability	✓		The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all. Greater opportunities and improved conditions for disabled workers/ residents will be provided in new development.
Sexual Orientation		✓	The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents.
Age	✓		The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for

						all residents including young, older and elderly residents and workers. The strategy responds to the predicted aging profile of the population and includes policies appropriate to needs.
Religion / Faith		√				The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including all faith groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			√			The Spatial Principle does not affect gypsies and travellers either positively or negatively; the impact is neutral.
Further Action						
Does the spatial principle have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?						
No						
N/A						
No						

Policy / Strategy: Core Strategy Proposed Submission – SPATIAL PRINCIPLE 3: Rural Sustainability						
Department: Planning Policy						
Assessing Officer: HH						
1.	What is the main purpose of the spatial principle?					Identifies the approach towards supporting the rural environment and economy.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the spatial principle?					Common Agricultural Policy, farming subsidies, climate change and energy costs, economic and population trends.
3.	List the main activities of the spatial principle?					It promotes the rural vitality and quality of the whole plan area. It recognises the trade-off needed between conserving and protecting our high quality environment and making sure that it remains a living working countryside. Balances all the environmental, social and economic considerations, which need to be taken into account in achieving a sustainable future for this rural area.
4.	Who implements the spatial principle?					The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.
5.	Who will be affected by the spatial principle?					Businesses, residents in the identified settlements and the community at large
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?					Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions in a way that is appropriate to and makes most prudent use of the existing settlement and service pattern.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?					Private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?					Out of date Richmondshire Local Plan 1999-2006 and monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.
9.	Who have you consulted on the spatial principle?					The community and Statutory Consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the spatial principle?					The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.
The Impact Equality Target Group						
		Positive		Negative		
		High	Low	High	Low	
Race			√			The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for

Gender						all including ethnic minorities. The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including gender groups.
Disability		✓				The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all. Greater opportunities and improved conditions for disabled workers/ residents will be provided in new development.
Sexual Orientation			✓			The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents
Age		✓				The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including young, older and elderly residents and workers. The strategy responds to the predicted aging profile of the population.
Religion / Faith			✓			The Spatial Principle seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including all faith groups.
Gypsies and Travellers				✓		Whilst improvement of environmental conditions benefits all, the Spatial Principle does not have direct impacts affecting gypsies and travellers, the effect is neutral.
Further Action						
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?						
No						
N/A						
No						

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – SPATIAL PRINCIPLE 4: The Scale and Distribution of Housing					
Department:	Planning Policy					
Assessing Officer:	HH					
1.	What is the main purpose of the spatial principle?					It sets the total scale of open market and military related housing to be provided in the plan area, together with proportions for each sub area and each level in the settlement hierarchy.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the spatial principle?					Population growth, household change and need to improve economic, social and environmental conditions as set out in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.
3.	List the main activities of the spatial principle??					It provides guidance on the way housing should be provided in the plan area over the whole plan period.
4.	Who implements the spatial principle?					The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.
5.	Who will be affected by the spatial principle?					Residents in the identified growth areas/centres and, the wider community.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?					Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?					Private housing developers, Ministry of Defence and delivery agencies, Registered Social Landlords, landowners, utility providers etc.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?					Population estimates and forecasts, out of date Richmondshire Local Plan 1999-2006 and monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.
9.	Who have you consulted on the spatial principle?					The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the spatial principle?					The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.

The Impact Equality Target Group	Positive		Neutral	Negative	
	High	Low		High	Low
Race		✓			The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including ethnic minorities.
Gender		✓			The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including gender groups.
Disability	✓				The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all. Greater opportunities and improved conditions for disabled workers/ residents will be provided in new development.
Sexual Orientation		✓			The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents.
Age	✓				The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including young, older and elderly residents and workers. The strategy responds to the predicted aging profile of the population.
Religion / Faith		✓			The policy seeks to provide for sufficient and direct the location of development to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including all faith groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓		The Spatial Principle does not directly affect gypsies and travellers.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					No

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – SPATIAL PRINCIPLE 5: The Scale and Distribution of Economic Development				
Department:	Planning Policy				
Assessing Officer:	HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the spatial principle?	It reviews the total scale of employment land to be provided in the plan area, together with its distribution for each sub area.			
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Global, european and regional economic growth trends, MoD activities.			
3.	List the main activities of the spatial principle?	Builds on Spatial Principle 3's support for a sustainable rural economy by establishing the scale of employment land required to support local growth and economic flexibility and the strategic intentions for key sites within the Plan Area.			
4.	Who implements the spatial principle?	Landowners, developers and businesses, existing and future residents, residents of neighbouring districts.			
5.	Who will be affected by the spatial principle?	Businesses existing and new.			
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	To ensure a range of jobs are provided for local residents in sustainable locations, and that sufficient land is made available for other uses and infrastructure and uses required in the interests of creating sustainable			

					communities.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?				Landowners, developers and businesses.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?				Employment Land Review 2012 and development monitoring in the Annual Monitoring Report.
9.	Who have you consulted on the spatial principle?				The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the spatial principle?				The Council, partners, developers, businesses and residents of the District.
The Impact Equality Target Group					
		Positive		Negative	
		High	Low	High	Low
Race			√		The provision of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Gender			√		The provision of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Disability			√		The provision of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Sexual Orientation			√		The provision of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Age			√		The provision of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Religion / Faith			√		The provision of a range of employment land in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Gypsies and Travellers					The Spatial Principle does not directly affect gypsies and travellers.
				√	
Further Action					
	Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2				No
	Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2				N/A
	Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?				No

Spatial Policies (Sub Area Strategies)

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – Central Richmondshire Spatial Strategy (CRSS)			
Department:		Planning Policy			
Assessing Officer:		HH			
1.	What is the main purpose of the strategy?	The Central Richmondshire Spatial Strategy (CRSS) addresses the challenges facing this area: sustaining and strengthening Richmond; improving Catterick Garrison to create a modern vibrant centre; accommodating growth; adapting to military change and creating a wider range of more integrated opportunities in Central Richmondshire for work, housing, leisure and shopping which reduce the need to travel to more distant centres.			
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the strategy?	National planning and fiscal policies, economic conditions, environmental policies and Ministry of Defence plans and activities.			
3.	List the main activities of the strategy?	Support will be given for development which strengthens and sustains Richmond within its significant environmental and infrastructure constraints; and for development which supports the strategic growth of Catterick Garrison and helps to create a diverse and cohesive town of urban villages			
4.	Who implements the strategy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.			
5.	Who will be affected by the strategy?	Ministry of Defence, landowners, housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), the wider community.			
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	79% of housing development (2,410 houses) in the plan area is expected to be delivered in this sub area. In addition, provision is made for expansion of military related facilities and 1,440 service families' houses, to enable military development (if required) to accommodate an additional four military units above the current complement in 2011.			
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Housing associations, RSL's, housing developers.			
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	No.			
9.	Who have you consulted on the strategy?	Ministry of Defence, community and statutory consultees were consulted. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.			
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the strategy?	Ministry of Defence, other landowners, housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections) and the wider community in the Sub Area.			
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
The Impact Equality Target Group	Positive		Negative		Reason / Comment
	High	Low	High	Low	
Race		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Gender		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Disability		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Sexual Orientation		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Age		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.

Religion / Faith		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Gypsies and Travellers		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
No					
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
N/A					
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					
No					

Core Strategy Proposed Submission – Lower Wensleydale Spatial Strategy (LWSS)					
Strategy:					
Department:	Planning Policy				
Assessing Officer:	HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the strategy?				The Lower Wensleydale Spatial Strategy (LWSS) seeks to enhance the strong identities and community relationships in the sub area. Although it is a large rural area, the towns of Leyburn and Middleham create a strong focus for all but the eastern most part of the area. This focus also extends further up Wensleydale into the Yorkshire Dales National Park.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the strategy?				economic conditions, tourism, environmental and agricultural policies plans and activities
3.	List the main activities of the strategy?				The LWSS expresses the approach to development growth in this sub area. In Lower Wensleydale, 12% (365 dwellings) of the District's housing growth requirement will need to be delivered.
4.	Who implements the strategy?				Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the strategy?				Landowners, farmers, housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), Future residents (all sections), the wider community.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?				For the benefit of the wider community, approve planning applications that accord with the strategy (and, where relevant, with policies in Neighbourhood Plans) without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise
7.	Are any other organisations involved?				Housing associations, RSL's, housing developers.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?				No.
9.	Who have you consulted on the strategy?				Community and statutory consultees were consulted. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the strategy?				Landowners, housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections) and the wider community in the Sub Area.
The Impact Equality Target Group					
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
Race	Positive		Negative		Reason / Comment
	High	Low	High	Low	
		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Gender		✓			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.

Disability	✓				The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Sexual Orientation	✓				The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Age	✓				The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Religion / Faith	✓				The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Gypsies and Travellers	✓				The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
No					
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
N/A					
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					
No					

Policy / Strategy: Core Strategy Proposed Submission – North Richmondshire Spatial Strategy (NRSS)

Department: Planning Policy

Assessing Officer: HH

1.	What is the main purpose of the strategy?	The spatial strategy seeks to retain and enhance the existing range of services that help to sustain local communities. The proposed North Richmondshire strategy also seeks to support a strengthened District centre and regeneration in Darlington by constraining development in the sub area, particularly near the boundary with Darlington.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the strategy?	Darlington Borough Council's policies and strategies, national planning and fiscal policies, economic conditions and environmental policies.
3.	List the main activities of the strategy?	Focuses an amount of available development into selected locations. It does not, however, discount the remaining settlements and addresses the need for appropriate but very small development in the most rural areas, mainly from the conversion of existing but redundant buildings.
4.	Who implements the strategy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the strategy?	Housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), the wider community.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	For the benefit of the wider community, approve planning applications that accord with the strategy (and, where relevant, with policies in Neighbourhood Plans) without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Housing associations, RSL's, housing developers.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	No.
9.	Who have you consulted on the strategy?	Community and statutory consultees were consulted. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the strategy?	Housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), and the

The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						Reason / Comment
	Positive		Neutral	Negative			
	High	Low		High	Low		
Race		√					
Gender		√					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Disability		√					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Sexual Orientation		√					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Age		√					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Religion / Faith		√					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Gypsies and Travellers				√			The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Sub Area will benefit all groups.
Further Action							
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?							No

wider Sub Area community.

Core Policies

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP0: PLANNING POSITIVELY				
Department:	NB: Please also refer to assessment under Policy CP2 as CP0 is an extract from CP2.				
Assessing Officer:	Planning Policy				
	HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?				Policy CP0 sets out the approach the Council will take, working with developers and other partners, to achieve this in considering planning applications.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?				National planning and fiscal policies, economic conditions and environmental policies.
3.	List the main activities of the policy?				When considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will always work proactively with applicants jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the plan area.
4.	Who implements the policy?				Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?				Housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), the wider community.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?				To approve planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in Neighbourhood Plans) without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?				Housing associations, RSL's, housing developers.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?				No.
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?				The intent in Policy CP0 was appraised under CP2 in earlier drafts. Community and statutory consultees were consulted. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?				Housing and commercial developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), and the wider community.
The Impact Equality Target Group					
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
		Positive		Negative	
		High	Low	High	Low
Race			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Gender			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Disability			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Sexual Orientation			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Age			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Religion / Faith			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓		Promoting sustainable development will benefit all community groups.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups?					
If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance?					
If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					
No					
N/A					
No					

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP1: RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE			
Department:		Planning Policy			
Assessing Officer:		HH			
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	To provide a strategy for adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.			
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Climate Change, population growth and the need to improve environmental conditions. The Climate Change Act (2008) and the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan and other Central Government Policy for Climate Change and a Low Carbon Economy.			
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Sets renewable energy targets, ensures flood protection and no worse flooding, Minimises energy demand and improves energy efficiency, maximises use of renewables, including building standards, promotes mitigation/compensatory measures and protects natural resources – including water supply.			
4.	Who implements the policy?	The Council, partners, developers, renewable energy and low carbon businesses, community and environmental groups and residents.			
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	The wider community, residents close to proposals and residents of new and improved development and occupiers of improved new/improved business premises.			
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Reduced carbon consumption, increased renewable heat and electricity output and improved housing and environmental conditions and resilience.			
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, businesses, DECC, energy providers etc.			
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Capacity assessment currently being prepared and monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.			
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The Community and statutory consultees. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.			
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Residents of better housing, the wider community and the environment.			
The Impact Equality Target Group					
	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'				Reason / Comment
	Positive		Negative		
	High	Low	High	Low	
Race		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Gender		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Disability		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Sexual Orientation		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Age	✓				Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will especially benefit the young and elderly.
Religion / Faith		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Gypsies and Travellers		✓			Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? No					

If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2	
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance?	N/A
If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2	
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?	No

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP2: ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	
Department:		Planning Policy	
Assessing Officer:		HH	
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	Promotes sustainability considerations in new development; Prioritises development of brownfield sites; minimises the need to travel and promotes sustainable transport modes and materials.	
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Climate Change, population growth and the need to improve environmental conditions.	
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Supports the efficient use of land and infrastructure; The conservation of scarce resources; encourages the health, economic and social well-being, amenity and safety of the population; supports a reduction in social inequalities and disadvantages within the community; supports the quality of natural resources and biodiversity; protects landscapes and the wider countryside; townscape and setting of settlements; historic, environmental and cultural features of acknowledged importance; encourages the provision of essential services to the public and promotes use of previously developed land in sustainable locations, in preference to greenfield sites.	
4.	Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.	
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	Housing developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), the wider community.	
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	To ensure that future housing development is in suitable locations, that housing provision meets the needs of the existing and future residents and ensure new housing is of the highest quality to enable the development of sustainable communities in the District.	
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Housing associations, RSL's, housing developers.	
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Development monitoring in the Annual Monitoring Report.	
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.	
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Housing developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections), and the wider community.	
The Impact Equality Target Group			
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'			
	Positive		Negative
	High	Low	High Low
Race		✓	
Gender		✓	
Disability	✓		
Sexual Orientation		✓	
Age	✓		
			Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups.
			Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups.
			Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups and the disabled should benefit even more with improved convenient safe accessibility between homes, job and services.
			Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups.
			Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups and the

						young and elderly should benefit even more with improved convenient safe accessibility between homes, job and services.
Religion / Faith		✓				Promoting sustainability in location, construction, services, modes of travel and sustainably coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups.
Gypsies and Travellers		✓				Promotes sustainability and social cohesion for the benefit of all groups.
Further Action						
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
No						
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
N/A						
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?						
No						

Policy / Strategy: Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP3: SUPPORTING THE SETTLEMENT HEIRARCHY						
Department: Planning Policy						
Assessing Officer: HH						
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?					Prioritises development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy set out in Spatial Principle 2; prioritises development on brownfield sites and within settlements and allows for development adjacent to main built-up areas.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?					The existing physical landscape and settlement and service pattern of the Plan Area, population growth, employment needs, climate change, housing needs and the need to improve economic, social and environmental conditions
3.	List the main activities of the policy?					Development or activities of a scale and nature appropriate to secure the sustainability of each settlement in the hierarchy defined in Spatial Principle 2 (SP2) will be supported within or adjacent to each settlement's Development Limits or main built-up confines. Restricts development in so far as sites adjacent will only be supported if better deliverable opportunities do not exist within the settlement.
4.	Who implements the policy?					Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?					Landowners and developers, existing and future residents, residents of neighbouring Districts.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?					Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions in a way that is appropriate to and makes most prudent use of the existing settlement and service pattern.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?					Registered Social Landlords, parish councils and community groups.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?					Development monitoring in the Annual Monitoring Report.
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?					The community and statutory consultees. Further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?					The environment and the community; private housing developers, delivery agencies, landowners, transport providers, businesses, local education providers, primary care trusts, utility providers etc.
The Impact Equality Target Group						
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						
		Positive		Negative		Reason / Comment
High		Low		High		Low
		✓				The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including ethnic minorities.

Gender		✓				The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all including gender groups.
Disability	✓					The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all. Improved sustainability and greater opportunities and improved conditions for disabled workers/ residents will be provided in new development.
Sexual Orientation		✓				The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents.
Age	✓					The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including young, older and elderly residents and workers. The strategy responds to the predicted aging profile of the population.
Religion / Faith		✓				The policy seeks to improve social, economic and environmental conditions for all residents including all faith groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓			This policy neither promotes nor resists facilities for gypsies and travellers.
Further Action						
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?						
No						
N/A						
No						

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP4: SUPPORTING SITES FOR DEVELOPMENT				
Department:		Planning Policy				
Assessing Officer:		HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	To ensure adequate provision of housing and development in the District. Guides site allocations in future plans and allows for development in accordance with other Core Policies and of a scale and distribution identified in SP4 (Housing) and SP5 (Employment) and in accordance with the Sub Area Strategies (and locational advice for new development).				
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Population growth, household change and need to improve economic, social and environmental conditions as set out in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.				
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Provides guidance on the way housing should be provided in the plan area over the whole plan period.				
4.	Who implements the policy?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.				
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	The environment and residents in the identified growth areas/centres and the community.				
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Improved housing and employment provision, improved economic, social and environmental conditions.				
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Private housing developers, Ministry of Defence and delivery agencies, Registered Social Landlords, landowners, utility providers etc.				
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Population estimates and forecasts, out of date Richmondshire Local Plan 1999-2006 and monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.				
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.				
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.				

The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						Reason / Comment
	Positive		Neutral	Negative			
	High	Low		High	Low		
Race		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Gender		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Disability		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Sexual Orientation		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Age		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Religion / Faith		✓					The provision of appropriate housing and development across the Plan Area will benefit all groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓				No permanent or temporary sites for traveling people are proposed for development.
Further Action							
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?							No

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP5: PROVIDING A HOUSING MIX						
Department:	Planning Policy						
Assessing Officer:	HH						
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	Promotes a housing mix to meet local needs, including accessible and adaptable homes.					
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Population forecasts and demographic changes; housing need; changes/investment in physical and social infrastructure.					
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Seeks to influence the type of housing delivered.					
4.	Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management					
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	Housing developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections).					
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	To ensure that future housing development meets the needs of the existing and future residents and ensure new housing is adaptable to changing needs and of the highest quality.					
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	HCA, housing associations, RSL's, housing developers, private care providers.					
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Development monitoring in the Annual Monitoring Report.					
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.					
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Housing developers, existing residents (all sections), future residents (all sections).					

The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					Reason / Comment
	Positive		Neutral	Negative		
	High	Low		High	Low	
Race		✓				Housing which meets the needs the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Gender		✓				Housing which meets the needs the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Disability	✓					The requirement that homes should be adaptable and accessible to all members of the community and meet the needs of residents throughout their changing life cycle will benefit this group especially. Development near local services and facilities creates community cohesion and reduces isolation.
Sexual Orientation		✓				Housing which meets the needs the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Age	✓					The provision of a range of housing choices, particularly for older and vulnerable communities and the inclusion the requirement that homes should meet the needs of residents throughout their changing life cycle will benefit this group.
Religion / Faith		✓				Housing which meets the needs the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓			There are no provisions for gypsies and travelers.
Further Action						
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2						N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?						N/A

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP6: PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING					
Department:	Planning Policy					
Assessing Officer:	HH					
1. What is the main purpose of the policy?	Sets targets for negotiation of affordable housing subject to economic viability.					
2. Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Housing need, political views / councillors, national policy, competing aims of policy, housing market economics and viability.					
3. List the main activities of the policy?	An influence the amount and type of housing delivered and requires that certain percentage of affordable housing is delivered.					
4. Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy / Development Management / Housing Manager, developers, landowners, housing associations and Registered Social Landlords.					
5. Who will be affected by the policy?	Residents and workers in the Plan Area; landowners, developers, housing associations and Registered Social Landlords.					
6. What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	To provide more affordable housing to meet local needs					
7. Are any other organisations involved?	Developers, landowners, housing associations and Registered Social Landlords					
8. Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Richmondshire Economic Viability Study, 2011, Three Dragons, North Yorkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Annual Monitoring Report.					
9. Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.					

10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					Reason / Comment
		Positive		Neutral	Negative		
The Impact Equality Target Group		High	Low			High	Low
Race			✓				Housing which meets the identified needs the community will benefit the disadvantaged and a wide range of groups.
Gender			✓				Housing which meets the identified needs the community will benefit the disadvantaged and a wide range of groups.
Disability		✓					Housing which meets the identified needs of the community will benefit a wide range of groups. The requirement that homes should be adaptable and accessible to all members of the community and meet the needs of residents throughout their changing life cycle will benefit this group.
Sexual Orientation			✓				Housing which meets the identified needs of the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Age		✓					The provision of a range of housing choices, particularly for older and vulnerable communities and the inclusion the requirement that homes should be accessible to all members of the community and meet the needs of residents throughout their changing life cycle will benefit this group.
Religion / Faith			✓				Housing which meets the identified needs of the community will benefit a wide range of groups.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓				The traveling community is able to access affordable housing, the policy seeks to increase and improve access to affordable housing.
Further Action							
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?							No

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP7: PROMOTING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY
Department:		Planning Policy
Assessing Officer:		HH
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	Provides a list of appropriate new development types and priority actions, including providing sites for B1 in town centres and improving infrastructure and accessibility of jobs.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Common Agricultural Policy, wider economic trends nationally and regionally and Ministry of Defence strategies and plans.
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Identifies priority measures to provide support and promote the Richmondshire economy in a sustainable way.
4.	Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	Developers, businesses, existing and future residents.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for	To ensure an efficient sustainable economy enabling appropriate sectors to grow in appropriate locations.

	whom?					Rural business organisations.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?					Joint Employment Land Review 2007 and Employment Land Review update 2012 and Annual Monitoring Report.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?					The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?					Existing and future residents and businesses.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?					
The Impact Equality Target Group						
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						
		Positive		Negative		Reason / Comment
		High	Low	High	Low	
Race			✓			The supporting the provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Gender			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Disability			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Sexual Orientation			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Age			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Religion / Faith			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓			The supporting provision of a range of employment opportunities in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all sectors of the community of working age.
Further Action						
	Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					No
	Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					N/A
	Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					No

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP8: ACHIEVING RURAL SUSTAINABILITY					
Department:	Planning Policy					
Assessing Officer:	HH					
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	Encourages appropriate rural development.				
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Common Agricultural Policy, wider economic trends nationally and regionally and Ministry of Defence strategies and plans.				
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Encourages small scale housing developments in or adjacent to smaller settlements, new and expanded rural businesses, reuse of rural buildings and other appropriate rural developments.				
4.	Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.				
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	Residents, communities, rural businesses				

6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Ensure vitality and sustainability of rural communities to keep a healthy living countryside.			
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Parish Councils.			
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Joint Employment Land Review 2007 and Employment Land Review update 2012 and Annual Monitoring Report.			
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and Statutory Consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.			
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Existing and future residents and businesses.			
The Impact Equality Target Group					
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
		Positive		Negative	
		High	Low	High	Low
Race			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Gender			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Disability			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Sexual Orientation			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Age			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Religion / Faith			✓		Supporting rural sustainability will enhance opportunities for all sectors of the community.
Gypsies and Travellers				✓	This policy neither promotes nor resists facilities for gypsies and travellers.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2				No	
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2				N/A	
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?				No	

Policy / Strategy:		Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP9: SUPPORTING TOWN AND LOCAL CENTRES			
Department:		Planning Policy			
Assessing Officer:		HH			
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	Sets out a retail hierarchy for town and local centers and their role and function and the approach to new development.			
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Population growth and change and the need to accommodate new town centre uses, ensuring that town centres remain vital and viable places for shopping, business, cultural and leisure activities.			
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Sets out the retail hierarchy and roles of the 3 main centres, including development types to be supported in each; supports town centres and allows new uses of appropriate scale and with no adverse impact and controls new developments outside centres.			
4.	Who implements the policy?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies.			
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	The Community at large, residents, businesses, developers, visitors and tourists			
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Healthy and vibrant town centres containing a mix of uses, which attract people and create a lively social environment for all groups and a complementary relationship between the different centres.			
7.	Are any other organisations involved?	Developers, landowners, utility providers, residents, businesses and community organisations etc.			

8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Development Monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report.			
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.			
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Residents, shoppers, businesses, tourists and the community as a whole.			
The Impact Equality Target Group					
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
		Positive		Negative	
		High	Low	High	Low
Race			✓		Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of all groups.
Gender			✓		Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of all groups.
Disability	✓				Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of all groups and for all residents and visitors to have convenient access to shops, services and facilities that are accessible particularly to disabled people.
Sexual Orientation			✓		Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of all groups.
Age			✓		Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of all groups and for all residents and visitors to have convenient access to shops, services and facilities regardless of age. The needs of both old and young people will need to be carefully considered.
Religion / Faith			✓		Policy seeks to create vital and viable town centres offering employment, shopping, leisure tourism and other commercial services for the benefit of the whole community.
Gypsies and Travellers					This policy neither promotes nor resists facilities for gypsies and travellers.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2		No			
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2		N/a			
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?		No			

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP10: DEVELOPING TOURISM				
Department:	Planning Policy				
Assessing Officer:	HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?	To increase the Plan Areas attractiveness as a tourist destination.			
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Economy and strength of currency, environment and health of the rural economy.			
3.	List the main activities of the policy?	Focus tourist accommodation and new attractions in centres; protect existing visitor attractions and improve access and use of green assets.			
4.	Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.			
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?	Local businesses, residents, tourists, visitors.			
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for	To improve the tourist offer within the Plan Area.			

	whom?								
7.	Are any other organisations involved?								Businesses, community organisations, town and parish councils.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?								Development monitoring in the Annual Monitoring Report.
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?								The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?								Existing residents currently out of work, landowners and entrepreneurs developing rural businesses.
The Impact Equality Target Group									
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'									
Positive									
High Low Neutral Negative									
High Low									
Race									Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Gender		✓							Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Disability		✓							Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Sexual Orientation		✓							Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Age		✓							Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Religion / Faith		✓							Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Gypsies and Travellers				✓					Policy aims to make the Plan Area attractive for all groups.
Further Action									
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2									
No									
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2									
N/A									
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?									
No									

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP11: SUPPORTING COMMUNITY AND RECREATION FACILITIES								
Department:	Planning Policy								
Assessing Officer:	HH								
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?								To protect and enhance community and recreation facilities.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?								Education and health policy, economic trends, accessibility of grants.
3.	List the main activities of the policy?								Supports new community and recreation facilities; requires new provision in conjunction with new development or contributions and protects future losses of assets.
4.	Who implements the policy?								Planning Policy and Development Management.
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?								Local businesses, residents, community and recreational groups, owners of public houses and faith buildings.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?								To ensure a network of community and recreation assets are maintained to meet the needs of the community and support and strengthen communities.
7.	Are any other organisations involved?								Community and sport groups and parish councils, churches, local businesses.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?								Richmondshire Survey of Local Facilities 2011.
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?								The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?								Local communities and community groups; recreation groups and users.

The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						Reason / Comment
	Positive		Neutral	Negative			
	High	Low		High	Low		
Race		✓					Policy aims to maintain and enhance facilities for all groups.
Gender		✓				Policy aims to maintain and enhance facilities for all groups.	
Disability	✓					Maintaining local facilities should positively benefit people with accessibility limitations.	
Sexual Orientation		✓				Policy aims to maintain and enhance facilities for all groups.	
Age	✓					Maintaining and enhancing local facilities should particularly benefit both the young and old as users of local recreation and community assets.	
Religion / Faith	✓					May particularly benefit faith organisations in maintaining their local facilities.	
Gypsies and Travellers			✓			Policy aims to maintain and enhance facilities for all groups.	
Further Action							
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							
No							
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							
No							
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?							
No							

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP12: SUSTAINING & ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL & HISTORIC ASSETS						
Department:	Planning Policy						
Assessing Officer:	HH						
1. What is the main purpose of the policy?	Sets out the policy approach to be applied in protecting and enhancing the Plan Area's built heritage and environmental assets.						
2. Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Population growth and the pressure for redevelopment of land for new housing, employment provision and the need to ensure that heritage assets are preserved for enjoyment of future generations.						
3. List the main activities of the policy?	Protects natural environment and heritage, identifying a broad range of assets, including landscape beauty, landscape character, biodiversity and geo-diversity, green infrastructure network and historic assets. Seeks improvements and requires mitigation and compensatory measures.						
4. Who implements the policy?	The Council, partners, developers and delivery agencies						
5. Who will be affected by the policy?	Community at large, developers, visitors						
6. What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Improved protection for built heritage assets. To ensure that heritage assets are not lost for the benefit of the community.						
7. Are any other organisations involved?	Delivery agencies, landowners, English Heritage, Natural England, amenity, conservation and recreation societies and groups.						
8. Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	Site visits by Officers, monitoring through Annual Monitoring Report, Conservation Area Appraisals, Design Guide SPD and Buildings at Risk database.						
9. Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.						
10. Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	All residents and visitors to the Plan Area.						

The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						Reason / Comment
	Positive		Neutral	Negative			
	High	Low		High	Low		
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Sexual Orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Religion / Faith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Gypsies and Travellers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Further Action							
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2							N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?							No

Policy / Strategy:	Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP13: PROMOTING HIGH QUALITY DESIGN						
Department:	Planning Policy						
Assessing Officer:	HH						
1. What is the main purpose of the policy?	Sets out building/landscaping design requirements, including sustainable building and promotes safe living and crime reduction.						
2. Which external drivers for change affect the policy?	Economic conditions, highway design policy, police and Design Council/CABE.						
3. List the main activities of the policy?	Promotion and achievement of high quality design in development proposals.						
4. Who implements the policy?	Planning Policy and Development Management.						
5. Who will be affected by the policy?	House builders and developers, residents and businesses.						
6. What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?	Improved quality of life through physical design.						
7. Are any other organisations involved?	Local community and design groups, Police Liaison, highway authority						
8. Are there any existing assessments or inspections?	No.						
9. Who have you consulted on the policy?	The community and statutory consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.						
10. Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?	Residents of new development, society as a whole and the more vulnerable.						
The Impact Equality Target Group	Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'						Reason / Comment
Race	Positive		Neutral	Negative			
	High	Low		High	Low		
Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all. Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all but improving safety should especially benefit vulnerable people including women.

Disability	✓				Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all but improving safety should especially benefit vulnerable people including those with disabilities.
Sexual Orientation		✓			Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Age	✓				Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all but improving safety should especially benefit vulnerable people including children.
Religion / Faith	✓				Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Gypsies and Travellers			✓		Policy seeks to protect and improve for the benefit of all.
Further Action					
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					No
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2					N/A
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?					No

Core Strategy Proposed Submission – POLICY CP14: PROVIDING & DELIVERING INFRASTRUCTURE					
Policy / Strategy:					
Department:	Planning Policy				
Assessing Officer:	HH				
1.	What is the main purpose of the policy?				The delivery of adequate infrastructure, and the requiring of developers to provide the infrastructure to cater for development.
2.	Which external drivers for change affect the policy?				Projected population and household growth, utility and infrastructure provider plans over the lifetime of the plan and existing problems are the main drivers for this policy.
3.	List the main activities of the policy?				The delivery of adequate infrastructure, the resisting of the loss of existing infrastructure and the requiring of developers to provide the infrastructure to cater to their development.
4.	Who implements the policy?				The Council, County Council, developers, partners and various bodies will work together to implement this policy.
5.	Who will be affected by the policy?				Residents, businesses and developers.
6.	What outcome do you want to achieve, why and for whom?				The adequate provision of infrastructure across the Plan Area to provide for existing and planned growth and ensure the well being of society
7.	Are any other organisations involved?				Various authorities such as the County Council, the NHS, and private enterprises will provide social and educational Infrastructure.
8.	Are there any existing assessments or inspections?				CIL (in preparation).
9.	Who have you consulted on the policy?				The community and Statutory Consultees and further consultation to be undertaken at the Publication Stage.
10.	Who are the main beneficiaries of the policy?				Residents, businesses, community as a whole and visitors.
The Impact Equality Target Group					
Tick the boxes which apply for each 'target group'					
		Positive		Negative	
		High	Low	High	Low
Race		✓			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Gender		✓			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society

Disability									as a whole. The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Sexual Orientation						√			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Age						√			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Religion / Faith						√			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Gypsies and Travellers						√			The provision of appropriate infrastructure will be for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.
Further Action									
Does the policy have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2									
No									
Is the negative impact assessed as being of high significance? If 'yes', proceed to Stage 2									
N/A									
Is progression to Stage 2: Full Assessment required?									
No									

8.0 Key Findings

- 8.1 This assessment has aimed to examine whether the policies contained in the Richmondshire Local Plan Core Strategy (Proposed Submission) document have any direct or indirect effects on the target equality groups. In general, it is considered that the Core Strategy will have a positive effect on the equality strands identified above. It will also have a positive effect on community cohesion. A summary discussion on the key findings is presented below.

Policy CP1 Responding to Climate Change

- 8.2 Reducing carbon emissions, flood risk and the impacts of climate change will benefit all community groups greater resilience and adaptation in the housing stock will particularly benefit the more vulnerable groups, for example reducing the risk of night deaths in the elderly during heat waves and reducing flood risk reduces the exposure of vulnerable groups to major civil disasters that they are less able to cope with.

Policy CP0 Planning Positively

Policy CP2 Achieving Sustainable Development

- 8.3 Managing waste in a sustainable manner and using resources efficiently will benefit all community groups. Again the more vulnerable groups of the disabled and elderly are found to benefit more through accessible and safe locations of development. Reducing car dependency by promoting sustainable modes of travel and coordinating land use and transport planning will benefit all community groups. The policy seeks to encourage sustainable travel by improving accessibility and providing attractive and safe routes and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

Policy CP3 Supporting the Settlement Hierarchy

- 8.4 There will be significant growth in some parts of Plan Area, in particular, the identified strategic direction of growth areas of The Garrison Area and Leyburn, where new housing, employment and supporting social infrastructure will be delivered. The Core Strategy seeks to achieve a balance between economic growth by providing the opportunity for other benefits to be secured for local people. These include employment initiatives, new homes, new social and community facilities, sustainable energy technologies, improved public realm and public transport facilities. In implementing policies, all development proposals are expected to carefully consider existing communities needs and seek to integrate physically with existing buildings to create more sustainable places. Furthermore, developments are expected to bring people together providing opportunities for social interaction, but not to exclude people. Well-designed development will help to build social cohesion within the community.

Policy CP4 Supporting Sites for Development

Policy CP5 Providing a Housing Mix

Policy CP6 Providing Affordable Housing

- 8.5 Together they seek to deliver much needed housing to meet the Plan Area's housing target and needs. Generally, it is expected that this would benefit all the equality target groups. However there are wider issues in the distribution and allocation of housing, which are difficult to implement. Careful

implementation by delivery agencies would be required to ensure that all the equality groups have equitable access to housing. Overall it is found that new housing has the potential to benefit the disabled and elderly more through physical design to meet their needs and in sustainable and accessible locations. The Core Strategy does also specifically seek to provide new housing which relates to the needs of the population and this will result in direct positive impacts for age and disability groups.

- 8.6 The Council acknowledges that growth and intensification of uses will have some negative impact on residents, workers and visitors. In particular, the disruption during the construction period of new development includes noise from building sites, air pollution and general disruption, which will cause inconvenience to everyone. However, this should only be for a limited period of time and the overall benefits will be significant for local people. It is not appropriate to address in detail the ways to mitigate disruption caused by growth through the spatial strategy. Where possible these will be issues addressed through section 106 agreements, which limit hours of working and ensure that works are carried out in considerably construction code. These will be negotiated through the planning application process.

Policy CP7 Promoting a Sustainable Economy
Policy CP8 Achieving Rural Sustainability

- 8.7 Safeguarding the provision of employment land in sustainable locations will enhance employment opportunities for all members of the community. However, tackling some of the deep-rooted problems with regard to rural employment and access to employment goes beyond the scope of this Core Strategy. The Core Strategy seeks to diversify and support the rural economy for the benefit of all.

Policy CP9 Supporting Town and Local Centres.

- 8.8 This policy seeks to increase the attractiveness of the main centres for commerce and business and promote sustainable development to support Richmondshire. In association with other Core Strategy policies about design and sustainability, this policy is expected to benefit all groups.

Policy CP10 Developing Tourism

- 8.9 This policy seeks to increase the Plan Area's attractiveness for visitors. In association with other Core Strategy policies on improving access to services and facilities and ensuring social cohesion and participation, this policy is expected to benefit all groups.

Policy CP11 Supporting Community and Recreation Assets

- 8.10 The policy seeks to ensure, as far as it is practical to do so, that all residents of the Plan Area have convenient access to local shops, services and facilities. Better access to high quality open and recreational spaces which generally will benefit all sections of the community. However this policy is does have a specific low positive impact for religious/faith groups by providing a policy tool to help protect their buildings and spaces. Furthermore whilst protecting buildings a spaces is for the benefit of a whole community, the young, elderly and less mobile are likely to experience more positive impacts from this policy than others who may be less dependent upon local and

village services and facilities. Concerns regarding safety could be an issue for some groups, particularly older people. Through the preparation and periodic reviews of the Open Space Strategy, the Council will seek to improve physical and social inclusion, including accessibility.

Policy CP12 Conserving and Enhancing Environmental and Historic Assets

- 8.11 This policy seeks to protect and enhance all assets. In association with other Core Strategy policies on improving access to services and facilities and ensuring social cohesion and participation, this policy is expected to benefit all groups.

Policy CP13 Promoting High Quality Design

- 8.12 Improved quality and higher standards of architecture and urban design in new developments will benefit all members of the community. Accommodating the needs of specific groups through design will need to be carefully considered and monitored. The Core Strategy includes specific policies to ensure environments are accessible to disabled people and those with mobility problems. It also seeks to secure sustainable housing, including housing built to 'Lifetime Homes' standards (enabling people to adapt their homes to meet their changing needs as they become older, more frail or suffer short or long term disabilities).

Policy CP14 Providing and Delivering Infrastructure

- 8.13 Infrastructure to support growth including schools, further and higher education establishments, healthcare, community facilities, parks, utilities and improvements to transport connectivity will be required over the plan period. The provision of appropriate social infrastructure is expected to help bridge gaps. A key challenge will be to ensure that the needs of all groups are accommodated as far as it is practical to do so. The plan strategy is to optimise the use of land, also ensuring the location of facilities in the most sustainable locations linked by public transport.

9.0 Conclusion

- 9.1 Local Authorities are required under legislation to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) when reviewing or developing new policies, strategies and functions, to determine if there is an adverse impact, or illegal discrimination, or any unmet need or requirements.
- 9.2 One of the aims of the Core Strategy is to promote community cohesion, support regeneration, and tackle deprivation and inequalities. The document contains policies that seek to address these issues through spatial and environmental planning policies. Returning to the 4 key questions at the beginning of the assessment, the Core Strategy is seeking to bring about improvements for all of the communities who reside, work and take leisure in the Plan Area. The Core Strategy seeks many gains which are universal to all groups, but specifically it seeks to provide new housing which relates to the needs of the population and this will result in positive impacts for age and disability groups. Overall a strategy based on a more sustainable pattern of development and services will benefit vulnerable groups by reducing the extremities of their exposure to issues such as isolation, fuel poverty and extreme weather conditions and risks, but perhaps the more significant

contributions come from two of the more modest, but no less significant or important, aspirations of improving accessibility which enables greater choice for all and protecting community and recreation assets which helps to enable all individuals in rural communities to use convenient local activities and facilities to provide healthier, fuller and more meaningful lifestyles.

- 9.3 All policies have been assessed on their impact on the seven equality strands. In general, it is considered that the Core Strategy will have a low positive effect on all groups. There are no generally adverse impacts on race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, religion/faith or travelling communities. High positive impacts are a recurring theme for age and disability groups, where the impacts of sustainable new development to modern building standards mean that these groups will see improvements that will benefit all but will specifically reduce the difficulties that some people within these groups experience. However some of these benefits will only be available to members in these groups if they make lifestyle choices to access them – for example choosing to move into new more sustainably located housing and it is acknowledged that not all members of these groups will have these choices, so in conclusion we would moderate the overall impacts to low positive.
- 9.4 The one group who do not appear to benefit from the low positive impacts overall are gypsies and travellers. It is considered that this arises not because actions exclude this group, but because this group is less likely to participate in ways which will enable them to benefit. Potentially, gypsies and travellers may seek housing and so benefit from those policies and actions. However there is evidence of only very low need for extra pitches (3 pitches in the *North Yorkshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2008*). The reality of positive impacts is therefore considered to be very low. Additionally it is considered that actions under policies such as environmental and heritage, and community and recreational asset actions will benefit all, gypsy and travellers are less likely to use these assets and therefore impacts have been assessed as neutral for them.
- 9.5 As the Core Strategy is the overarching Local Plan document, the role of other subsidiary plan documents would be crucial in delivering its outcomes. Accordingly, further scrutiny and mitigating measures (if any) will be applied to the detailed policies to be covered in the Delivering Development Document. As no negative impacts have been identified in this assessment no follow up action plan has been prepared.
- 9.6 Together with the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy, this report will be made publicly available as part of the public consultation process. Any further issues identified from the consultation will inform the final plan that is adopted following submission to the Secretary of State and the independent examination into the soundness of the plan.

10.0 Monitoring Arrangements

- 10.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), containing information on the implementation of the Local Plan and the effectiveness of policies. Performance of the policies within the Local Plan Core Strategy will be monitored through an annual monitoring report.

10.2 Monitoring is crucial to the successful delivery of the spatial vision and objectives of the Core Strategy and will be undertaken on a continuous basis. The monitoring report assesses various indicators that relate to specific policies in the Local Plan. The outcomes derived through monitoring may lead to policy reviews or careful consideration of all implementation issues in further local plan documents.