

Equality Analysis –Rea Valley Urban Quarter Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
Reference No.	EQUA531 (On System)
EA is in support of	New Policy
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	18/06/2021
Directorate	Inclusive Growth
Division	Planning and Development
Service Area	City Centre Planning Area Team
Responsible Officer(s)	Lawrence Munyuki
Quality Control Officer(s)	Richard Woodland
Accountable Officer(s)	Simon Delahunty-Forrest
Purpose of proposal	To evaluate and adopt the Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD
Data sources	Consultation Results; relevant reports/strategies; relevant research
(Assess the impact against the protected characteristics)	
Protected Characteristic – Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Age Details	<p>The SPD will create a vibrant mixed use neighbourhood, offering a mix of workspace and living in a high quality environment. The development will cater for all people of all age groups, including providing family housing and potential for homes for the elderly and for people with particular needs. The Birmingham Development Plan also requires 35% affordable housing. Details of a suitable mix in Rea Valley will be proposed by the developer at a later stage, rather than it being set in the SPD.</p> <p>Education and healthcare needs will be met by the SPD. The mix of uses throughout the Quarter will deliver a new sustainable residential community, supported by healthcare and education services, as well as local amenities and employment opportunities.</p>
Protected Characteristic - Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Disability Details	<p>The future developments will meet the needs of disabled population and those who have declining mobility in later life.</p> <p>The Real Valley Urban Quarter SPD will improve accessibility by integrating public transport, connecting the site with the rest of</p>

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
	<p>the city and improving the public realm. The area will benefit from significant improvements to public transport. Existing bus services will be complimented by the extension of the Midland Metro. Parking and servicing will not be allowed to dominate the environment in the SPD area and disabled parking will be provided.</p> <p>The design approach as set out within the document details the level of infrastructure requirements anticipated. Future technical design proposals of the development will be addressed in relevant Council planning guidance (e.g. Access for People with Disabilities SPD).</p>
Protected Characteristic – Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Gender Details	<p>During the development design, planning and management process there will be regular review to ensure that the interests of the local community are reflected including interests of those with protected characteristics. All groups with protected characteristics should indirectly benefit from future development in the Rea Valley.</p> <p>An engagement strategy was developed to set out how the public consultation will be carried out. This has been developed in line with guidance as provided in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2008) and the relevant regulations.</p> <p>The public consultation approach was made relevant to the local community and wards within the SPD area. As such relevant organisations that advise on equalities issues were consulted.</p> <p>Groups in the area were informed about the draft SPD (via letter / press release / online), for which a number of drop-in sessions were made available during the consultation period. Detailed and ongoing engagement will also be carried out with key stakeholders through the planning process.</p>
Protected Characteristic – Gender Reassignment	Not Applicable
Gender Reassignment Details	N/A
Protected Characteristic - Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not Applicable

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
Marriage and Civil Partnership Details	N/A
Protected Characteristic – Pregnancy and Maternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Pregnancy and Maternity Details	See disability section
Protected Characteristic – Race	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Race Details	<p>During the development design, planning and management process there will be regular review to ensure that the interests of the local community are reflected including interests of those with protected characteristics. All groups with protected characteristics should indirectly benefit from future development in the Rea Valley.</p> <p>An engagement strategy was developed to set out how the public consultation will be carried out. This has been developed in line with guidance as provided in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2008) and the relevant regulations.</p> <p>The public consultation approach was made relevant to the local community and wards within the SPD area. As such relevant organisations that advise on equalities issues were consulted.</p> <p>Groups in the area were informed about the draft SPD (via letter / press release / online), for which a number of drop-in sessions were made available during the consultation period. Detailed and ongoing engagement will also be carried out with key stakeholders through the planning process.</p>
Protected Characteristic – Religion or Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Religion or Beliefs Details	<p>During the development design, planning and management process there will be regular review to ensure that the interests of the local community are reflected including interests of those with protected characteristics. All groups with protected characteristics should indirectly benefit from future development in the Rea Valley.</p> <p>An engagement strategy was developed to set out how the public consultation will be carried out. This has been developed in line with guidance as provided in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2008) and the relevant regulations.</p>

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
	<p>The public consultation approach was made relevant to the local community and wards within the SPD area. As such relevant organisations that advise on equalities issues were consulted.</p> <p>Groups in the area were informed about the draft SPD (via letter / press release / online), for which a number of drop-in sessions were made available during the consultation period. Detailed and ongoing engagement will also be carried out with key stakeholders through the planning process.</p>
Protected Characteristics – Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Users and Stakeholders - Wider Community
Sexual Orientation Details	<p>Birmingham's Gay Village has become well established within Southside over the last 20 years and it is acknowledged that it needs to be properly referenced in the final SPD given the focus of the village around the lower parts of Hurst Street, Kent Street and Lower Essex Street. We are aware a number of venues are currently under threat of closure due to leases expiring on the properties but as the properties are in private ownership, the City Council has no powers to intervene in discussions about renewal of leases.</p> <p>The Big City Plan (2010), was endorsed as a framework for the future development and regeneration of the city centre and refers specifically to the Gay Quarter and how residential uses as part of the mixed-use redevelopment of derelict and underused sites will form an important part of Southside's regeneration. The adopted Birmingham Development Plan (2017) Policy TP25 'Tourism and Cultural Facilities,' recognises the importance of cultural facilities and venues as key destinations for creating a diverse offer in the City.' The introduction of the "agent of change" principle to national planning policy (NPPF 2019 Para 182) provides protection for existing LGBT+ business and community facilities from proposed residential development. Where any new development is proposed that could be noise-sensitive, and it could be adversely affected by nearby sources of noise such as music venues, community and sports clubs, then the developer of the new use bears the responsibility of protecting both the existing business and the new development. The emerging relevant Development Management DPD policies on noise and amenity will be updated to reflect the requirements of NPPF Para 182.</p>
Socio-economic impacts	

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.	The equality assessment considers how implementation of the SPD proposals would contribute to the realisation of equality effects associated with the regeneration of the River Rea Urban Quarter. The assessment will then help inform the final draft of the SPD and later its implementation.
Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended	NO
What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?	<p>In order to comprehensively to come up with the framework for the area, the Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD has been supported by a series of baseline and technical studies covering subject areas like highways, Infrastructure and flooding.</p> <p>The SPD expand on the vision for the Southern Gateway set out in the Birmingham Development Plan Policy GA1.2, which was backed by an extensive evidence base to justify the policies. It has also been informed by national and local planning policies, guidance and evidence.</p> <p>Extensive consultation engagements were carried out for this SPD and data collected was used to update it.</p>
Consultation analysis	Extensive public engagement has been carried out in line with legal requirements and the Birmingham Statement of Community Involvement. The SPD was publically consulted on over an 8-week period from the 17th May until 12th July 2019. Consultation was advertised via community newsletter, online, emails, letter drop, press release and social media. Public events were held across the Rea Valley Urban Quarter at a number of different venues in the vicinity of the Rea Valley Urban Quarter. It is estimated that approximately 250 individuals attended public consultation events. Schools and colleges were visited during the consultation period, with over 100 pupils addressed in total and workshops held. Comments received were used to update the final version of the Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD.
Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.	There will be no significant adverse impacts from this proposal. The SPD will not disproportionately affect one protected group over another and it will contribute to equality of opportunity by providing a framework for growth and investment.
Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?	
How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?	Once SPD is adopted, future proposals will go through the formal planning process. The outputs will be constantly reviewed to ensure that they fully represent the interests of the future users

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
	and the wider community and does not adversely impact on protected groups. The SPDs will be monitored through the Local Planning Authority's Monitoring Report.
What data is required in the future?	
Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s) If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.	No There will be no significant adverse impacts from this proposal. The SPD will not disproportionately affect one protected group over another and it will contribute to equality of opportunity by providing a framework for growth and investment.
Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal	
Consulted People or Groups	
Informed People of Groups	
Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA	<p>The Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPDs is a planning document providing supplementary detail / guidance to the strategic statutory policies of the Birmingham Development Plan (BDP). The SPD has to be in accordance with policies in the BDP, which were subject to an</p> <p>Equalities Analysis. The SPD has been informed by an evidence base, including design advice. No specific impacts on protected characteristics were identified. The developments will lead to positive outcomes for the local population including new homes, job opportunities and infrastructure delivery, and will lead to the creation of inclusive communities.</p> <p>An initial equality impact assessment was done for the draft SPD and did not identify any specific impacts the SPD could have on protected characteristics. The SPD has been amended following the public consultation on the draft SPD.</p> <p>The results of the public consultation on the draft document have been used to update the Equalities Analysis and this has informed the final SPD to be adopted.</p>
QUALITY CONTROL SECTION	
Submit to quality control officer for reviewing?	Yes
Quality Control officer comments	Approve

Title of Proposed EIA	Adoption of the 'Rea Valley Urban Quarter SPD'
Decision by Quality Control officer	Proceed for final approval
Submit draft to Accountable Officer	Yes
Decision by Accountable Officer	Approve
Date approved / rejected by Accountable Officer	
Reasons for approval or rejection	
Please print and save a PDF copy for your records	Yes