

Northampton Borough Council

Northampton Central Area Action Plan Submission

Equalities Impact Assessment

May 2012



Northampton Submission Draft Central Area Action Plan

Equalities Impact Assessment

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process that investigates the potential equalities outcomes of a project or strategy. Its aim is to identify potential positive and negative impacts upon equalities and diversity and their distribution upon community groups. Its recommendations inform the decision-making process, with a view to wherever possible reducing or removing negative impacts or inequalities from a project or strategy. This report is the EIA for the Central Area Action Plan (CAAP) Submission version. This exercise will help maximise the benefits of future development and growth for communities.

Aims and Objectives

- 1.2 The aim of the CAAP is to replace the current Development Plan applicable to the Central Area, the 1997 Northampton Local Plan. It will:
- establish a new spatial planning framework for Northampton's Central Area;
 - provide detailed policies that will seek to shape development that occurs within the period to 2026; and
 - provide policies that should be taken into account when considering future development opportunities and submitted planning applications.

Central Area Action Plan - Background

- 1.3 The CAAP is part of the Development Plan (in association with the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy) which will guide how the centre of Northampton will develop to 2026. The CAAP aims to guide and regulate the type, quality and quantity of development. When adopted, it will set out the detailed strategy and vision for the town. The CAAP will complement national planning policy and the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy. In association with an adopted West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy it will eventually replace substantial elements of the Northampton Local Plan (adopted 1997).
- 1.4 The Plan will set both the broad framework for developing the centre to 2026 and beyond and more detailed policy requirements for particular parts of the Central Area. It provides a clearer picture of the future of the Central Area for residents, investors and businesses. It will also help focus the spending plans of a range of public sector organisations from the Borough and County Councils, West Northamptonshire

Development Corporation, Homes and Communities Agency, health care agencies, the emergency services and the Environment Agency.

Baseline data and research

- 1.6 A full list of the evidence base documents used to support policy and development proposals within the Central Area Action Plan can be found in the Technical Paper that addresses each policy.

Consultation

- 1.7 There have been four formalised stages of 6-week consultations that have taken place - Issues and Options (September 2007), the Central Area Action Plan – Emerging Strategy (August 2009), the Pre-Submission Central Area Action Plan (November 2010) and the Focused Changes to the Pre-Submission Central Area Action Plan (November 2011).
- 1.8 In addition to consultation on the formal stages of plan making there has been a variety of engagement tools used to increase awareness about plan making and the Central Area Action Plan, gather views and information, gain perspectives about specific issues and challenges and to build consensus among stakeholders.
- 1.9.1 The following activities have taken place relating to the Central Area Action Plan or parts of the evidence base:
- Awareness raising – bus shelter poster sites, website
 - Leaflets and brochures – document summary leaflets, Spring Boroughs leaflet
 - Unstaffed and unstaffed exhibitions – Issues and Options and Emerging Strategy consultations, Polish Day, Balloon Festival
 - Local newspaper articles – press coverage around Issues and Options and Emerging Strategy
 - Internet information and electronic feedback forms and questionnaires – Issues and Options and Emerging Strategy consultations
 - Surveys, interviews and questionnaires - Issues and Options and Emerging Strategy consultations, parts of evidence base (Characterisation and Tall Buildings Strategy, Shop Frontages)
 - Workshops – one off discussion workshops and two stage workshops to build consensus (Councillor workshops, Tall Buildings, Shop Frontages)
 - Stakeholder liaison groups – groups meeting for longer periods of time (Town Centre Commission)
- 2.0 Consultation monitoring was carried out with questionnaires provided as part of the formal stages of consultation. This was to allow monitoring of age, ethnicity, and how respondents wished to receive information (top 5). Following on from monitoring at the Issues and Options stage a question was added about accessibility to information (i.e. large print, Braille, translation). As a result of an analysis of the

demographic profile of responses received at Issues and Options stage, additional, more targeted, consultation techniques were used in order to engage with harder to reach groups during the consultation on the Emerging Strategy. Poster sites around the town were used to raise awareness of the exhibition locations and young people were directly targeted through the positioning of a 'Video Pod' in a local leisure centre so views to prompt questions could be recorded.

- 1.8 A list of the groups and organisations that were contacted at Issues and Options and Emerging Strategy stages of consultation can be found in the Appendix to the Statement of Community Involvement.

Results of the Consultation

- 1.9 A Consultation Feedback Report and accompanying Executive Summary documenting quantitative and qualitative feedback has been produced by the Council for Issues and Options, Emerging Strategy and Pre-Submission documents, these can reports can be accessed as part of the forthcoming consultation on CAAP. The Council's response to constructive queries made regarding the Council policy proposals at previous consultation stages can be found in the Technical Paper which supports each policy topic area. Below is a summary table of specific equalities issues raised during consultation on the CAAP and the appropriate policies within the CAAP the issues raised might suitably be addressed.

Issue	Equality Strand	Policy Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public realm improvements on streets and public spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Disability • Gender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 1: PROMOTING DESIGN EXCELLENCE • POLICY 4: PUBLIC REALM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ease of access in and around the Central Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Disability • Gender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 1: PROMOTING DESIGN EXCELLENCE • POLICY 4: PUBLIC REALM • POLICY 6: INNER RING ROAD • POLICY 7: BUS INTERCHANGE • POLICY 9: PEDESTRIAN AND

		CYCLING MOVEMENT FRAMEWORK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 10: PARKING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer streets and public spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Disability • Gender • Ethnicity • Religious Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 2: PROMOTING DESIGN EXCELLENCE • POLICY 4: PUBLIC REALM • POLICY 7: BUS INTERCHANGE • POLICY 36: INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduction in the number of premises for religious groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnicity • Religious Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 36: INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of recreational facilities for youth groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLICY 4: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of public toilets in the Central Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Gender 	Not specifically addressed in the Central Area Action Plan

2.0 Central Area Community Profile

2.1 The population of the Northampton at the last Census (2001) was 194,498 this has risen to 210,400 by mid 2009. Whilst the CAAP will have a more obvious impact on the communities and businesses within the Central Area, the outcomes of the plan will also have a wider effect on business and residents across the Borough as they are frequent users of the Central Area. Therefore the adoption of the CAAP will impact upon on a range of equality strands throughout the Borough; the table below illustrates how relevant the CAAP is to the different equality strands.

	Age	Disability	Gender	Gender Reassignment	Religion /Belief
Relevance	High	High	Medium	Low	Low

	Sexual Orientation	Pregnancy & Maternity	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Race
Relevance	Low	Low		Low

2.2 The following tables, graphs and commentaries illustrate the characteristics of the population across the Borough in relation to the key equality strands as established by Northampton Borough Council. They also explain the relationship between population statistics and the consultation responses received as part of the consultation on the Central Area Action Plan: Emerging Strategy. Unless otherwise stated all data has been sourced from the Census 2001, and from the consultation responses from the Central Area Action Plan: Emerging Strategy (August 2009).

Ethnicity/Race

2.3 Over 87% of Northampton's population are of White British origin, this is on a par with that population of the rest of England. However, these levels are lower than the 91% average in the rest of the East Midlands. The ethnic mix of the population of Northampton is shown in Figure 1. Of note is that there are a higher proportion of White Irish and Black Caribbean residents in Northampton, compared to the East Midlands region. The majority of respondents to the Emerging Strategy consultation were of a White British origin; 83.9%, this is likely to be broadly consistent with the characteristics of the town given an increase in eastern European in-migrants into Northampton since 2001.

Borough of Northampton Population Structure - Ethnicity

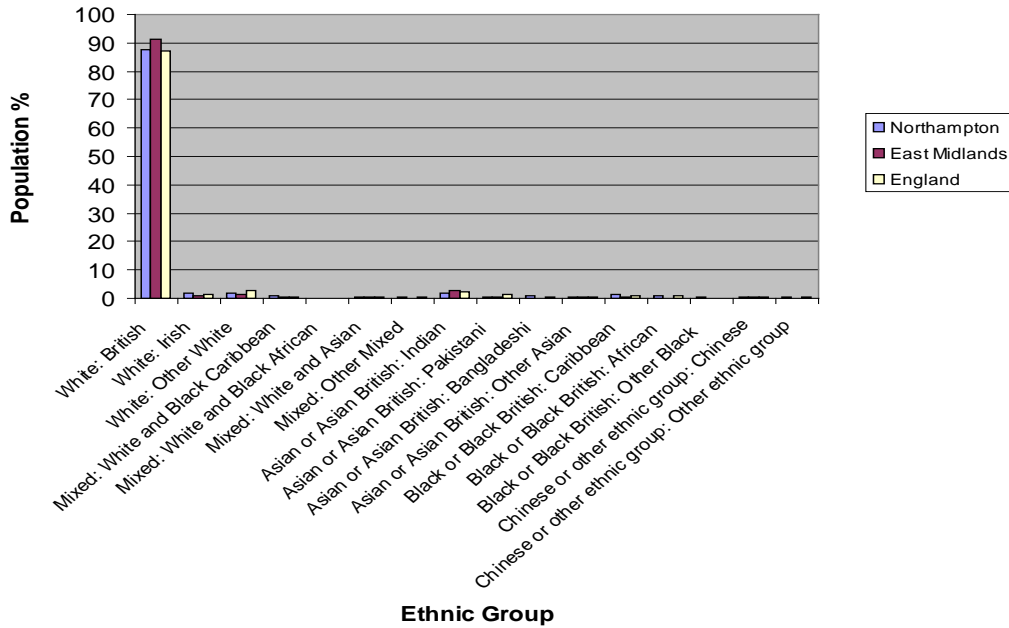


Figure 1: Borough of Northampton Population Structure – Ethnically 2001

Age

2.4 As can be seen in Figure 2, Northampton has a population structure that is generally younger than that exhibited in England and in the East Midlands, with a greater proportion of the under 45's. In terms of respondents to consultation on the Emerging Strategy CAAP a significant number of representations received were from people aged between 41 and 64; 43%. This however, is broadly consistent with the population structure of the town.

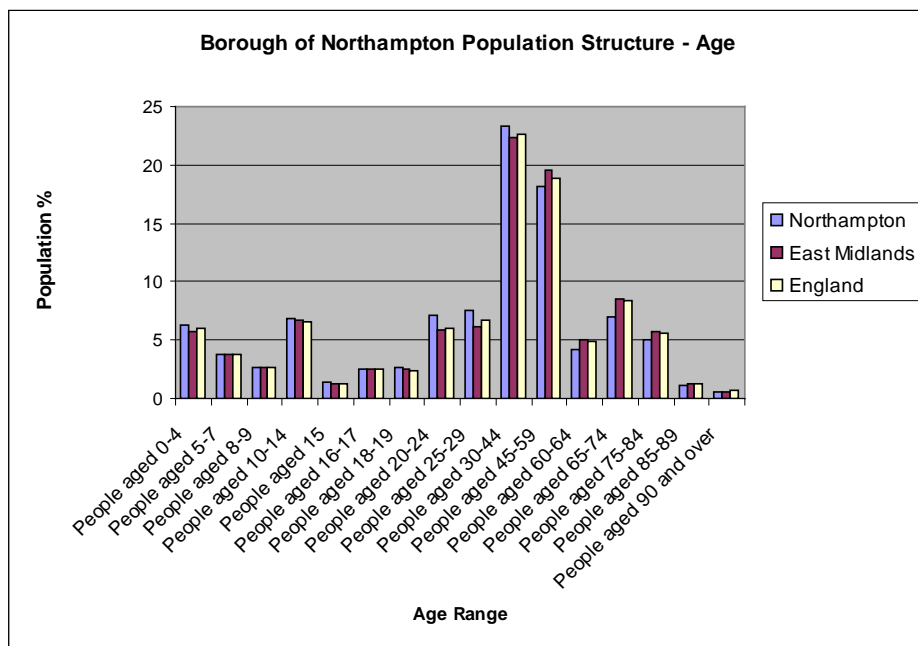


Figure 2: Age Structure of the Population of Northampton 2001

Gender

- 2.5 As with the population statistics for Northampton, the East Midlands region and the rest of England; the Emerging Strategy consultation responses shows a higher ratio of females to males. However, the responses were again broadly consistent with the population of the town.

Gender	Emerging Strategy Consultation Responses (August 2009)	Northampton	East Midlands	England
- Male	49.2%	49.05%	49.01%	48.68%
- Female	50.8%	50.94%	50.89%	51.32%

Religion

- 2.6 As can be seen in Figure 3, the largest religious group in Northampton are Christians (68%) although this is lower than the East Midlands and England average. Approximately 20% of the population stated that they had no religion this is above the East Midlands and England average. Data relating to the religious beliefs of respondents was not collected as part of the consultation on the CAAP: Emerging Strategy.

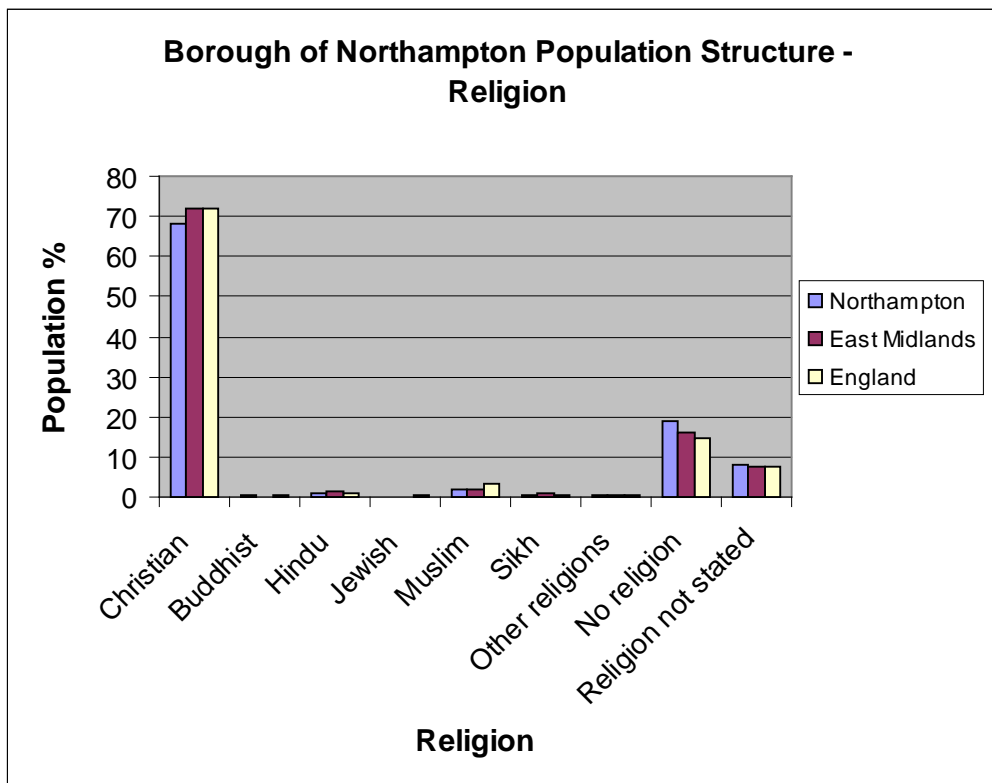


Figure 3: Religion of the Population of Northampton 2001

Disability

- 2.7 The Department for Work and Pensions figures for key benefit claimants show disability figures in Northampton are in line with those for the rest of the East Midlands and Great Britain. Data relating to respondents living with a disability was not collected as part of the consultation the CAAP: Emerging Strategy.

Disability	Northampton		East Midlands	Great Britain
Job seeker	6570	4.6%	3.8%	3.9%
ESA and incapacity benefit	8020	5.7%	6.3%	6.7%
Lone parent	2790	2.0%	1.6%	1.8%
Carer	1220	0.9%	1.1%	1.1%
Income related benefit	690	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Disabled	1280	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%
Bereaved	270	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%

Source: DWP benefit claimants (February 2009) www.nomisweb.co.uk

Sexual Orientation

- 2.8 The table below shows that the proportion of same sex couples living in Northampton is comparable with the rest of England. Data relating to respondents living with a disability was not collected as part of the consultation the CAAP: Emerging Strategy.

	All people aged 16 and over in households	Living in same sex couples	Proportion of people living in same sex couples
England	38,393,304	75,746	0.20%
Northampton	150,185	292	0.19%

Maternity

- 2.9 The table below shows that the number of live births for the population of Northampton together with birth rates. Northampton has a higher birth rate than that experienced at a national level and higher levels of general fertility too. Specific figures for rates within the Central Area have not been obtained. Taking account of existing pregnancies and maternity (of a period up to a year after birth) in theory there could be up to 5% of the female population either pregnant or caring for a child under 5. Of these approximately 50% will be in marriage (Table 1.2.1.1 Live Birth Statistics for 2007, VS1 non-NHS version, ONS), whilst it's fair to assume that the majority of the remainder are likely to be in a relationship. On this basis it is considered that up to 5% of the

population overall could potentially be affected by pregnancy or maternity at anyone time.

	Live Births Total	Birth Rate (per 1000 population)	General Fertility Rate*
England	655,357	12.8	62.1
Northampton	3135	15.7	70.6

* = Number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15 – 44 years

Gender Reassignment

2.10 The number of gender reassignment surgical procedures was 143 in 2009 on the National Health Service. In 2000-9 a total of 853 trans women and 12 trans men had state-funded surgery to change sex (source: Daily Telegraph). It is estimated that 20 people per 100,000 are cared for gendered-related medical care. For Northampton, this would equate to approximately 42 people. However, the true number of transgender people is estimated to be far higher, as many do not wish to undergo painful or complex surgery, or are unable to access it. Nevertheless, definitive statistics are difficult to obtain, although a very small proportion of the population is assigned to this characteristic. No separate statistics are available for central area residents.

Marriage and Civil Partnerships

2.10 Nationally the people married in 2010 stood at 39% of the total population (21,643,000 England & Wales) (including those separated, but excluding those divorced and widowed) (ONS). In addition approximately 80,000 people were in a civil partnership. For Northampton this equates to approximately 82,000 people in marriage and 312 people in a civil partnership.

3.0 Central Area Action Plan Submission - Policy Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 For the purposes of this assessment policies have been grouped together if they are of a similar nature, e.g. they relate to the same topic area such as Town Centre Uses, or if they are policies relating to the same development. Each policy or group is the scored on a scale ranging from very good, to neutral to very negative (✓✓, ✓, 0, -, - -).

Vision for Northampton Central Area

3.2 *“By 2026, Northampton Town Centre will be firmly established as the economic and cultural centre for Northamptonshire. It will be the destination of choice for people within the County and beyond to live, work and relax. The Town Centre will be using its strengths, in particular its architectural heritage, its riverside, a distinctive retail offer and its cultural offer as a key to its success.”*

Policy 1 & 2 Promoting Design Excellence & Tall Buildings

3.3 Northampton Central Area has a distinctive character and possesses a number of heritage assets which need to be preserved and enhanced in the future as development proposals come forward. Respecting the built and natural heritage, promoting logical and coherent pedestrian links, ensuring environmental sustainability, increasing public safety, appropriately locating tall buildings and increasing the overall vitality and vibrancy of the Central Area are all issues addressed through policies 2 and 3.

Equality Groups		Positive Impact		Negative Impact
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Reduce the opportunity for racial harassment and violence by increasing natural surveillance of the street and public spaces.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Reduce the opportunity for sexual harassment and attacks on females by increasing natural surveillance of the street and public spaces..	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓✓	Policy will improve accessibility to development and promote inclusive design in relation to the	0	None specifically identified

		layout and function of development and the public realm.		
Religion	✓	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	Policy aims to improve public safety through promoting sound urban design techniques and creating a vibrant street environment that benefits from natural surveillance. The need to adhere to Secured by Design Principles will be promoted in the forthcoming West Northamptonshire Core Strategy, this will be applicable to the Central Area.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	Policy will improve accessibility to development and promote inclusive design in relation to the layout and function of development and the public realm.	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	✓	Reduce the opportunity for sexual harassment and attacks on females by increasing natural surveillance of the street and public spaces.	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	✓	Reduce the opportunity for sexual harassment and attacks on females by increasing natural surveillance of the street and public spaces.	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 3 & 4 Public Realm and Green Infrastructure

3.4 The CAAP aims to deliver a network of linked open spaces and green infrastructure across the Central Area for the enjoyment of all residents

and visitors. The network will be created through the development of new spaces as part of larger development and through safeguarding and improving existing open spaces.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Policy will promote the creation of high quality public spaces, which will have a positive impact for community interaction and cohesion.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Well designed spaces with natural surveillance in the day and evening will reduce the fear of crime for users both male and female.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓✓	New attractive and high quality public realm and public spaces which are accessible to all will increase the enjoyment of the Central Area for users.	+/-	None specifically identified
Religion	✓	Policy will promote the creation of quality public spaces, which will have a positive impact for community interaction and cohesion.	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	New attractive and high quality public realm and public spaces which are accessible to all will increase the enjoyment of the Central Area for users. Well designed spaces with natural surveillance in the day and evening will reduce the fear of crime for the elderly. Specific improvements to identified pieces of Green Infrastructure	-	Younger people in society would expect more active promotion of the need for recreational facilities as part of green infrastructure policy*.

		are likely to be of benefit to the young in particular through provision of new play areas.		
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	New attractive and high quality public realm and public spaces which are accessible to all will increase the enjoyment of the Central Area for users. This will increased the health and wellbeing of expectant mothers. Well designed spaces with natural surveillance in the day and evening will reduce the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified.
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	✓	New attractive and high quality public realm and public spaces which are accessible to all will increase the enjoyment of the Central Area for users. This will increased the health and wellbeing of expectant mothers. Well designed spaces with natural surveillance in the day and evening will reduce the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	✓	New attractive and high quality public realm and public spaces which are accessible to all will increase the enjoyment of the Central Area for users. This will increased the health	0	None specifically identified

		and wellbeing of expectant mothers. Well designed spaces with natural surveillance in the day and evening will reduce the fear of crime.		
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** This issue has been addressed through a single developer contributions policy which outlines expectations for the provision of green infrastructure as part of new large development. This policy will be consistent with rate of planning obligations sought in forthcoming planning policy in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the West Northamptonshire Developer Contributions DPD.*

Policy 5 Flood Risk and Water Management

3.5 With this policy the council seek to manage and reduce flood risk in the Central Area to reduce any negative effects on communities and properties. Measures promoted to reduce flood risk include reducing the amount of surface water flow and promoting the use of source water techniques such as green roofs and sustainable urban drainage systems.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Adhering to the results of the Exception Test and Flood Risk Assessment will ensure that development will either be planned in areas that are not at risk of flooding, or where the risk exists; there will be suitable mitigation measures in place to ensure that vulnerable groups will not be put at risk.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	Adhering to the results of the Exception Test	0	None specifically identified

		and Flood Risk Assessment will ensure that development will either be planned in areas that are not at risk of flooding, or where the risk exists; there will be suitable mitigation measures in place to ensure that vulnerable groups will not be put at risk.		
Pregnancy and maternity	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 6 to 10 Transport and Movement

- 3.6 The CAAP aims to reduce the dominance of the private car in the Central Area and transform it into a walkable city through promoting and extending the network of pedestrian and cycle routes. Policy also aims to facilitate the provision of new integrated and easy to access transport hubs e.g. the Castle Station redevelopment and bus interchange at the Fishmarket site (Policy 7).

Equality Groups		Positive Impact		Negative Impact
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	The improvement of public transport facilities in particular will be of benefit to ethnic groups who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	The removal of subways as part of improve pedestrian links will reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified

		Improved public transport links will improve mobility for females who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.		
Disability	✓✓	<p>Improvements to existing pedestrian links and creating links will improve the mobility of the disabled around the Central Area.</p> <p>New, modern, well designed transport hubs will be developed in such a way that will improve usability for the disabled.</p> <p>The car parking standards set out details of appropriate numbers and locations of disabled car parking spaces.</p>	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	<p>Improvements to existing pedestrian links and creating new ones will improve the mobility of the elderly and young around the Central Area.</p> <p>The removal of subways as part of improved pedestrian links will reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.</p> <p>Improved public transport links will improve mobility for the</p>	0	None specifically identified

		young and the elderly who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.		
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	Improved public transport provision and links (including for walking and cycling) will increase accessibility whilst improving health benefits for expectant mothers	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	✓	The removal of subways as part of improve pedestrian links will reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	✓	The removal of subways as part of improve pedestrian links will reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified

Policy 11 – 15 Creating a prosperous Central Area

3.7 Creating a prosperous Central Area means meeting the retail needs of the catchment area through increasing the diversity, size and the quality of the retail 'offer'. To do this the local authority is required to designate a town centre boundary and a Primary Shopping Area to provide a focus for the delivery of new employment and retail uses in Northampton. Encouraging offices and businesses back into the Central Area will also improve the fortunes of the Central Area through increasing employment opportunities. In turn this will boost the number of people using the Central Area on a regular basis. As the Central Area is a focus for public transport it is considered that the benefits of this are likely to be increased for those that are more dependent on this of mode of transport, or do not have the ability to easily travel around the Borough.

Equality	Positive Impact	Negative Impact
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Groups				
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Access to jobs and training.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	More employment and training opportunities for females in areas with high accessibility to public transport.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Concentration of retailing and other uses within a small area reduces the need to travel long distances.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	The employment opportunities associated with retail, office and commercial development will provide jobs and training for young people in the Central Area and further afield. Concentration of retailing and other uses within a small area reduces the need to travel long distances.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	Additional retail provision will increase choice for expectant mothers	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 16 Central Area Living

3.8 Policy in the CAAP aims to promote the need to deliver accommodation for young professionals and older 'downsizers' within the Central Area, whilst also creating a more balanced mix of communities. To do this a range of quality new dwellings of different types, sizes and tenures need to be delivered.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Improve access to affordable housing within the Central Area. This could be through the provision of specific forms of housing, such as Asian Elders schemes.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	New housing should be built to the Lifetime Homes standard.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	Housing policy aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by providing high quality affordable homes located in desirable environments. Provision for new student housing in the Central Area.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	Housing policy aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by providing high quality affordable homes and family homes located in desirable environments.	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	✓✓	Housing policy aims to benefit all in society regardless of marital status by provide high quality affordable homes located in desirable environments.	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender Reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 17 Grosvenor Centre

3.9 The Grosvenor Centre will comprise a significant part of the A1 retail frontage within the Central Area, and soak up much of the additional capacity for retailing in the Central Area. The redevelopment of the existing centre will improve the north to south pedestrian permeability through the area and improve the design and function of the overall area at present. On completion the improvements to the Grosvenor Centre in terms of 'offer' and environment will allow Northampton to compete with other retail centres across the Borough and region. It will also provide a developed bus interchange as a replacement for the bus station.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	The improvement of public transport facilities in particular will be of benefit to ethnic groups who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	The design and layout of the Grosvenor Centre will provide active frontage and increased natural surveillance of the street to reduce crime levels and the fear of crime. The improvement of public transport facilities in particular will be of benefit to women who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	The new Grosvenor Centre will incorporate new pedestrian links, disabled parking and make improvements to the public realm	0	None specifically identified

		allowing for easier access for the disabled.		
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	<p>The design of the new Grosvenor Centre will incorporate new pedestrian links and make improvements to the public realm allowing for easier access for the elderly.</p> <p>The design and layout of the Grosvenor Centre will provide active frontage and in turn increase natural surveillance of the street to reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.</p> <p>The improvement of public transport facilities in particular will be of benefit to older and younger who tend to rely on public transport more than the rest of the population, due to a lower incidence of car ownership.</p>	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	<p>The design of the new Grosvenor Centre will incorporate new pedestrian links and make improvements to the public realm allowing for easier access for expectant mothers.</p> <p>The design and layout of the Grosvenor Centre will provide active frontage and in turn increase natural surveillance of the</p>	0	None specifically identified

		street to reduce crime levels and the fear of crime, which is important for the health and wellbeing of expectant mothers.		
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 18 Abington Street East

3.10 This policy aims to promote the Abington Street East site as additional comparison retail floorspace. The site falls within the Primary Shopping Area and designated shopping frontages. How proposals link with the Grosvenor Centre redevelopment and the rest of the town centre in terms of pedestrian movement, and how any development will preserve and enhance the character of the listed library building are key policy considerations.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	The design and layout of development proposals should increase active frontage and natural surveillance of College Street. This will help reduce crime levels and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	The design and layout of development proposals will increase active frontage onto the street and increase natural surveillance of the street to reduce crime levels and the	0	None specifically identified

		fear of crime.		
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	The design and layout of development proposals will increase active frontage onto the street and increase natural surveillance of the street to reduce crime levels and the fear of crime, which is important for the wellbeing of expectant mothers	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 19 Castle Station

3.11 The development at Castle Station will be the first major upgrade to facilities at the station since it was developed in the 1960s. As well as improving regular station facilities the redevelopment programme includes provision for a hotel, offices, ancillary retailing, cafés and bars, residential and new multi storey car parking.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Improved facilities for frequent female users who struggle with mobility, especially when caring for young dependents.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Upgrades to the public realm, accessing the station and internal improvements to the station will enhance disabled users experience of using the station.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Age	✓	Development at Castle Station will make for a safer environment inside the station and the surrounding area. Improved public transport facilities will promote sustainable transport to the most likely users – the young and the elderly.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	Development at Castle Station will make for a safer environment inside the station and the surrounding area, and more user friendly for expectant mothers and people with young children	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 20-22 St Johns, Angel Street and Bridge Street

3.12 The redevelopment of these three strategically important sites will largely comprise a mixture of offices, retail, leisure and residential uses. Urban design issues such as providing active frontage onto the street, controlling building height and creating new successful public spaces are of paramount important. Removing the Plough Gyratory along with improving the quality of north to south pedestrian links through these inter linked areas is also a key consideration in the development of these areas.

Equality Groups		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Policy will promote the creation of quality public spaces, which will have a positive impact for community interaction and cohesion.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Well designed development, that	0	None specifically identified

		increases the natural surveillance of the street and public spaces will make a safer environment for users.		
Disability	✓	Improving pedestrian links and crossings will make this area of the Central area more accessible for disabled users.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	✓	Policy will promote the creation of quality public spaces, which will have a positive impact for community interaction and cohesion.	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	Well designed development that increases the natural surveillance of the street and public spaces will make a safer environment for elderly users. The employment opportunities associated with retail, office and commercial development will provide jobs, and training for young people in the Central Area and further afield.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	Well designed development that increases the natural surveillance of the street and public spaces will make a safer environment for expectant mothers, which is important for their wellbeing. The employment opportunities associated with retail,	0	None specifically identified

		office and commercial development will provide jobs, and training for mothers returning to work.		
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 23 Upper Mounts/Great Russell Street

3.14 A comprehensive redevelopment scheme for this site is key in order to make the most efficient use of the land. It is proposed that much of the site should come forward for residential development (with ancillary community and leisure uses) which complements the layout and design of the surrounding rows of terraced housing.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Religion	✓	Policy promotes community uses on site. Developing community can strengthen the social cohesion in this multi cultural residential area.	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	Housing development aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by providing high quality affordable homes.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	Housing development aims to benefit all in society by providing high quality affordable and family homes.	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and	0	None specifically	0	None specifically

civil partnership		identified		identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 24 Spring Boroughs

3.15 The housing-led regeneration of Spring Boroughs will provide wholesale improvements to the current housing stock and encourage a more balanced community to live in the area in terms of age, wealth, and family size. Plans will also take into account the need to provide a wider range of uses in the area and to improve connectivity to Castle Station and the Market Square.

Equality Groups		Positive Impact		Negative Impact
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Housing led regeneration will provide a housing mix to facilitate the creation of sustainable and cohesive communities. There will be the opportunity to provide more larger family affordable housing.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Improvements to the design and layout of streets and development will improve the safety of the street.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Improvements to the public realm will improve the usability of the street for disabled users. Mobility standard housing will be provided as part of the new development.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	Improvements to the public realm and the design and layout of streets and development will improve the safety and	0	None specifically identified

		<p>usability of the street.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by provide high quality affordable homes.</p> <p>Improvements to the existing school are proposed as part of the regeneration.</p>		
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	<p>Improvements to the public realm and the design and layout of streets and development will improve the safety and usability of the street for expectant mothers which will improve their wellbeing.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all providing high quality affordable and family homes.</p> <p>Improvements to the existing school are proposed as part of the regeneration, which will provide a future for their children.</p>	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 25 – 30 The Waterside

3.15 The three policies around the development of the Waterside in the Central Area all share a common goal by aiming to exploit the full potential of the River Nene by transforming this green corridor into a destination for residential, office/commercial and leisure development – whilst keeping its environmental integrity intact.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Housing led regeneration will provide a housing mix to facilitate the creation of sustainable and cohesive communities. There will be the opportunity to provide more larger family affordable housing.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Well designed development, that increases the natural surveillance of the street and public spaces will make a safer environment for users.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Improving pedestrian links and crossings will make the Waterside more accessible for disabled users.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	<p>Improvements to the public realm and the design and layout of streets and development will improve the safety and usability of the street.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by provide high quality affordable homes.</p> <p>A new school is proposed as part of the new development.</p>	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	Improvements to the public realm and the design and layout of streets and development will	0	None specifically identified

		<p>improve the safety and usability of the street, which is important for the wellbeing of expectant mothers.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all by providing high quality affordable and family homes.</p> <p>A new school is proposed as part of the new development, which will be important for children in the future.</p>		
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	-	Active promotion of the Waterside, particularly the Nene Meadows for greater leisure/recreation use may displace the historic role of part of the area as a meeting place for some of the gay and bi-sexual population.
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 31 Market Square

3.16 The Central Area Action Plan aims to maximise the potential of this unique asset by promoting the Square itself and units in secondary retail frontage (to the south and west) for leisure use in order to improve the vitality and viability of the Square in the day and at night.

Equality Groups		Positive Impact		Negative Impact
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Improving the vitality and viability of the Square in the day time and evening will have a positive impact on community interaction	0	None specifically identified

		and cohesion.		
Gender	✓	Bringing retail units back into use and promoting the Square itself as a leisure destination in the daytime and evening will reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Public realm improvements to the square will improve the usability of the Market Square for some users.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	✓	Improving the vitality and viability of the Square in the day time and evening will have a positive impact on community interaction and cohesion.	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	Bringing retail units back into use and promoting the Square itself as a leisure destination in the daytime and evening will reduce crime and the fear of crime. Public realm improvements will ease pedestrian movement around the Market Square.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	Reducing the fear of crime and improving access and movement within the Square will bring benefits to the wellbeing of expectant mothers	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

3.17 The Drapery has the potential to provide 17,000 sqm of new retail floorspace in the future. This policy promotes the development site and the highlights key considerations for developers such as enhancing the setting of listed buildings and open spaces.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Active frontage onto College Street would improve the surveillance of the street and reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Religion	✓	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓✓	New retailing would provide employment and training opportunities. Active frontage onto College Street would improve the surveillance of the street and crime and the fear of crime.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	New retailing would provide employment and training opportunities for mothers wishing to return to work. Reducing the fear of crime will be important to the wellbeing of expectant mothers.	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	-	The Boston public house is informally

				known as a gay, lesbian and bi-sexual meeting place. The redevelopment of this site is likely to displace this from the site.
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 33 Freeschool Street

- 3.18 This policy promotes mixed use development, predominantly offices, at this unattractive and underperforming part of the town.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	New offices would increase employment opportunities in the Central Area for youth in society.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	New offices would increase employment opportunities for mothers intending to return to work	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 34 Former Post Office Sorting Office

- 3.19 The former Post Office Sorting Office is built in such a way and is of such scale that it makes it unviable to demolish it. The building is seen as suitable for business and or residential use. Any proposals should

look to enhance the surrounding public realm and pedestrian movement.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Public realm improvements will improve links to surrounding areas of Semilong, Regents Square and the Racecourse.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	<p>New offices would increase employment opportunities in the Central Area for youth in society.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by provide high quality affordable homes.</p> <p>Public realm improvements will improve links to surrounding areas of Semilong, Regent Square and the Racecourse.</p>	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	<p>New offices would increase employment opportunities for mothers intending to return to work.</p> <p>Housing development aims to benefit all by providing high quality affordable and family homes.</p>	0	None specifically identified

		Public realm improvements will improve links to surrounding areas of Semilong, Regent Square and the Racecourse will provide health benefits for expectant mothers		
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 35 Telephone Exchange, Spring Gardens

3.20 This site is seen as suitable for mixed use development predominately office and residential. Development will also need to be sympathetic to the conservation area and complement the adjacent listed buildings.

Equality Groups	Positive Impact		Negative Impact	
Race, including different ethnic groups	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Disability	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Religion	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Age	✓	New offices would increase employment opportunities in the Central Area for youth in society. Housing development aims to benefit all in society regardless of age by provide high quality affordable homes.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓	New offices would increase employment opportunities for	0	None specifically identified

		mothers intending to return to work. Housing development aims to benefit all by providing high quality affordable and family homes.		
Marriage and civil partnership	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified
Gender reassignment	0	None specifically identified	0	None specifically identified

Policy 36 Infrastructure Provision

3.21 This policy seeks to ensure direct provision of infrastructure and or developer contributions, so that all new developments provide the appropriate on and off site infrastructure to mitigate the impact of development on existing communities and provide facilities needed to support new development.

Equality Groups		Positive Impact		Negative Impact
Race, including different ethnic groups	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents.	0	None specifically identified
Gender	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents.	0	None specifically identified
Disability	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents.	0	None specifically identified
Religion	✓✓	Provision of new	0	None specifically

		infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents. This includes provision of community centres which provide meeting places, opportunities for prayer or worship in groups and stimulate social cohesion.		identified
Age	✓✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents. Infrastructure can include provision of open space, recreation facilities' and schools.	0	None specifically identified
Pregnancy and maternity	✓✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents. Infrastructure can include provision of open space, recreation facilities' and schools.	0	None specifically identified
Marriage and civil partnership	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents.	0	None specifically identified
Sexual Orientation	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable	0	None specifically identified

		development which benefits all users and residents.		
Gender reassignment	✓	Provision of new infrastructure to support develop will ensure the delivery of sustainable development which benefits all users and residents.	0	None specifically identified

4.0 Performance and Monitoring Arrangements

When will the action plan be reviewed?

- 4.1 Following formal adoption with the approval from the Secretary of State the Central Area Action Plan will be reviewed in 2013/2014.

Who will carry out monitoring?

- 4.2 Planning Officers within the Planning Policy Team at Northampton Borough Council.

What needs to be monitored?

- 4.3 The effectiveness of each policy within the Central Area Action Plan and its ability to deliver what it sets out to do.

What method (s) of monitoring?

- 4.4 Monitoring planning permissions granted using individual planning policies within the Central Area Action and the completion of new development.

5.0 Publication of EIA

How should the EIA be published?

- 5.1 This Equalities Impact Assessment will be published in full as a supporting document to the Submission Central Area Action Plan.

Who will give feedback before publication?

- 5.2 Members, the general public and officers had the opportunity to comment on the EIA at Pre-Submission stage (December, 2010), at this stage no representation on the EIA were received. As the Central Area Action Plan is now reaching Submission stage, the Plan and all supporting documents are published by the Council, but not for consultation.

When will consultees be notified of how their views informed the process and final decision?

- 5.3 No comments on the EIA were received at Pre-Submission stage.

6.0 Conclusion

Conclusion Areas of concern within the EIA	Recommended Measures/Action	Risk in relation to Equality Impact	Timescale	Resource Implication
Policy 4: Green Infrastructure	Monitor the progress of forthcoming West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Green Infrastructure policy which will provide overarching guidance on this issue for the Central Area.	Negative publicity regarding continual lobbying/bad press associated with the lack of provision of youth facilities within the Central Area – in particular a skate facility. Limited facilities encouraging use of Abington Street and other Central Area sites as impromptu skate facilities – this has an adverse impact on the perception of the young and also can increase the fear of crime in older people.	December 2012	Low
Policy 7: Bus Interchange Fish market	Ensure opportunities to provide new social infrastructure and community facilities are taken within proposals for	The demolition of Fish Market Gallery will result in the loss of a community facility important for social	Complete	n/a

	new development.	cohesion in the local community. The Arts Collective have been successfully located to Guildhall Road		
Policy 18: Abington Street East		<p>The CAAP states that the provision of library services will be maintained either as part of Abington Street East development or elsewhere within the Central Area.</p> <p>This policy represents a long term proposal as the site is not required to meet retail provision until post 2021. In any event, the provision of library services is not a planning policy consideration for the Council. The provision of library services in the Central Area is service provision matter that lies within the responsibilities of Northamptonshire County Council.</p>	Ongoing	Low

Policy 30: Nene Meadows	Provision for new leisure and recreation facilities inclusive of everybody in society will be brought forward through CAAP and West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy planning policy.	Loss of an informal meeting place for some of the gay and bi-sexual community in the Central Area. This could lead to bad publicity for the Council.	Ongoing	Low
Policy 32: The Drapery	Provision for new leisure and recreation facilities inclusive of everybody in society will be brought forward through CAAP and West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy planning policy.	Loss of an informal meeting place for the gay and lesbian community in the Central Area. This could lead to bad publicity for the Council.	Ongoing	Low

7.0 Equality impact assessment Action & Improvement Plan

Area of concern/negative impact	Changes proposed	Measure of success/Performance indicator	Lead Officer	Timescale	Resource implication
The Plan has not been able to specifically address the concerns of faith	Changes have been made to the Action Plan in identifying sites that might be suitable for religious facilities; this includes the Policy 23 Upper	Delivery of religious facilities as identified on the site specific policies.	Team Leader Planning Policy	Ongoing	Low

<p>groups about a lack of ability to find additional facilities within the Central Area.</p>	<p>Mounts/Great Russell Street and Policy 28 Avon/Nunn Mills/Ransome Road. However, the provision of a suitable range of facilities is also part of a wider issue for the town which needs to be addressed strategically through the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy. This will be addressed through appropriate levels of contributions to social infrastructure and policies that seek the protection of and additional provision of community facilities.</p>	<p>Inclusion of correct policies within the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and associated Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.</p> <p>Monitoring the completion of S106 agreements that are required to deliver new open space and by monitoring other planning approvals.</p>			
<p>Displacement of the Gay and Lesbian Community from particular areas of the Central Area: the Nene Meadows and The Drapery (Boston Clipper Public House).</p>	<p>No changes proposed to the Plan. It is considered that the uses made of these areas can be easily transferred to comparable sites that are in close proximity, or can be overcome by social networking sites.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>

8.0 Approval of Equality Impact Assessment

Paul Lewin – Planning Policy & Heritage Manager, Directorate of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

Equality impact assessment: Summary Report

Date of Assessment: 3 April 2012
Completing Officer's Title/Position: Senior Planning Policy Officer – Greg Shaw
Leading Officer's Name and members of the Equality impact assessment team: Richard Palmer Team Leader Paul Lewin Equalities Team Member
Policy/Activity that was Impact Assessed: Central Area Action Plan – Submission Draft
Summary of findings: <p>Consultation on the earlier part of the Plan identified issues for some of the equality strand groups, for example older people felt threatened in the town centre at certain parts of the day, the young did not feel that there were enough facilities for them and religious groups highlighted the problems of obtaining sufficient premises. In addition the consultation processes identified a lack of engagement from groups such as the young in earlier rounds of consultation. This was addressed through more targeted approaches to this group. There was a broad consistency in the responses made with the wider demographic of Northampton.</p> <p>The Plan overall was considered to have positive impacts across the whole range of equality groups. This related to increased accessibility through promoting the 'walkable' city, improving public transport facilities and concentrating jobs and services in areas with good accessibility to public transport. Well designed buildings and spaces will provide more inclusive places that will assist in providing greater sense of security to the equality strand groups.</p> <p>Limited levels of potential adverse impact were identified. These were primarily associated with the gay and lesbian community on the loss of areas historically used for meeting. No specific action has been identified to seek to replace these lost facilities as it is considered that sufficient opportunities exist in other parts of the central area to accommodate these facilities. In addition the availability of increased social networking sites means that new alternatives are likely to become more of the norm for interacting with a wider range of new people in the future.</p> <p>In addition the Plan has sought to specifically address the need for additional facilities for faith groups where it is considered that identified development sites might be appropriate for this type of facility. However, this is also considered to be a strategic issue as well as a site specific issue within the Action Plan. At a strategic level the issue needs to be suitably addressed in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, which should identify the broad range of facilities required, identify potential developer contributions for such facilities if appropriate and also the need for protection of such facilities where there is a proven need for them. A Developer Contributions SPD will highlight the need to provide sites for such facilities, as will a future Community Infrastructure Levy charging</p>

schedule. In addition sites could potentially be allocated in the forthcoming Northampton Related Development Area Plan, which will be written after the CAAP is adopted.

Summary of Recommendations and Key Points of Action Plan:

There will be a monitoring of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy to ensure that it has sufficiently robust policies on community facilities and that this is sufficiently addressed in the forthcoming Developer Contributions SPD and the Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule. An assessment of the potential for the Northampton Related Development Area plan to accommodate site specific designations will also occur during its preparation.

Groups that this policy will impact upon: ALL or:

Race	✓
Gender	✓
Sexual Orientation	✓
Age	✓
Disability	✓
Religion or Belief	✓
Pregnancy or Maternity	✓
Gender reassignment	✓
Other	-