

ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

**EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT
OF THE
DRAFT ENERGY AND NEW DEVELOPMENT
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

MARCH 2008

ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

This document is an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the draft Energy and New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and has been prepared by the Council. The attached Pro-forma sets out how equality impacts have been assessed.

Context

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 (RRAA) requires the council to carry out race equality impact assessments on new and proposed policies. The council's race equality scheme, as adopted 21 March 2005 lays down the council's commitment to undertake race equality impact assessments.

The Equality Standard for Local Government also requires equalities impact assessments to be evidenced in order to achieve progress against the levels contained in the Standard. The council has committed itself to implementation of the Standard across 5 areas of equality: gender, religion, disability, race, age and sexuality. This means that the council will ultimately be required to undertake equalities impact assessments that address all of these equalities areas.

Appendix 1 Equality Impact Proforma

Department	Strategic Planning	Section Planning and Regulation	Person responsible for the assessment	Andrew Eadie	
Name of the Policy to be assessed	Energy and New Development SPD	Date of Assessment	10 March 2008	Is this a new or existing policy	New, but relates to UDP policy
1. Describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the policy	<p>The purpose of this supplementary planning document (SPD) is to set out the requirements in respect of energy efficiency and the provision of on-site renewable energy technologies in new developments in the Borough, and also guidance for developers in respect of technologies and energy efficiency measures which could be employed.</p> <p>The primary aims of the Energy and New Development SPD are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To clarify the Council's requirements for new developments in respect of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, by supplementing the relevant policies of the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) • To contribute to the delivery of the Government's Climate Change Programme and energy policies without putting an undue burden which might stifle the economic and social development of the Borough. • To contribute to local sustainability objectives. • To assist new developments in securing the increasingly high levels of energy efficiency required by Building Regulations. <p>The aim of the Consultation draft is to engage with stakeholders, including community groups, interest groups and developers, to ensure that their views are considered before the document is finalised.</p>				
2. Are there any associated objectives of the policy, please explain	<p>Objective 1: To ensure future developments in Rochdale are designed and laid out in such a way as to achieve maximum use of natural systems for energy efficiency. This will support the guidance in the Urban Design Guide SPD.</p> <p>Objective 2: To ensure that future developments in Rochdale optimise energy efficiency and sustainable construction.</p> <p>Objective 3: To ensure that all new developments in Rochdale reduce their predicted carbon dioxide emissions through the use of on-site renewable technologies.</p>				

		Objective 4: To promote the use of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) where appropriate.	
3. Who is intended to benefit from the policy and in what way		Everyone should benefit from the provisions of this document, as it will contribute towards goals in respect of combating climate change and fuel poverty, bringing environmental, social and economic benefits locally.	
4. What outcomes are wanted from this policy?		Clear and effective mechanisms in place for requiring improved energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions in respect of new development. Improved energy efficiency for all new developments in Rochdale Borough.	
5. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?		Detract - Failure to implement correctly.	
6. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy	Everyone, including residents and developers	7. Who implements the policy and who is responsible for the policy?	Development Control. Strategic Planning.
8. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on racial groups.		Y	N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, nationally, locally and globally.			
9. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to gender			Y N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of gender.			
10. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to disability			Y N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of disability.			
11. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to sexual orientation			Y N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of sexual orientation.			
12. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to their age			Y N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of age.			
13. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to their religious belief			Y N
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy			

efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of religious belief.						
14. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to them having dependants/caring responsibilities				Y	N	
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of dependants / caring responsibilities.						
15. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to their offending past				Y	N	
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, regardless of age.						
16. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due to them being transgender or transsexual				Y	N	
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and this will benefit everyone, including transgender / transsexual people.						
17. Are there concerns that the policy <u>could</u> have a differential impact on people due issues surrounding poverty				Y	N	
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this? The SPD aims to promote energy efficiency and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, and the first of these will not only help to address climate change but will also help to address fuel poverty and dependency, and the impact of the provisions of the SPD will include economic benefits.						
18. Could the differential impact identified in 8-17 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this policy			YES	NO		
19. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason			YES	NO		
20. Should the policy proceed to a partial impact assessment		YES	NO	21. If Yes, is there enough evidence to proceed to a full EIA		YES NO
22. Date on which Partial or Full impact assessment to be completed by 10 March 2008						

Signed (completing officer) Andrew Eadie

Signed (Lead Officer) Paul Simpson