

Equality Impact Assessment

Service Area: Licensing

Head of Service: Jeremy Mann

Lead Officer: Katy Nicholls

Date of Assessment: 25/04/2022

Person responsible for completing the assessment: Katy Nicholls

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Name of policy/function/project/service area to be assessed: Report outlining a Proposal to introduce an Animal Licensing Policy

Brief description of proposal to be assessed: Proposal to introduce a new animal licensing policy applicable to existing and prospective animal license holders.

Proposed implementation date of project/proposal: After a period of public consultation to be undertaken after the May meeting of Licensing and Community Safety Committee and after the results of the consultation have been examined by this committee and a recommendation made and approved by Strategy and Resources Committee.

Brief description of the anticipated outcomes of the proposal:

Provision	Current Arrangement	Proposed Arrangement	Comment
Consolidated animal licensing policy to cover the five animal activity licences, Zoo licensing, and dangerous wild animal licences.	No current consolidated policy for this area of licensing	Consolidated policy taking into account statutory guidance to Licensing Authorities and relevant animal welfare standards	Equally applicable to all persons/ groups. Neutral impact expected across all protected characteristic groups.
Policy to contain details on the interpretation of the suitability of applicants	No current policy	Details on the suitability of applicants, and the relevance of any convictions disclosed detailed in section 7 of the proposed policy.	Equally applicable to all applicants as policy requirements relate principally to criminal convictions rather than any protected characteristic.

Impact:

Summarise any positive impacts or benefits, any negative impacts (i.e. potential for discrimination, disadvantage or disproportionate treatment) and any neutral impacts and the evidence you have taken into account to reach this conclusion. Be aware that there may be positive, negative and neutral impacts within each characteristic. (NOTE: please refer to the Equality Strategy for the characteristics) Where an impact is unknown, state so, and identify what steps will be taken to address any gaps in data:

Neutral impact largely perceived due to the nature of the above policy proposal.

Consideration of Alternatives:

Describe what alternatives have been considered and/or what actions will be taken to remove or minimise any potential negative effect identified above (attach evidence or provide link to appropriate data, reports, etc):

The Licensing and Community Safety Committee have the option to reject the request to put the draft policy out for public consultation, in favour of further amending the draft policy.

Consultation:

Brief description of any consultation with stakeholders and summarise how it has influenced the proposal. Please attach evidence or provide link to appropriate data or reports:

Consultation proposed as part of the May LCSC report, albeit timings TBC.

Funding Considerations:

No funding considerations relevant in terms of the proposals.

Date approved by Head of Service: 24/02/2022

Reporting and Publication:

Equality Impact Assessments will be published on North Devon Council's website.

The completion of an Equality Impact Assessment is an ongoing process. Impacts will be continually reviewed during projects and the decision making process and the Assessment will be updated accordingly and published.

A further assessment will also be undertaken between 6 to 12 months following the implementation of the policy, project, decision or service change has been implemented.

Please also confirm the date on which you will be re-considering the project/report and submitting a further EIA if applicable.

12 months after initiation of this tranche of policy changes, on date to be confirmed. We are at an early stage in this project.

Monitoring Arrangements:

Briefly describe the monitoring arrangements/systems that will be put in place to monitor the effects of this proposal.

Monitoring of animal licence applications, appeals, and complaints.

Date approved by Head of Service: 24/02/2022

Corporate and Community Services Use Only: Date of publication to NDC

Website: 04/05/2022