



Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan (2020 – 2025)

Equalities Impact Assessment

September 2019

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Screening/Scoping Pro Forma

Service	Planning Policy, Planning Services		Officer responsible for the screening/scoping	Daniel Nunn		
Name of the activity to be assessed	Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan (2020 – 2025)	Date of Assessment	26 September 2019	Is this a proposed new or existing activity?	Adoption of Revised Existing Plan	
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the activity?		Adoption of the Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan (2020 – 2025) will assist the Council in meeting its priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan (2018 – 2023). Many of the objectives outlined in the Council’s ‘place-making’, ‘community’ and ‘innovation’ priorities will be supported through the application of guidance in the Management Plan. The purpose of the AONB Management Plan is to provide context for the various initiatives that support the conservation and enhancement of the protected landscape within the planning application decision-making process.				
2. Are there any associated or specific objectives of the activity? Please explain.		To set out a series of policies that, on the adoption of the Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan (‘the Plan’), will guide developers in preparing planning proposals for sites within the Surrey Hills AONB Area and assist the Council in determining planning applications within this area.				
3. Who is intended to benefit from this activity and in what way?		Those living, working or visiting Surrey Hills AONB Area will benefit from the improvements that would arise from policies in the Plan aimed at improving local design and character, biodiversity, green space, improved transport, and improved access to the countryside. The Plan would also provide benefits to residents in relation to the availability of a range of housing types and economic development opportunities.				

<p>4. What outcomes are wanted from this activity?</p>	<p>To deliver the vision for the Surrey Hills AONB area (set out in the Plan) for the Surrey Hills AONB to retain its nationally protected, high quality landscape, improving access to the countryside for people of all backgrounds, and provide for appropriate, varied housing and economic development.</p>		
<p>5. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?</p>	<p>None known other than those potential forces/factors that may influence the outcomes that are set out in the Plan.</p>		
<p>6. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the activity?</p>	<p>The constituent authorities of the Surrey Hills AONB Board; including Guildford Borough Council, Tandridge, Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley, and Waverley borough/district councils and Surrey County Council.</p>	<p>7. Who implements the activity, and who is responsible for the activity?</p>	<p>The Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan was prepared and revised by the Surrey Hills AONB Board. Guildford Borough Council is responsible for the adoption of the Plan and the implementation of relevant advice in planning decisions.</p>
<p>8. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on racial groups?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>None of the proposals have implications for racial bias. The Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan is a high-level document, which contains broad policies for the design and management of development within the AONB area. The document relates to new development and its impacts on the designated landscape character, and to the development or improvement of local facilities that would benefit all groups equally. The guidance remains consistent irrespective of the owner, builder, occupant, or visitor. As such, the Plan provides land-use benefits which are unlikely to impact differentially based on any particular protected characteristic.</p>		

<p>9. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of gender?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The strategy provides a range of high-level land-use policies that provide benefits which are unlikely to impact differentially based on gender.</p>		
<p>10. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on those who have a disability?</p>		<p>N</p>	<p>The Plan recognises that there are currently significant barriers to disabled people accessing and experiencing the countryside. The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB, which includes consideration of appropriate access and transport throughout the area. The proposals will therefore not have an adverse impact for residents and visitors with disabilities, but are more likely to have a positive impact.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>Improved disabled access, provision of car parks, improvements to pavements and routes through the AONB, etc. all improve access for people with disabilities. The Government has included relevant advice on issues to consider when planning new developments within its Planning Practice Guidance (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/design#what-is-a-well-designed-place). Paragraphs of particular relevance are 009 Reference ID: 26-009-20140306, 012 Reference ID: 26-012-20140306 and 042 Reference ID: 26-042-20140306.</p>		
<p>11. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of sexual orientation?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on people of different sexual orientations.</p>		

<p>12. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of age?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on people of different age groups. The support that the Plan provides for appropriate opportunities for economic development, alongside encouraging access to the AONB is likely to provide a positive impact for younger age groups.</p>		
<p>13. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of religious belief?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on people of different religious groups.</p>		
<p>14. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on those who have caring responsibilities?</p>		<p>N</p>	
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on people with caring responsibilities.</p>		
<p>15. Are there concerns that the activity could have a differential impact on grounds of marital status or civil partnership?</p>		<p>N</p>	

<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on people on the grounds of marital status or civil partnership.</p>	
<p>16. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact due a woman's pregnancy or maternity?</p>		<p>N</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact due to a women's pregnancy or maternity.</p>	
<p>17. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to gender reassignment?</p>		<p>N</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan is to promote a high standard of development throughout the AONB and as such is not likely to have a specific differential impact on transgender or gender reassigned people.</p>	
<p>18. Could any differential impact identified in 8-17 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this activity?</p>		<p>N It is very unlikely that there would be any differential adverse impact on any sections of the community. Overall impact would be to improve access for residents with disabilities or mobility issues.</p>
<p>19. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected groups or any other reason?</p>		<p>No adverse impacts identified.</p>

<p>20. If the activity is of a strategic nature, could it help to reduce inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>The plan will support the provision and/or preservation of or expansion of existing commercial and community facilities, which may increase equality of opportunity by increasing the availability of local facilities that residents may use instead of having to pay more to travel further to alternative facilities or employment opportunities. The Plan also seeks to promote opportunities for individuals of all backgrounds to access the health benefits of experiencing the Surrey Hills AONB Landscape.</p>
<p>21. Is there any concern that there are unmet needs in relation to any of the above protected groups?</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>No concerns.</p>
<p>22. Does ‘differential impact’ or ‘unmet need’ cut across one or more of the protected groups (e.g. elder BME groups)?</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>No specific differential impact or unmet need identified.</p>
<p>23. If yes, should a full EIA, if necessary, be conducted jointly with another service area or contractor or partner or agency?</p>		<p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>24. Is there a missed opportunity to improve this activity to meet the general duties placed on public bodies to eliminate unlawful discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not?</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>No inequalities have been identified in the Plan and it is not considered an appropriate strategy in which to advance racial, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status, transgender, pregnancy/maternity, or religious belief equality.</p>

<p>25. Should the policy proceed to a full equality impact assessment? Please use the scoring process in the right hand column to guide you.</p>		<p>N</p>	<p>0 – no possible relevance or adverse impact 1 – extremely low relevance and adverse impact 0-11 points - low adverse impact, no need for full EIA 2 – relatively low relevance and adverse impact 12-20points - medium adverse impact, full EIA required 3 – medium relevance and adverse impact 21-27 points - high adverse impact, full EIA required 4 - relatively high relevance and adverse impact</p>										
			<p>Age</p>	<p>Disability</p>	<p>Mat</p>	<p>Gender</p>	<p>Marriage</p>	<p>Race</p>	<p>Trans</p>	<p>Sexuality</p>	<p>Religion</p>	<p>Total</p>	<p>Impact</p>
			<p>1</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>26. If a full EIA is not required, are there any changes required to the proposal to improve it around the equality agenda?</p>		<p>None identified.</p>											
<p>27. How will any actions identified in 20. to 26. above be taken forward?</p>		<p>Not applicable.</p>											

Signed

(completing officer)



Daniel Nunn

Date 10/10/2019

Signed

(Head of Service)



Stuart Harrison

Date 7/10/2019

Countersigned

(member of Equality Action Group)



Sarah-Jane Grant

Date 8/10/2019