Somerset Equality Impact Assessment Before completing this EIA please ensure you have read the EIA guidance notes – available from your Equality Officer or www.somerset.gov.uk/impactassessment Organisation prepared for (mark as appropriate) Somerset Council Date Completed 12/07/23

Description of what is being impact assessed

The recommendations of the report relating to the Staplegrove Housing Delivery Fund (HIF); namely entering into a deed of variation to the grant fund agreement, entering into funding agreements over HIF with the developer/landowners and the use of HIF funds on Staplegrove East to acquire land rights to safeguard the future delivery of essential infrastructure including the primary school site and spine road.

(The Housing Infrastructure Fund seeks to unlock the delivery of housing sites through providing a loan to developers for the delivery of infrastructure. The Staplegrove site is allocated for development in the Development Plan).

Evidence

What data/information have you used to assess how this policy/service might impact on protected groups? Sources such as the Office of National Statistics, Somerset Intelligence Partnership, Somerset's Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA), Staff and/ or area profiles, should be detailed here

Professional understanding of the Housing Infrastructure Fund and its relationship with the delivery of essential infrastructure and the wider residential-led development.

Who have you consulted with to assess possible impact on protected groups and what have they told you? If you have not consulted other people, please explain why?

No consultation undertaken at this stage. The wider development has been consulted upon at the plan making stage leading to its allocation and through the planning application process. Further consultation will take place in connection with planning applications as they are submitted.

Analysis of impact on protected groups

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with protected groups. Consider how this policy/service will achieve these aims. In the table below, using the evidence outlined above and your own understanding, detail what considerations and potential impacts against each of the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty. Based on this information, make an assessment of the likely outcome, before you have implemented any mitigation.

Protected group	Summary of impact	Negative outcome	Neutral outcome	Positive outcome
Age	The HIF funded infrastructure will help unlock the delivery of a range of new housing including affordable housing. Also included within the allocated site is a local centre within which community facilities are to be located. A primary school is also proposed within the site which will meet need from the development and avoiding the need to travel to other schools for primary age pupils. The availability of local facilities will benefit residents of the development. The site also includes employment land and will provide employment opportunities for those of working age. Enhanced transport infrastructure connected with the development including the spine road through the site, footpaths and cycleways will increase mobility options, including for those without access to a private car.			lacktriangle

Disability	The HIF funded infrastructure will help unlock the delivery of a range of new housing including affordable housing. The new housing will meet the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations covering access to and use of buildings.		×
Gender reassignment	No impacts identified	X	
Marriage and civil partnership	No impacts identified	X	
Pregnancy and maternity	The HIF funded infrastructure will help unlock the delivery of new housing. Also included within the allocated site is a local centre within which community facilities are to be located. A primary school is also proposed within the site. The availability of local facilities will benefit residents of the development including those with this protected characteristic.		
Race and ethnicity	No impacts identified	×	

Religion or belief	No impacts identified		
Sex	No impacts identified	\boxtimes	
Sexual orientation	No impacts identified		
Armed Forces (including serving personnel, families and veterans)	No impacts identified		
Other, e.g. carers, low income, rurality/isolation, etc.	 The HIF funded infrastructure will help unlock the delivery of new housing, including affordable housing. Also included within the allocated site are community facilities including a new primary school. The report seeks authority to acquire land rights to safeguard the future provision of essential infrastructure on Staplegrove East including the school site. This will give the Council greater control over the school site and when it comes forward to address need for new places. Enhanced transport infrastructure connected with the development including the spine road through the site, 		

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footpaths and cycleways will increase connectivity and mobility options for non-car modes of transport.		
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Negative outcomes action plan

Where you have ascertained that there will potentially be negative outcomes, you are required to mitigate the impact of these. Please detail below the actions that you intend to take.

Action taken/to be taken	Date	Person responsible	How will it be monitored?	Action complete
None identified	Select date	N/A		
	Select date			

If negative impacts remain, please provide an explanation below.

Staplegrove Housing Infrastructure Fund Equalities impact Assessment

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None identified	
Completed by:	Jenny Clifford
Date	12/07/2023
Signed off by:	Alison Blom-Cooper
Date	12/07/2023
Equality Lead sign off name:	Tom Rutland
Equality Lead sign off date:	24/07/23
To be reviewed by: (officer name)	Jenny Clifford
Review date:	01/01/2024