Introduction

The report records the information that has been submitted for this equality analysis in the following format.

Overall Purpose

This section identifies the purpose of the Policy and which types of individual it affects. It also identifies which equality strands are affected by either a positive or negative differential impact.

Relevant Protected Characteristics

For each of the identified relevant protected characteristics there are three sections which will have been completed.

- Impact
- Consultation
- Additional Work

If the assessment has raised any issues to be addressed there will also be an action planning section.

The following pages record the answers to the assessment questions with optional comments included by the assessor to clarify or explain any of the answers given or relevant issues.
1 **Activity Type**

The activity has been identified as a Reviewed Policy.

2 **Overall Purpose**

2.1 **What the Activity is for**

| What is the purpose of this Policy and expected outcomes? | The Open Data Policy describes Birmingham City Council’s policy towards publishing on the web, council held data for reuse on the web, and the standards to which it will adhere when it publishes this open data. The policy is intended to allow for effective decisions to be taken by council officers on the data which is required to be published in open formats online as well as non-personal data that the council additionally chooses to publish. |

For each strategy, please decide whether it is going to be significantly aided by the Function.

| Public Service Excellence | Yes |
| A Fair City | Yes |

**Comment**

Aims: The Open Data Policy describes Birmingham City Council’s policy towards publishing on the web, council held data for reuse on the web, and the standards to which it will adhere when it publishes this open data.

The policy is intended to allow for effective decisions to be taken by council officers on the data which is required to be published in open formats online as well as non-personal data that the council additionally chooses to publish.

Objectives:
The objectives of the open data policy are to define:
what is meant by open data
how it will be published
the management arrangements for its publication.

Outcomes:
Open Data is published in accordance with statutory and legal requirements and to help fulfil the City Council agenda for the provision of open and linked data.

Benefits: The results of implementing the Open Data Policy are intended to be to the benefit of all citizens of Birmingham as the policy gives confidence to citizens that information is handled in a compliant manner and informs and engages the wider community.

| A Prosperous City | No |
| A Democratic City | Yes |

2.2 **Individuals affected by the policy**

| Will the policy have an impact on service users/stakeholders? | Yes |
Comment
This policy regulates the provision of open data in accordance with legislation and a wider set of policy initiatives. Open data legislation is about supporting transparency within public authorities and the rights of individuals to access information held by them.

The policy sets out how the Council will publish open data and meet legislative requirements. The right to access open data is open to everybody anywhere in the world.

The Open Data Portal will contain advice or additional information which will help potential users of the data to understand the nature of the data, its source or validity or any other aspects of the data which might help it to being reused effectively.

The right of access under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, is available to everybody regardless of who they are and where they are. Section 45 of the Lord Chancellor’s Code of Practice sets out how the Council needs to advise and assist anybody making a request and the Council’s Open Data Policy complies with these requirements. The Act was amended in 2012 to include a ‘right to data’.

| Will the policy have an impact on employees? | Yes |
| Comment                                      | see comments above on service users/stakeholders |

| Will the policy have an impact on wider community? | Yes |
| Comment                                      | see comments above on service users/stakeholders |

2.3 **Analysis on Initial Assessment**

Chairperson:

Summary statement:

Having undertaken an initial impact assessment of the Open Data Policy, we have concluded that as there is no potential adverse impact associated with any aspects of the policy, we should not proceed to a full impact assessment.

Should any equality issue arise during implementation of the policy it will be considered.

Sign-off Date: 29th October 2014
3 Concluding Statement on Full Assessment

Suresh Sharma from the Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion Team, confirmed on 18th November 2014, that he agreed that this EA did not need to go to a full assessment.

4 Review Date

29/10/17

5 Action Plan

There are no relevant issues, so no action plans are currently required.