

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Reduction in programmed flood risk management and maintenance activity of £50k savings per annum.

Reference: EIA000266

Date: 24/01/2024



 **RESET**

 **RESHAPE**

 **RESTART**

EIA Form – About your EIA

Reference number	EIA000266
Date Submitted	24/01/2024
Subject of the EIA	Reduction in programmed flood risk management and maintenance activity of £50k savings per annum.
Brief description of the policy, service or function covered by the EIA	Reduction in maintenance budget, flood asset regimes and reactive maintenance would need to be reduced, increasing the risk of blockage and flood damage. No budget for emergency works and responding to flooding events. There may be a need for additional inspections to ensure that high risk drainage assets were kept clear given the lack of response to flooding events. Reducing the level of maintenance carried out on watercourse structures which have a significant impact on flood risk.
Equality Assessment is in support of...	["Amended function"]
How frequently will you review impact and mitigation measures identified in this EIA?	Six months
Due date of the first review	2025-01-20

Directorate, Division & Service Area

Which directorate(s) are responsible for this EIA?	["City Operations"]
Division	Highways & Infrastructure
Service area	Flood Risk Management
Budget Saving	Yes

Officers

What is the responsible officer's email address?	Hannah Hogan
What is the accountable officer's email address?	Mark Shelswell

Data Sources

Data sources	["Birmingham City Observatory data and insight", "Flood Risk Maps for Surface Water in England - December 2019 (Produced for the Flood Risk Regulations)"]
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<p>Data source details</p>	<p>The Flood Risk Regulations require Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) to produce flood risk maps for surface water, and review them every six years. These maps are used by LLFAs to inform the production of flood risk management plans. These maps show the potential risk and impacts of surface water flooding in flood risk areas. They focus on the potential impacts to people, economic activity and the environment (including cultural heritage). Flood risk areas were identified through preliminary flood risk assessments, which were consulted on and published in 2018.</p>
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Protected Characteristics

Protected Characteristic – Age	
<p>Does this proposal impact people due to their age as per the Equality Act 2010?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>What age groups are impacted by your proposal?</p>	<p>["0-9 years", "10-19 years", "20-29 years", "30-39 years", "40-49 years", "50-59 years", "60-69 years", "70-79 years", "80-89 years", "90 years or over"]</p>
<p>Please describe the impact to the age characteristic</p>	<p>Will impact all communities, domestic / commercial / schools etc especially those close to a watercourse grill / control structures and especially those at surface water (pluvial) and river (fluvial) flood risk. A definition of vulnerability of 'people who are unable to evacuate themselves' (i.e., elderly and babies). However, the term 'elderly' is used to describe a wide age range, and not all of an older age are helpless. Vulnerable individuals will often require special assistance at times of crisis, or special consideration in the emergency planning process (Keys, 1991). Children are particularly vulnerable as they are physically weaker than adults and risk being separated from their families. However, this can also be compared with heightened flood hazards for children and young adults (21yrs and younger) who are likely to take more risks to perceived hazards. Care-giving and parental ages (24-50yrs) are also likely to put themselves at risk to save loved ones and possessions due to 'rescue behaviours'. Therefore, flood risk can affect all age demographics.</p>



How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the age characteristic?	Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedure.
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Protected Characteristic – Disability

Does this proposal impact those people with a disability as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
Please describe the impact to the disability characteristic	Those with physical or mental disability or long-term illness may have difficulties receiving warnings and being able to respond to them. Residential care homes, hospitals etc. may experience difficulty in evacuation. Will impact those with limited movement, those with physical / mental disability or long term illness and those who may have particular difficulties being able to respond to, and mitigate against flood risk - especially those close to a watercourse grill / control structures and especially those at surface water (pluvial) and river (fluvial) flood risk.
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the disability characteristic?	Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. The BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedures.

Protected Characteristic – Sex

Does this proposal impact citizens based on their gender as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
What genders will be impacted by this proposal?	["Female"]
Please describe the impact to the gender characteristic	Women can be the main care givers within families and community support services. Therefore, women may be more at risk of flash flooding within their lived areas.



<p>How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the gender characteristic?</p>	<p>Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedure.</p>
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Protected Characteristic - Gender Reassignment

<p>Does this proposal impact people who are proposing to undergo, undergoing or have undergone a process to reassign one's sex as per the Equality Act 2010?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Please describe the impact to the gender reassignment characteristic</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the gender reassignment characteristic?</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Protected Characteristic - Marriage and Civil Partnership

<p>Does this proposal impact people who are married or in a civil partnership as per the Equality Act 2010?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What legal marital or registered civil partnership status will be impacted by this proposal?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Please describe the impact to the marriage and civil partnership characteristic</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the marriage and civil partnership characteristic?</p>	<p>N/A</p>



Protected Characteristic - Pregnancy and Maternity

Does this proposal impact people covered by the Equality Act 2010 under the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity?	Yes
Please describe the impact to the pregnancy and maternity characteristic	As primary caregivers, women and /or pregnant people are more likely to have responsibility for dependants in the event of a flood. Those who are pregnant may have limited mobility and may have difficulties responding to flooding.
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the pregnancy and maternity characteristic?	Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedure.

Protected Characteristic - Ethnicity and Race

Does this proposal impact people due to their race as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
What ethnic groups would be impacted by this proposal?	["White British", "Other White", "Bangladeshi", "Chinese", "Indian", "Pakistani", "Other Asian", "African", "Caribbean", "Black British", "Other Black", "Arab", "Latin American", "Irish", "Gypsy or Irish Traveller", "Roma", "Central and Eastern Europe", "Western and Southern Europe"]
Please describe the impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic	Will impact all communities, domestic / commercial / schools etc especially those close to a watercourse grill / control structures and especially those at surface water (pluvial) and river (fluvial) flood risk. Less affluent and poorer areas are more susceptible to the impacts of flooding and are also less resilient to flooding. The most socially vulnerable experience systemic flood disadvantage. Flooding is from many sources - rivers, surface water, groundwater and reservoir risk. With reference to the 'Flood Risk Maps for Surface Water in England', Dec 2019, there are 90,731 people at risk in the Birmingham Flood Risk Area, with 4,555 at high risk, 14,094 at medium risk and 72,094 at low risk - not all high-risk areas are in diverse locations, and flood risk depends on the susceptibility and localised risk of flooding.



<p>How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic?</p>	<p>Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedure.</p>
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Protected Characteristic - Religion or Beliefs

<p>Does this proposal impact people's religion or beliefs as per the Equality Act 2010?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>What religions could be impacted by this proposal?</p>	<p>["No religion", "Christian", "Buddhist", "Hindu", "Jewish", "Muslim", "Sikh"]</p>
<p>Please describe the impact to the religion or beliefs characteristic</p>	<p>Many people perceive faith in line with their ethnicity and race identity, therefore the same considerations need to be examined. Will impact all communities, domestic / commercial / schools etc especially those close to a watercourse grill / control structures and especially those at surface water (pluvial) and river (fluvial) flood risk. Less affluent and poorer areas are more susceptible to the impacts of flooding and are also less resilient to flooding. The most socially vulnerable experience systemic flood disadvantage. Flooding is from many sources - rivers, surface water, groundwater and reservoir risk. With reference to the 'Flood Risk Maps for Surface Water in England', Dec 2019, there are 90,731 people at risk in the Birmingham Flood Risk Area, with 4,555 at high risk, 14,094 at medium risk and 72,094 at low risk - not all high-risk areas are in diverse or multi-faith areas, and flood risk depends on the susceptibility and localised risk of flooding.</p>
<p>How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the religion or beliefs characteristic?</p>	<p>Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. BCC Major Emergency Plan and Multi-Agency Flood Plan helps to set out the response to an incident and includes the identification of vulnerable people and highly vulnerable receptors such as contacting individuals in response to an emergency and relevant emergency procedure.</p>



Protected Characteristic - Sexual Orientation

Does this proposal impact people's sexual orientation as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
What sexual orientations may be impacted by this proposal?	N/A
Please describe the impact to the sexual orientation characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the sexual orientation characteristic?	N/A

Monitoring

How will you ensure any adverse impact and mitigation measures are monitored?	Stakeholder consultation and feedback. Consultation on proposals and warning / informing colleagues, members, stakeholders, partners and flood action groups. Prioritisation of maintenance focused on very high-risk assets. Seek other funding / grant funding or funding arrangements to help Flood Action Groups and Community Groups to help mitigate against flood risk.
Please enter the email address for the officer responsible for monitoring impact and mitigation	Hannah Hogan

