



Equality Impact Assessment

Introduce Water Fountains throughout Southwark

Section 1: Equality analysis details

Proposed policy/decision/business plan to which this equality analysis relates	Introduce water fountains throughout Southwark to help its residents to lead a healthier life and council's commitment to reduce usage of single used plastic.
---	--

Equality analysis author	Emily Xi				
Strategic Director:	Ian Smith				
Department	Environment & Leisure	Division	Parks & Leisure		
Period analysis undertaken	September 2018 – January 2019				
Date of review (if applicable)	N/A				
Sign-off		Position		Date	

Section 2: Brief description of policy/decision/business plan

1.1 Brief description of policy/decision/business plan

Introduce water fountains throughout Southwark to help its residents to lead a healthier life and council's commitment to reduce usage of single used plastic. The aim of the project is to improve access to drinking water and making it easy for members of public, and to reduce single-use plastic waste and plastic pollution.

1. Southwark Council Plan 2018-19 to 2021-22 sets out 'A Greener Borough' and 'A healthier life' as two of the Fair Future themes. The purpose of the Southwark Drinking Fountain project is to increase the number of drinking fountains within the borough in line with the Council Plan: Introduce water fountains throughout Southwark to reduce plastic bottles and end single use plastic in the council and halve single use plastic in the borough.
2. We have total of 36 operational water fountains in Southwark. The majority of the water fountains are located in the parks and leisure centres, the others are located in libraries and other sports facilities. With approved funding from London Major's water fountain scheme, one additional fountain has been installed at Camberwell Green last year, another one will be installed at Guy's hospital this year, which brings the total number of drinking fountains within the borough to 38.
3. We approached the Greater London Authority (GLA) in August 2018 for external funding and partnership options to deliver this project. The GLA expressed their interests for Southwark Council to join the scheme to work in partnership with both the GLA and Thames Water to deliver the project. The Mayor of London wants to establish a new network of water fountain and bottle-refill stations across the capital to help reduce the single-use packaging. Southwark's new council plan target fits the scheme perfectly.
4. In December 2018, we submitted applications of the below five water fountains locations:
 - Potters Field Park (Opposite City Hall)
 - St Mary's Newington (Outside The castle Leisure Centre)
 - Nunhead Green Park
 - Brimington Park
 - Dulwich Village Ward (Calton Avenue in junction with Court Lane)
5. GLA has yet to announce the results of the successful locations due to the large number of applications received and extended assessment period. We expect to the announcement to be made in February 19 and to install the first fountain by March 19 if successful.
6. We are seeking to install additional seven water fountains from the council funds throughout the borough by 2021/2022. And explore the feasibilities of relocating existing water fountains in our leisure centres.

Background to EqIA

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, requires public authorities to have due regard to the aims of the general equality duty when making decisions and when setting policies. Understanding the affect of the council's policies and practices on people with different protected characteristics is an important part of complying with the general equality duty. Under the PSED the council must ensure that:

7. Decision-makers are aware of the general equality duty's requirements.
8. The general equality duty is complied with before and at the time a particular policy is under consideration and when a decision is taken.
9. They consciously consider the need to do the things set out in the aims of the general equality duty as an integral part of the decision-making process.

10. They have sufficient information to understand the effects of the policy, or the way a function is carried out, on the aims set out in the general equality duty.
11. They review policies or decisions, for example, if the make-up of service users changes, as the general equality duty is a continuing duty.
12. They take responsibility for complying with the general equality duty in relation to all their relevant functions. Responsibility cannot be delegated to external organisations that are carrying out public functions on their behalf.
13. They consciously consider the need to do the things set out in the aims of the general equality duty not only when a policy is developed and decided upon, but when it is being implemented.

Section 3: Overview of service users and key stakeholders consulted

2. Service users and stakeholders	
Key users of the department or service	Local residents Members of public
Key stakeholders were/are involved in this policy/decision/business plan	Stakeholders consulted about water fountain project: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. LBS Parks & Leisure2. LBS Regeneration Team3. LBS Public Health Team4. LBS Highways Team5. LBS Legal Services, Finance and Governance6. LBS H&S Compliance Team, Regulatory Services, Environment & Leisure7. Cllr Richard Livingstone, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Community Safety

Section 4: Pre-implementation equality analysis

This section considers the potential impacts (positive and negative) on groups with ‘protected characteristics’, the equality information on which this analysis is based and any mitigating actions to be taken.

<p>Age - Where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (e.g. 32 year olds) or range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds).</p>	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
<p>There are no apparent adverse impacts for children and young people under 20 as well as the general public.</p> <p>This project aim to improve access to drinking water and making it easier to refill.</p> <p>Drinking water can provide a healthier alternative to high-sugar drinks, which will help health outcome such as high prevalence of childhood tooth decay caused by drink sugary drinks.</p>	<p>The potential positive health impact of the water fountain project by making the water fountain more accessible will help with the Childhood obesity level within Southwark and contribute to a healthier life. .</p> <p>Childhood Obesity is a prevalent issue within Southwark. The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) data for 2017-18 indicates that in reception, 11.4% of children are obese (7th highest London borough) and by year 6 increases to 24.5% of pupils are obese (12th highest London borough).</p> <p>Energy drink consumption by children in the UK is higher than in any other European country. Energy drinks are associated with negative health, behavioural and dietary effects. Low prices of calorific and sugary drinks influence consumption and make such drinks the easy option (NHS – ‘effects of a fizzy drink tax on obesity rates estimated’ November 2013).</p> <p>A third of primary and secondary school pupils in Southwark report having sugary fizzy drinks most days. Sugary drinks are the main source of sugar in the diet of children (gov.uk – ‘PHE urges parents to cut sugary drinks from children’s diets’ July 2015).</p> <p>The positive health outcomes of placing a water fountain at this location include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water fountains are free and accessible to all, addressing health inequalities • In terms of reducing Childhood Obesity – no sugar/calories contained and the presence of free hydration can support and encourage more physical activity. It can suppress appetite and to an extent increase a metabolism • Water is good for concentration and in turn may help with educational attainment <p>The provision of water fountains will also help feed into Southwark’s wider ambition to prioritise the provision of tap water/water fountains to help tackle childhood obesity, in partnership with Thames</p>

	<p>Water, and is one way to help deliver the Council's commitments help support its residents to lead a healthier life and have a great start in life.</p> <p>Southwark's Healthy Weight Strategy 2016-2021 identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childhood obesity in Southwark is above the national average and rates of obesity rise as children get older. • Physical inactivity has been identified as a leading cause of obesity and overweight. • Children aged 5 - 15 years should engage in at least 60 minutes and up to several hours of physical activity per day. • A key priority is to improve: access to facilities for structured leisure programmes and unstructured opportunities for physical activity (e.g. access to parks, open spaces and safe play areas, ensuring access to all including those with disabilities) encourage healthy weight. <p>This project will allow the council to make water fountain more accessible throughout Southwark and will encourage people to drink less high sugary drink to lead a healthier active lifestyle.</p>
<p>Equality information on which above analysis is based</p>	<p>Health data on which above analysis is based</p>
<p>The above analysis is based a general understanding of the health benefit of clean accessible drinking water.</p>	<p>Health and Wellbeing Board Data analysis</p> <p>Southwark's Healthy Weight Strategy 2016-2021</p>
<p>Mitigating actions to be taken</p>	
<p>N/A</p>	

Disability - A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
The project will have no apparent adverse affect on disabled people.	None.
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	None
Mitigating actions to be taken	
N/A	
Gender reassignment - The process of transitioning from one gender to another.	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will not specifically benefit or disadvantage non-binary residents.	None.
Equality information on which above analysis is based.	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A
Mitigating actions to be taken	
N/A	
Marriage and civil partnership – In England and Wales marriage is no longer restricted to a union between a man and a woman but now includes a marriage between a same-sex couple. Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples and must be treated the same as married couples on a wide range of legal matters. (Only to be considered in respect to the need to eliminate discrimination.)	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will not treat same sex couples or those in civil partnerships less favourably.	None.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
N/A	N/A
Mitigating actions to be taken	
N/A	
<p>Pregnancy and maternity - Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.</p>	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will not disadvantage pregnant women or on those on maternity leave.	None
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A
Mitigating actions to be taken	
N/A	

Race - Refers to the protected characteristic of Race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins. N.B. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller are recognised racial groups and their needs should be considered alongside all others

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
The project will have no apparent benefit or disadvantage to any particular racial group.	None.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A

Mitigating actions to be taken
N/A

Religion and belief - Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will have no apparent benefit or disadvantage to any particular religion.	None.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A

Mitigating actions to be taken
N/A

Sex - A man or a woman.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will have no apparent benefit or disadvantage to any particular sex.	None.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A
Mitigating actions to be taken	
Keep under review	
Sexual orientation - Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
This project will not benefit or disadvantage people because of their sexual orientation.	None.
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
None	N/A
Mitigating actions to be taken	
N/A	

<p>Socio-economic disadvantage – although the Equality Act 2010 does not include socio-economic status as one of the protected characteristics, Southwark Council recognises that this continues to be a major cause of inequality in the borough. Socio economic status is the measure of an area's, an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, health, living conditions and occupation.</p>	
<p>Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan</p>	<p>Potential health impacts (positive and negative)</p>
<p>This project will not benefit or disadvantage people because of their socio-economic status.</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>Equality information on which above analysis is based</p>	<p>Health data on which above analysis is based</p>
<p>None</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Mitigating actions to be taken</p>	
<p>N/A</p>	

<p>Human Rights</p> <p>There are 16 rights in the Human Rights Act. Each one is called an Article. They are all taken from the European Convention on Human Rights. The Articles are The right to life, Freedom from torture, inhuman and degrading treatment, Freedom from forced labour , Right to Liberty, Fair trial, Retrospective penalties, Privacy, Freedom of conscience, Freedom of expression, Freedom of assembly, Marriage and family, Freedom from discrimination and the First Protocol</p>
<p>Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan</p>
<p>None identified.</p>
<p>Information on which above analysis is based</p>
<p>N/A</p>
<p>Mitigating actions to be taken</p>
<p>Adherence to council policy and UK law.</p>

Section 5: Further actions and objectives

5. Further actions			
Based on the initial analysis above, please detail the key mitigating actions or the areas identified as requiring more detailed analysis.			
Number	Description of issue	Action	Timeframe
1			
2			

5. Equality objectives (for business plans)				
Based on the initial analysis above, please detail any equality objectives that you will set for your division/department/service. Under the objective and measure column please state whether this objective is an existing objective or a suggested addition to the Council Plan.				
Objective and measure	Lead officer	Current performance (baseline)	Targets	
			Year 1	Year 2