

APPENDIX C



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER – DISTRICT HEATING NETWORK DECEMBER 2022

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Draft Local Development Order
Appendix B	Area covered by the Local Development Order
Appendix C	Equalities analysis
Appendix D	Phasing plan for SELCHP extension

Guidance notes

Things to remember:

Under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) public authorities are required to have due regard to the aims of the general equality duty when making decisions and when setting policies. Understanding the effect 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:

- Decision-makers are aware of the general equality duty's requirements.
- The general equality duty is complied with before and at the time a particular policy is under consideration and when a decision is taken.
- We 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.
- We 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.
- We review policies or decisions, for example, if the make-up of service users changes, as the general equality duty is a continuing duty.
- We 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.
- We 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.

Best practice guidance from the Equality and Human Rights Commission recommends that public bodies:

- Consider all the protected characteristics and all aims of the general equality duty (apart from in relation to marriage and civil partnership, where only the discrimination aim applies).
- Use equality analysis to inform policy as it develops to avoid unnecessary additional activity.
- Focus on understanding the effects of a policy on equality and any actions needed as a result, not the production of a document.
- Consider how the time and effort involved should relate to the importance of the policy to equality.
- Think about steps to advance equality and good relations as well as eliminate discrimination.
- Use good evidence. Where it isn't available, take steps to gather it (where practical and proportionate).
- Use insights from engagement with employees, service users and others who can help provide evidence for equality analysis.

Equality analysis should be referenced in community impact statements in Council reports. Community impact statements are a corporate requirement in all reports to the following meetings: the cabinet, individual decision makers, scrutiny, regulatory committees and community councils. Community impact statements enable decision makers to identify more easily how a decision might affect different communities in Southwark and to consider any implications for equality and diversity.

The public will be able to view and scrutinise any equality analysis undertaken. Equality analysis should therefore be written in a clear and transparent way using plain English. Equality analysis may be published under the council's publishing of equality information, or be present within divisional/departmental/service business plans. These will be placed on the website for public view under the council's Publications Scheme.

Equality analysis should be reviewed after a sensible period of time to see if business needs have changed and/or if the effects that were expected have occurred. If not then you will need to consider amending your policy accordingly. This does not mean repeating the equality analysis, but using the experience gained through implementation to check the findings and to make any necessary adjustments. Engagement with the community is recommended as part of the development of equality analysis. The council's Community Engagement Division and critical friend, the Forum for Equality and Human Rights in Southwark can assist with this (see section below on community engagement and www.southwarkadvice.org.uk).

Whilst the equality analysis is being considered, Southwark Council recommends considering health and wellbeing implications, as health and health inequalities are strongly influenced by the environment we live and work in. As a major provider of services to Southwark residents, the council has a legal duty to reduce health inequalities and this is reflected in its values and aims. For this reason, the council recommends considering health and wellbeing impacts in all equality analyses, not forgetting to include identified potential mitigating actions.

Section 1: Equality analysis details

Proposed policy/decision/business plan to which this equality analysis relates		Southwark Local Development Order – District Heating Network			
Equality analysis author		Ali Weatherup			
Director		Stephen Platts			
Department		Planning and Sustainable Growth (Old Kent Road)	Division		Chief Executive
Date of analysis		October 2022			
Sign-off	Tim Cutts	Position	Senior Regeneration Manager	Date	06 December 2022

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

<p>Brief description of policy/decision/business plan</p>
<p>Local Development Orders can be used by local authorities to grant permitted development rights to encourage particular types of development in defined locations.</p> <p>Veolia and Southwark Council wish to construct a District Heating Network (DHN) to deliver heat and hot water to 3,000 properties on Council estates in the Old Kent Road/North Peckham area through insulated pipework underground. Heat networks are useful because they mean not all properties need to have their own boiler. This has advantages in terms of installation cost, air quality, fuel price, ease of maintenance, and the ability to use low-carbon technologies. The energy source for the DHN will come from waste heat energy recovered from the SELCHP facility through the incineration of municipal waste. This is considered to be a renewable energy source and promotes circular economy principles.</p> <p>Unlike statutory undertakers like electricity and water companies, DHN operators do not have permitted development rights to install pipes and utilities equipment. Implementation of the LDO would avoid the need for multiple planning applications by granting permitted development rights for Veolia to lay the pipes and equipment needed to facilitate the DHN extension, streamlining the process and creating more certainty for Veolia.</p>

Section 3: Service users and stakeholders

Service users and stakeholders	
Key users of the department or service	The DHN will impact the residents who live within the Council estates which are planned to connect – approximately 3,000 properties. Future phases of the project could mean that new development in the Old Kent Road would be able to connect to the DHN which would impact residential and commercial units.
Key stakeholders were/are involved in this policy/decision/business plan	Veolia, Local Authority's Environmental Protection Team; Environment and Leisure Department; Housing and Modernisation Department; Transport for London; Southwark Highways; Borough Archaeologist; Design and Conservation Team; Councillors; Finance and Governance Department; Chief Executive Department.

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.

The first column on the left is for societal and economic issues (discrimination, higher poverty levels) and the second column on the right for health issues, physical and mental. As the two aspects are heavily interrelated it may not be practical to fill out both columns on all protected characteristics. The aim is, however, to ensure that health is also given special consideration, as it is the council's declared intention to reduce health inequalities in the borough.

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).	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)

It is anticipated that the development permitted by the LDO would have an overall positive impact on the protected characteristic of age. Residents of all ages will benefit from a more reliable and efficient source of heating and hot water. This should have the knock-on effect of lower heating bills. This could have a positively disproportionate impact on older people who have higher heating requirements. In general, elderly people need more warmth to stay comfortable and spend more time at home than those of working or school age. Any change in the cost of heating would therefore effect older people more.

There is a strong body of evidence which shows that short term exposure to high levels of pollution has a range of adverse health impacts such as asthma and chronic respiratory disease, through to an increase in emergency admissions to hospital.

In the short term, construction of the DHN may therefore have a negative impact on older and younger people because of increased dust and pollution in the local area. Poor air quality disproportionately affects the health outcomes of the very young and the elderly.

In the long term, the DHN should improve air quality of the area as it will reduce the reliance on gas boilers which emit harmful pollution. This will benefit residents of all ages but particularly young children and the elderly who are more likely to suffer health problems related to air quality.

The development permitted by the LDO will have positive health impacts on the protected characteristic of age through improving the reliability and effectiveness of the Council's heat networks. Both young children and older people are susceptible to cold related illnesses, so making heat supply as affordable and reliable as possible will reduce health inequality.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
<p>With regard to age, 17.3% of the population in Southwark is over the age of 60, and 22.6% of the population are 19 or under (2018).</p> <p>Source: https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/12/gid/1938133222/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000028</p> <p>Public Health England suggest that 7% of adult deaths in Southwark may be attributable to particulate air pollution (measured as fine particulate matter PM2.5). This equates to around 90 deaths per year in the borough.</p> <p>Source: https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/4407/Air-Quality-Strategy-Action-Plan-Final-Version.pdf</p>	
Mitigating actions to be taken	
<p>Construction of the DHN will be temporary and take place in localised phases along the highway so higher levels of dust and pollution will only effect a small area at a time. The levels of pollution and dust will be monitored throughout the construction as agreed in the conditions for the LDO. The methods for reducing pollution and monitoring on-site impacts will be set out in the Construction Environmental Management Plan. The CEMP is required by a planning condition attached to the LDO.</p> <p>The cost of energy and the resulting impacts on residents will be monitored by the Housing and Modernisation department when the network is implemented and operational.</p>	

<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.</p>	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
<p>During construction of the DHN the accessibility and mobility of the local area may be affected. In particular, construction could cause difficulties in relation to increased traffic due to lane closures, reduction in parking due to parking suspensions, the construction activities blocking access to homes shops, bus stops and pavements as well as effects on</p>	<p>As with the protected characteristic of age, poor air quality disproportionately impacts those who are already ill. Some disabilities, such as those related to the respiratory system, may suffer more from exposure to the air pollution.</p>

<p>wayfinding. This would have a disproportionate impact on those who have limited mobility.</p> <p>The development permitted by the LDO will have a positive impact on the protected characteristic of disability in relation to economic issues due to the improved control and efficiency of the heat networks which should have the knock-on effect of lower heating bills. Disability here is identified as a characteristic which would lead to unequal impact due to people with disabilities sometimes needing more warmth in their homes to remain comfortable, though of course this depends greatly on the specific disability. This could have a positively disproportionate impact on people with disabilities who have higher heating requirements. Any change in the cost of heating would therefore effect disabled people more.</p>	<p>In the short term, with the construction of the DHN this would have a disproportionate negative impact on the protected characteristic of disability due to increased traffic emissions and dust particles arising from the development. However, in the long term, the implementation of the DHN would reduce the harmful emissions from domestic gas heating.</p> <p>The development permitted by the LDO will have positive health impacts on the protected characteristic of disability through improving the reliability and effectiveness of the heating and hot water system. Some disabilities, particularly those related to mobility, leave people more susceptible to cold related impacts and illnesses.</p> <p>For those who have mental health issues, a reduction in energy bills may have a positive impact as it will lower any stress and anxiety felt around finances.</p> <p>Overall, making heat supply as affordable and reliable as possible will reduce health inequality.</p>
<p>Equality information on which above analysis is based</p>	<p>Health data on which above analysis is based</p>
<p>In the 2011 census about 13.5% of residents reported a long term condition that limited them this includes those with physical and mental disability as well as illness</p> <p>Source: data set DWP- 2019 PIP & DLA figures.</p>	

In 2016, 1550 people in Southwark were claiming benefits as a disabled person.

Source:

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157256/report.aspx?town=southwark#tabempunemp>

Mitigating actions to be taken

Construction of the DHN will be temporary and take place in localised phases along the highway so higher levels of dust and pollution will only effect a small area at a time. The levels of pollution and dust will be monitored throughout the construction as agreed in the conditions for the LDO. The methods for reducing pollution and monitoring on-site impacts will be set out in the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

Good access and mobility would also be addressed in the Construction Environmental Management Plan. The CEMP would set out the necessary diversions and how they will be signposted to maintain access. The CEMP will also set out how disabled parking will be maintained. The CEMP is required by planning condition attached to the LDO.

The cost of energy and the resulting impacts on residents will be monitored by the Housing and Modernisation department when the network is implemented and operational.

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)

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristic of gender reassignment.

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative health impacts on the protected characteristic of gender reassignment.

Equality information on which above analysis is based

Health data on which above analysis is based

Data on the percentage of residents in the borough who have undergone transition from the gender they were assigned at birth to another gender is not available. JSNA Factsheet 2017-18 Protected Characteristics advises that currently there are no standard national sources of transgender statistics. However, GIRES (the

Gender Identity Research and Education Society) estimate that 0.6-1% of the population may experience gender dysphoria.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/5718/JSNA-Factsheet-2017-Protected-Characteristics-20171130.pdf>

Mitigating actions to be taken

As no negative impacts with regards to gender reassignment have been identified, no migrating actions are required. The impact on the protected characteristic of gender reassignment will continue to be monitored and any unforeseen issues which arise as a result of the LDO will be mitigated against appropriately.

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.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan

Potential health impacts (positive and negative)

During construction of the DHN the accessibility and mobility of the local area may be affected. In particular, construction could cause difficulties in relation to increased traffic due to lane closures, reduction in parking due to parking suspensions, the construction activities blocking access to homes shops, bus stops and pavements as well as effects on wayfinding. As stated under the protected characteristic of disability, the measures outline above would have a disproportionate impact on those who have limited mobility – this includes heavily pregnant people who sometimes find that their mobility is impaired towards the later stages of pregnancy.

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative health impacts on the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity.

Equality information on which above analysis is based

Health data on which above analysis is based

JSNA Factsheet 2017-18 Protected Characteristics states that the fertility rate in Southwark is significantly below that of London and England. No further explanations are given but it noted that both maternities and live births have decreased more significantly for Southwark than London and England.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/5718/JSNA-Factsheet-2017-Protected-Characteristics-20171130.pdf>

Mitigating actions to be taken

Mitigating actions will be the same as set out in the protected characteristic of disability. Good access and mobility would be addressed in the Construction Environmental Management Plan, which is required by planning condition attached

the LDO. The CEMP would set out the necessary diversions and how they will be signposted to maintain access. The CEMP will also set out how disabled parking will be maintained.

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)

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristic of race.

Globally, however, the effects of climate change are felt unevenly around the world. It is well documented that the global south is disproportionately affected by climate change. The risk and impact of rising sea levels, floods, droughts, failed crops and other climate impacts is much higher in the global south, and this has been exacerbated by man-made climate change. The impact of these disasters can sometimes significantly impact societies and economies and with economic impact often follows adverse health impacts such as from malnutrition. Development permitted by the LDO, will contribute to the decarbonisation of the borough's housing stock and reducing the borough's overall emissions, which will have a positive, if small in global terms, impact on the extent of manmade climate change.

Southwark has a very diverse population and residents may have family members and connections to communities in nations where the effects of climate change are already being felt.

There is a strong link between climate change and public health. Climate change is already impacting health in a myriad of ways, including by leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, the disruption of food systems, increases in disease which can be transmitted to humans from animals, and food-, water- and vector-borne diseases, and mental health issues. As with economic and social impacts, this will be felt more acutely by the global south and by the most vulnerable in society. Addressing climate change will also address the subsequent health impacts which come along side rising global temperatures.

Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
<p>54.2% of Southwark’s population is from White Ethnic backgrounds (which includes 39.7% from White British backgrounds) and 12.4% from White Other Ethnic backgrounds.</p> <p>45.8% of the population are from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, nearly 27% from Black African and Caribbean backgrounds. 9.4% of people from Asian backgrounds with just over 6% from Mixed ethnic backgrounds and 3.3% from Other ethnic backgrounds.</p> <p>Source: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s72803/Appendix%201%20Best%20start%20in%20life%20Southwark%20school%20standards%20report%202017.pdf</p> <p>The Community Capacity programme 2017-18: Data and policy context, which shows that Southwark has 29% of the borough’s population were born in non-EU countries.</p> <p>Source: http://thesource/assets/legacy/getasset?id=fAA3ADMAOQA5AHwAfABUAHIAdQBIAHwAfAAwAHwA0</p>	
Mitigating actions to be taken	
<p>The carbon reduction achieved by implementing the DHN will be monitored and continue to form part of the council-wide climate change strategy. One of the challenges of decarbonising buildings is that they need to be monitored going forward to ensure that the operational performance of buildings continues to align with net-zero goals. To further the Council’s climate change strategy, there needs to be a responsibility taken by the Council to monitor and report on the performance of its own building stock now and into the future.</p>	

<p>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.</p>	
<p>Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan</p>	<p>Potential health impacts (positive and negative)</p>

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristic of religion and belief.	Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative health impacts on the protected characteristic of religion and belief.
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
<p>Census data 2011 identified the following belief make-up of the borough: 52.54% Christian; 1.35% Buddhist; 1.27% Hindu; 0.35% Jewish; 8.52% Muslim; 0.23% Sikh; 0.47% other religion; 26.74% no religion; 8.54% did not say.</p> <p>Source: https://www.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/public-health/health-and-wellbeing-in-southwark-jsna/southwark-profile</p>	
Mitigating actions to be taken	
<p>As no negative impacts with regards to religion and belief have been identified, no mitigating actions are required. The impact on the protected characteristic of religion and belief will continue to be monitored and any unforeseen issues which arise as a result of the LDO will be mitigated against appropriately.</p>	

Sex - A man or a woman.	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristic of sex.	Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative health impacts on the protected characteristic of sex.
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Health data on which above analysis is based
<p>Census 2011 data: Female: 50.5%/ Male: 49.5%</p> <p>In 2018, there were 158,418 men and 158,838 living in Southwark.</p> <p>Source: https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/12/gid/1938133228/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000028/iid/93203/age/174/sex/4</p>	

Mitigating actions to be taken

As no negative impacts with regards to sex have been identified, no migrating actions are required. The impact on the protected characteristic of sex will continue to be monitored and any unforeseen issues which arise as a result of the LDO will be mitigated against appropriately.

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

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristic of sexual orientation.

Potential health impacts (positive and negative)

Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have no particular positive or negative health impacts on the protected characteristic of sexual orientation.

Equality information on which above analysis is based

Southwark has the second largest gay or lesbian population in London at 5% with our neighbouring borough Lambeth as the highest.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/public-health/health-and-wellbeing-in-southwark-jsna/southwark-profile>

Health data on which above analysis is based**Mitigating actions to be taken**

As no negative impacts with regards to sexual orientation have been identified, no migrating actions are required. The impact on the protected characteristic of sexual orientation will continue to be monitored and any unforeseen issues which arise as a result of the LDO will be mitigated against appropriately.

Socio-economic disadvantage – although the Equality Act 2010 does not include socioeconomic 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 families economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, health, living conditions and occupation.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential health impacts (positive and negative)
<p>Socio-economic disadvantage continues to be a major cause of inequality for people living in Southwark. A person's family economic and social position can have an impact of their income, health, living conditions or occupation.</p> <p>The development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have a positive impact on the protected characteristic of socio-economic disadvantage. The first phase of the extension of the DHN is planned to provide heat and hot water to approximately 3,000 homes on Southwark Council estates so the benefits will be felt mostly by those from a disadvantaged socio-economic background.</p> <p>Improving the reliability of heating and hot water within the home can increase a resident's quality of life in numerous ways – the ability to study and concentrate, mental health, reduced stress and better sleep. While these things are true across the whole spectrum of socio-economic background, those who are disadvantaged may experience these effect more acutely and have fewer resources available to help them overcome such impacts.</p> <p>Improvements in the affordability of heating and hot water within the home will have the obvious effect of reducing financial hardships experienced by economically disadvantaged persons.</p>	<p>Health inequalities arise from a complex set of interactions between socio-economic, geographic and cultural factors. Southwark remains one of the most deprived Borough's in the country and deprivation has an adverse impact on health.</p> <p>Development permitted by the LDO is anticipated to have a positive health impact on the protected characteristic of socio-economic disadvantage. Improving the reliability of heating and hot water within the home will lead to improved living conditions and a reduction in damp which can lead to severe health conditions. The NHS advises that mould cause by damp in the home can produce allergens, irritants, toxic substances, trigger asthma attacks, and in extreme circumstances cause death. Being comfortable at home will also improve mental health, reduce stress and lead to better sleep quality.</p> <p>Improvements in the affordability of heating and hot water within the home will have the obvious effect of reducing financial hardships experienced by economically disadvantaged persons which will have a positive impact on mental health and stress.</p> <p>All members of the community within Southwark's Air Quality</p>

	<p>Management Area are affected by poor air quality. A report by the Environment Agency found that areas of the worst exposure to poor air quality generally correlated with areas of deprivation, however this correlation is more complex in London. In general, more deprived areas are likely to experience higher levels of pollution but there is considerable local variation.</p> <p>The area covered by the LDO are mainly within LSOAs in the top 5 deciles of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019. Therefore, it is likely that there will be a disproportionate impact from poor air quality due to the construction of the DHN. However, in the long term, implementation of the DHN should improve air quality in the area, resulting in a positive impact on the protected characteristic of socio-economic disadvantage.</p>
<p>Equality information on which above analysis is based</p>	<p>Health data on which above analysis is based</p>
<p>The English Indices of Deprivation 2015 show that Southwark is the 40th most deprived local authority area in England (out of 326) and the 8th most deprived in London.</p> <p>Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/465791/English_Indices_of_Deprivation_2015_-_Statistical_Release.pdf</p> <p>The Indices of Multiple Deprivation interactive map shows deprivation levels by LSOA.</p> <p>Source: https://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html</p> <p>The JSNA Factsheet 2018-19 Demography reviewed the 2015 data against current data and found there was improvement in the ranking for Southwark but noted that this does not necessarily indicate that absolute levels of deprivation in the borough have reduced. Further, Southwark is ranked as one of the most</p>	

deprived local authorities in England on both the average rank (12th) for quality of it local environments.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/7379/JSNA-Factsheet-2018-19-Demography-20180725.pdf>

Additionally there is a significant income deprivation affecting children and older persons with Multi-Ward Profiles 2019 - South Southwark noting that children living in households claiming benefits in May 2017 were at 18.5% for Southwark against the national average of 13.5%.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/10643/Multi-Ward-Area-Profiles-South-Final.pdf>

Mitigating actions to be taken

Mitigating actions will be similar to those for the protected characteristics of age and disability - cost of energy and the resulting financial impacts on residents will be monitored by the Housing and Modernisation department when the network is implemented and operational.

Human Rights

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

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan

Not tackling climate change locally and globally can ultimately impact the Right to Life enshrined in the Humans Rights Act. The IPCC found that a global rise above 1.5°C would lead to climate-related risks to human health, livelihoods, food security, human security, water supply and economic growth. One of the possible impacts in Southwark (as well as the rest of the UK) of global climate change, is hotter summers and colder winters both of which can lead to loss of life.

The extension of the DHN will contribute to the decarbonisation of Southwark's buildings and Southwark's pathway to net zero carbon overall, therefore reducing the negative impacts of climate change globally and locally.

Information on which above analysis is based

Emissions modelling for the Southwark Climate Change Strategy indicates the urgent need to move away from gas boilers as the primary source of heating in the borough. To achieve the overall reductions for the model as many homes as possible will need to be connected to the SELCHP DHN or an equivalent DHN. This includes 17,00 homes already on district heating networks plus around 50% of other homes.

Source: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/48607/Climate-Change-Strategy-July-2021-.pdf>

Mitigating actions to be taken

The carbon reduction achieved by implementing the DHN will be monitored and continue to form part of the council-wide climate change strategy to ensure that it is the most effective technology to reduce carbon contributions in the Council's own building stock.