

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) - Stage One

What is the proposed decision that you are asking the Executive to make:	Reduction in Number of Litter and Dog Waste Bins
Summary of relevant legislation:	Not applicable. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on local authorities to ensure that the public highway (and any other relevant land they are responsible for such as parks and open spaces) is, in so far as is practicable, kept clear of litter and refuse. We comply with this through the litter picking and street cleansing operations we run. The provision of litter bins and dog waste bins is not a statutory requirement and therefore we are not duty bound to provide them to the extent currently available.
Does the proposed decision conflict with any of the Council's priorities for improvement? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services we are proud of • A fairer West Berkshire with opportunities for all • Tackling the climate and ecological emergency • A prosperous and resilient West Berkshire • Thriving communities with a strong local voice 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name of Budget Holder:	Daniel Warne (Waste) and Paul Hendry (Countryside)
Name of Service/Directorate:	Environment Department
Name of assessor:	Kofi Adu-Gyamfi
Date of assessment:	16 November 2023
Version and release date (if applicable):	N/A

Is this a ?		Is this policy, strategy, function or service ... ?	
Policy	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New or proposed	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strategy	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Already exists and is being reviewed	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Function	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is changing	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Service	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

(1) What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the proposed decision and who is likely to benefit from it?

Aims:	Reduction in Number of Litter and Dog Waste Bins
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To remove approximately 490 litter bins on a permanent basis (equivalent to 60% of the total number). To remove all dog waste bins from residential areas and public rights of way. Dog and litter bins for dog waste disposal will be retained at all Council parks, recreational open spaces, playgrounds and at visitor attractions, for example, Thatcham Nature Discovery Centre, Snelsmore Common Country Park, Greenham Common and Wokefield Common. However, we will seek to reposition some bins on existing open spaces to those locations where demand is greatest. To reduce the frequency of emptying some dog waste bins and litter bins in parks and open spaces from three occasions per week to two but to keep this. <p>Our street cleansing and litter picking service, and Town and Parish Council-maintained litter and dog waste bins are not affected by this proposal.</p>
Outcomes:	Significant reduction in the number of litter and dog bins available across the district.
Benefits:	This will create an estimated annual saving of up to £85,000.

(2) Which groups might be affected and how? Is it positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this?

Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this
Age	Not applicable.	
Disability	Not applicable.	
Gender Reassignment	Not applicable.	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not applicable.	

Pregnancy and Maternity	Not applicable.	
Race	Not applicable.	
Religion or Belief	Not applicable.	
Sex	Not applicable.	
Sexual Orientation	Not applicable.	
Further Comments:		
<p>The proposed service change is not expected to specifically affect any of the groups listed above. There are no group-specific impacts expected that are relevant to Equality Act 2010 considerations. However, if any adverse impact in relation to any of the groups listed above should arise from the upcoming public consultation exercise, the service will review this assessment.</p>		

(3) Result	
Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The implementation of the change will be applied uniformly across the district. The change is not expected to contribute to inequality. Care will be taken to ensure that suitable provision is in place for Council parks, recreational open spaces and visitor attractions.</p>	
Will the proposed decision have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Where there are no litter bins, service users will be encouraged to take their waste home for suitable disposal and recycling through their domestic waste collections. It is worth noting that some contractor staff may see a reduction in the working hours and earnings.</p>	

(4) Identify next steps as appropriate:	
EqlA Stage 2 required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Owner of EqlA Stage Two:	
Timescale for EqlA Stage Two:	

Name: Kofi Adu-Gyamfi

Date: 17 November 2023