

Kent County Council Equality Analysis/ Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Directorate:

Growth, Environment and Transport

Name of decision, policy, procedure, project or service:

Land Drainage Policy Statement

Responsible Owner/ Senior Officer:

Max Tant, Flood and Water Manager

Context

As a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), KCC has powers as a land drainage authority under the Land Drainage Act 1991 to regulate ordinary watercourses. This statement sets out how we will exercise these powers.

In particular, it sets out our policy towards culverting of watercourses, to which we are generally opposed, except in circumstances where it is necessary.

Aims and Objectives

The intention of the policy statement is to set out KCC's policy about how it will exercise its land drainage powers.

This is especially important with regards to providing land drainage consents for works in ordinary watercourses, in particular for culverts. KCC is generally opposed to culverting ordinary watercourses, except where they are necessary for access. This statement sets out our requirements for applicants obtaining land drainage consent and the criteria for culverts to be given consent.

Adverse Equality Impact Rating **Low /**

Attestation

I have read and paid due regard to the Equality Analysis/Impact Assessment concerning **Land Drainage Policy**. I agree with risk rating and the actions to mitigate any adverse impact(s) that has /have been identified.

Head of Service

Signed: T. Marchant

Name: Tom Marchant

Job Title: Head of Strategic Planning & Policy

Date: 05/08/2019

DMT Member

Signed:

Name:

Job Title:

Date:

Updated 17/12/2019

Part 1 Screening

Could this policy, procedure, project or service, or any proposed changes to it, affect any Protected Group (listed below) less favourably (negatively) than others in Kent?

Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group?

Protected Group	Please provide a <u>brief</u> commentary on your findings. Fuller analysis should be undertaken in Part 2.			
	High negative impact EqlA	Medium negative impact Screen	Low negative impact Evidence	High/Medium/Low Positive Impact Evidence
Age	No	No	No	No
Disability	No	No	Yes - Documents will be made available in alternative formats on request. An alternative formats statement will be placed at the start of the tool so that people who need it are aware that they can make the request. All online documents will be tested to ensure accessibility with assistive software technologies as identified by the five Government Digital Service Standards.	
Gender	No	No	No	No
Gender identity/ Transgender	No	No	No	No
Race	No	No	Yes - Documents will be made available in alternative languages upon request. An alternative formats statement will be placed at the start of the tool so that people who need it are aware that they can make the request.	
Religion and Belief	No	No	No	No

Appendix H

August 2019

Sexual Orientation	No	No	No	No
Pregnancy and Maternity	No	No	No	No
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	No	No	No	No
Carer's Responsibilities	No	No	No	No

Part 2

Equality Analysis /Impact Assessment

Adverse Impact:

People with poor eyesight or who cannot read English may not be able to read the policy statement and therefore may not understand how we apply policy or how it applies to them.

Positive Impact:

The preparation of a Policy Statement will ensure clarity and transparency in Kent County Council's land drainage role which promotes environmental objectives and helps to reduce flood risk.

Internal Action Required ~~**YES/NO**~~

Equality Impact Analysis/Assessment Action Plan

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Cost implications
Disability	Published material may not be readable by these groups	The Policy Statement will be made available in alternative formats (ie. Large text).	Alternative formats will mitigate difficulties with access and readability.	Max Tant	Monitor requests for alternative formats	
Race	Published material may not be readable by these groups	The Policy Statement will be made available in alternative languages on request	Alternative formats will mitigate difficulties with readability	Max Tant	Monitor requests for alternative formats	

Have the actions been included in your business/ service plan?

No – they will be actioned upon a request being received. The option to request an alternative format will be advertised by a statement at the start of the webpage they are published on.

The Policy Statement will be made available through Kent County Council's web pages. Requests for the document can be made either through the web page or by contacting the Flood team. Local district councils will be provided with contact details for the Flood team to direct any enquiries from the public.

