

Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule September 2021 - Equality Impact Assessment

Analysis of Project – Equality and Poverty Impact Assessment of the Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule

1. Author, Service area, Date

Hanna Toth (Planning Policy Officer), Planning Policy Team, August 2021

2. Who else has been involved in writing this EIA?

Karen Johnson (Planning Policy Manager), Richard Gadsby (Policy and Scrutiny Officer).

3. What proposal is this EIA assessing?

The EIA is assessing Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule September 2021 (CIL). This CIL Draft Charging Schedule details the approach taken to justifying the rate of a non negotiable CIL charge that can be secured from new development. CIL can be used to contribute towards the provision of appropriate infrastructure, through the provisions of national legislation. The Government is clear that most new developments have an impact on the need for infrastructure, services and facilities and therefore developers are required to help fund the infrastructure that is needed to make development acceptable.

Bassetlaw District Council is committed to promoting a community and organisational culture that fully respects and values everyone's differences and needs. Equality and diversity is integral to our core business, our staff and our service users. In working towards our commitment to equality we will:

- Work towards providing services which meet the needs of all sections of our communities.
- Ensure that respect and dignity is valued as a core principle for all.
- Promote equality and fair treatment and equal access to our services and services commissioned by us.
- Offer a range of translation and interpretation services for those whose first language is not English and also provide information in other formats such as Braille and audio.
- Actively seek the views of our customers and take account of their comments and complaints and allow a reasonable timescale for consultations.
- Consult a range of communities and avoid selecting single minority ethnic organisations or individuals.
- Assess and monitor the impact of new and existing policies and plans on equality groups.
- Provide straight forward information about our service.
- Strive for a workforce that reflects the diversity of the population of Bassetlaw.

4. What is the purpose of your proposal and what is it expected to achieve?

The purpose of the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is to assess the potential impact of the CIL Draft Charging Schedule on different groups within Bassetlaw. An assessment of the document has been undertaken in relation to:

- Age: older age groups
- Age: younger age groups / children

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- Disability
- Gender
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership status
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Human rights
- Socio Economic (including poverty)

The following questions were used to undertake the EIA:

- Does the policy/decision target or exclude a specific equality group or community?
- Does it affect some equality groups or communities differently and can this be justified?
- Is the policy or service likely to be equally accessed by all equality groups and communities? If not can this be justified?
- Are there any barriers that might make access difficult or stop different groups or communities accessing the policy or service?
- Could the policy promote equality and good relations between different groups? How?

This is Bassetlaw District Council's consultation on a Draft Charging Schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The Draft Charging Schedule is the final stage in the consultation process to review CIL across the District. CIL is a tool which local authorities across the country can choose to charge on new developments within their area. Funds collected through the CIL can be used to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area.

This Council will be the Charging Authority as set out under the CIL legislation. The Draft Charging Schedule outlines the general principles of CIL along with the assumptions and methodology used whilst preparing the appropriate evidence base to support reviewing CIL in this District.

Once adopted and implemented by the Council, CIL will be a fundamental tool in facilitating the delivery of the strategic vision and policies outlined within the Bassetlaw Local Plan: Publication Version 2020-2037 (BLP). The Bassetlaw Local Plan: Publication Version is being consulted on alongside this document.

Once the BLP is adopted, it will replace the Bassetlaw Core Strategy 2011 and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD). It will form the overall development plan for Bassetlaw District alongside 'made' neighbourhood plans and adopted minerals and waste local plans.

After adoption, the new local plan will be the 'starting point' for considering whether planning applications can be approved.

It contains:

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- A long term vision for the District and objectives for future development up to 2037 which describes how key issues that have been identified will be tackled and how the District will evolve over the course of the plan period.
- Site allocations to deliver that development.
- More general development focussed policies.

The Bassetlaw Local Plan has been developed in consideration of the evidence base, National Planning Policy and guidance, feedback from public consultations, a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment has been undertaken on the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan.

In addition to the EIA, the assessment undertaken considers the impact of the policies within the plan on socio economic impact within Bassetlaw District, this is a strategic priority for Bassetlaw District Council, as such the assessment ensures that any negative impacts have been considered and mitigated.

Analysis of Policies – Equality and Poverty Impact Assessment of the Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule

Equalities Groups- Is the effect Neutral, Positive or Negative?	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Explanation and Evidence
Age	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The age-protected characteristic includes the consideration of all ages in society, the assessment of which recognises that vulnerability can change across age groups and the impact of a policy will not necessarily be uniform across all ages. The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is written positively to ensure that needs are appropriately assessed and addressed through individual development proposals.
Disability	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any disability.
Gender Re-assignment	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging

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				Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any gender reassignment.
Race	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any race.
Religion	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any religion.
Gender	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging

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				Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any gender.
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any sexual orientation.
Marriage & Civil Partnership	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any marriage and civil partnership status.
Pregnancy & Maternity	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging

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Human rights	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate or violate human rights.
Socio Economic Impact (including poverty)	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	The assessment identified that the impact of the CIL Charging Schedule was generally positive for all. The CIL Charging Schedule aims to collect funds through the CIL to support the delivery of infrastructure which the local authority, local communities and stakeholders consider necessary to support the future growth of an area. Bettering provision and access to healthcare, education and training, jobs, appropriate accommodation and leisure facilities for all. The CIL Charging Schedule is inclusive of all members of the community and does not discriminate against any socio economic background.

Consultation and Mitigation

Has there been consultation / is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this Policy? How has this affected your decision making?

Alongside the draft Bassetlaw Local Plan January 2020 the Council held the consultation for the draft CIL Charging Schedule January-February 2020. Representations were received from 12 respondents. All responses have been considered in the development of the draft CIL Charging Schedule.

A Regulation 16 Consultation (under the CIL Regulations) will be taking place on the Publication Version of the Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2037. Additionally, the Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule will also be consulted on, to ensure that the community and stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on soundness of the CIL Charging Schedule. The Council will be conducting a 6-week consultation from September 2021-October 2021, to enable the public and stakeholders to provide comments on the publication version of the BLP.

To ensure that all residents have the opportunity to engage with the process the dedicated Local Plan community consultation hotline will be reinstated and will be manned in office hours by Planning Officers. For those residents with detailed queries/comments a call back service will be put in place so that the most appropriate Officer can discuss residents' concerns. Officers will also distribute paper extracts of the updated policies, comments forms and other consultation material on request.

Social media will enable consultation promotion and provide information regarding the BLP, with regular updates from across the BDC accounts. This will also include regular updates and signposting, including, 'Frequently Asked Questions' and 'How to Guides,' the latter of which will inform users on how to complete the online comments forms.

The Planning Policy Team and Communications Team has been involved with the organisation of Consultation events and publicity. Planning Policy Team, Communications Team, Regeneration Growth Team and Planning Administration team have all been involved with the management and staffing of all consultation events. All the Councillors from all levels (County, Local, Parish) have all been involved with the consultation process, having visited some of the Consultation events themselves.

The evolution of the Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule:

- **January 2020 - Consultation on the draft Bassetlaw Local Plan and draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule**
- **September 2021 – Consultation on the Bassetlaw Local Plan: Publication Version 2020-2037 and draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule**

As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative / maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships?

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The development of the policies have included equality and sustainability assessments which have been undertaken, these have thoroughly assessed the contents of the Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule, where necessary mitigation requirements have been written into the document. The EIA does not identify any negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics as a result of the implementation of the emerging policies.

Describe how you will address and monitor the impact	
1. No Impact - No Major Change	The assessment outcome demonstrates no negative impact on any protected characteristics has been identified. As a result no changes have been identified for the Bassetlaw Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule. There is an accompanying Infrastructure Funding Statement and annual CIL report to the document, these provide a summary of CIL monies on an annual basis. An annual monitoring report will be produced.
2. Adjust / Change Policy	Not applicable
3. Adverse Impact but continue as is	Not applicable
4. Stop / Remove Policy / Proposal	Not applicable