



Revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document

EQUALITIES ANALYSIS SCOPING REPORT

February 2013



Equality Analysis (EA) Scoping Report

Section 1 – General Information (Aims and Objectives)

Name of the proposal including aims, objectives and purpose:

(Please note – for the purpose of this doc, ‘proposal’ refers to a policy, function, strategy or project)

London Borough of Tower Hamlets Revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning document

Who is expected to benefit from the proposal?

The local community, which includes local residents, businesses and organisations within Tower Hamlets, through the mitigation of site-specific and negative impacts of development and provision of affordable housing and opportunities to the local workforce and local business.

Service area:

Planning and Building Control

Team name:

Infrastructure Planning

Service manager:

Owen Whalley (Planning & Building Control Service Head)

Name and role of the officer completing the EA Scoping Report:

Philip Waters, Planning Obligations Officer

Section 2 – Evidence (Consideration of Data and Information)

What initial evidence do we have which may help us think about the impacts or likely impacts on service users or staff?

The Revised Planning Obligations SPD is a tool for negotiating contributions to mitigate any negative site-specific impacts of development. The Revision is required because the impacts of development on the borough’s infrastructure will be mitigated through a locally set Community Infrastructure Levy. CIL regulations do not allow the Council to collect both CIL and S106 for expenditure on the same infrastructure items. Following the adoption of CIL it will no longer be possible to negotiate S106 Planning Obligations using the adopted Planning Obligations SPD and therefore a revised SPD, with a narrower focus, is required. The adopted Planning Obligations SPD passed through a period of consultation and Cabinet approvals prior to adoption and included an Equalities Analysis. The adopted SPD was not considered to have any negative impacts on any particular equalities groups.

Section 3 – Assessing the Impacts on the 9 Groups

How will what you’re proposal impact upon the nine Protected Characteristics?

For the nine protected characteristics detailed in the table below please consider:-

- **What is the equality profile of service users or beneficiaries that will or are likely to be affected?**

The resident population of London Borough of Tower Hamlets is estimated to be approximately

254,000 in 2011 according to the census. In respect of the protected characteristics detailed in the Equalities Act 2012, the information below, sourced from 2011 census and GLA's population projections data, provide general information of equality profiles for various groups that will or likely to be affected by the LBTH CIL.

Age

The Tower Hamlets' population is expected to grow across all age groups; however, the growth is strongest in the older age groups, especially among those aged 50-64. The 35-49 age group and the over 65s group are also expected to show strong growth.

The young population (aged 20-34) comprises approximately 37 per cent of the Borough's population. One fifth of the Borough's population are aged under 16, with significant differences by ethnicity. The Black, Minority and Ethnic (BME) population is far younger than the White population.

Race

GLA estimates for 2011 show that 47 per cent of the Tower Hamlets' population are from BME groups. Forty one per cent of the Borough's residents were born outside the UK.

The proportion of residents identified as BME is anticipated to continue to rise over the next 15 years in the Borough. Within the group, there is a substantial variation in the rate of population growth across ethnic groups. The Chinese population has the fastest growth rate; and the Black Caribbean population an older age profile and the lowest growth rate.

Religion or Belief

The Borough's largest faith groups are Muslim and Christian. The 2001 census shows that 39 per cent of residents identified themselves as Christian. In Tower Hamlets, there is a close relationship between faith and ethnicity. Over one third of residents said they were Muslim, the majority of who were Bangladeshi. Other faith groups represented in the Borough include: Buddhists, Jews, Hindus and Sikhs and people who practice no faith.

Disability

By August 2010, there were more than 10,000 claimants of disability living allowance in Tower Hamlets. 52 per cent were male and 48 per cent were female. Among them, over 7,000 people had claimed disability living allowance for 5 years and over. People between the ages of 25-49 accounted for the highest number of claimants of disability living allowance.

Disabled people often face significant employment barriers; only one third population of this group are in employment, this compares against almost two thirds of non-disabled people of the same age profile.

Gender Reassignment

The Council does not have demographic information on gender reassignment. However, this group of people are taken to be represented in Tower Hamlets population.

Gender

The ONS mid-year estimates for 2010 show that the gender ratio is 105 males for every 100 females. The table below illustrates the estimated number of females and males in the Borough in 2011. The 2011 census figures show that men outnumber females significantly within the 35-54 age group in the Borough. Women outnumber men among the 20-24 age group, and again in the 65 – 69 age group.

Total number of males	Total number of females
131,000	123,000

Source: NOS, 2011

Sexual Orientation

The Council does not have demographic information on sexual orientation. However, this group of people are taken to be represented in Tower Hamlets population.

Marriage and Civil Partnerships

At the time of the 2001 Census, there were more single persons (aged 16 and over) than married/re-married persons living in the Tower Hamlets, which was about 39 per cent against 32 per cent. There were slightly over 1,000 same-sex households living in the borough.

Pregnancy and Maternity

From January to December 2010, the total birth in Tower Hamlets was about 4,600. Over 50 per cent were males and about 48 per cent were females.

Socio Economic

There has been a rapid population growth in Tower Hamlets in recent years. This trend is expected to continue over the next 15 years. As a result of this growth, there is a pressing need to improve the provision of local infrastructure, which can help enhance people's quality of life in the Borough. Accessing affordable housing and the job market are the two main issues in Tower Hamlets.

• **What qualitative or quantitative data do we have?**

1. A profile of the Tower Hamlets Population (2010)
2. Population – key facts research briefing (2011)
3. Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2009) and updated report (2011)
4. Tower Hamlets Planning for population change and growth: capacity assessment baseline report (2009)
5. Equalities Analysis for London Borough of Tower Hamlet's Development Plan Documents (2011)
6. Sustainability Appraisal for London Borough of Tower Hamlet's Development Plan Documents (2011)
7. Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (2012)
8. Consultation and engagement reports for London Borough of Tower Hamlets' Development Plan Documents, Local Development Framework (2011)
9. Tower Hamlets Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report (2011)
10. Strategic Housing Market and Needs Assessment (2009)
11. Planning for a healthier urban environment in Tower Hamlets (2011)
12. Tower Hamlet's Parking stress study (2011)
13. Managing Travellers' Accommodation (2011)
14. London Borough of Tower Hamlets - London Heat Map Study (2011)
15. Tower Hamlets Green Grid Strategy (2010)
16. The Cycling Plan for Tower Hamlets (2009)
17. Tower Hamlets Strategic flood risk assessment (2012)

18. Tower Hamlets Primary school site selection and summary table (2012)
19. Tower Hamlet's Transport Planning Strategy 2011 – 2031 (2011)
20. Tower Hamlets Public transport capacity assessment (2006)
21. The walking plan for Tower Hamlets 2011-2021 (2011)
22. London Borough of Tower Hamlets Waste evidence base report update (2011)
23. Multi-faith burial site for Tower Hamlets – Criteria for site identification (2009)
24. Character area assessments (2006)

- **Equalities impact on staff?**

The development of the Revised Planning Obligations SPD is a process which involves other teams across directorates. The SPD itself does not have a direct impact on staff but improved infrastructure as a result of Planning Obligations will affect staff in the same way as other residents and employees in the borough.

- **Barriers?**

Communication – Many local residents in the Tower Hamlets are from BME groups. English may not be their first languages. This may cause difficulty to understand the Revised Planning Obligations SPD and how it may impact their lives. Any consultation will be compliant with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement approved in 2009. If requests are received the consultation material can be translated.

- **Recent consultation exercises carried out?**

The Revised Planning Obligations SPD has been developed in consultation with key internal stakeholders to ensure any impacts resulting from the revision of the SPD are addressed and, where deleterious, avoided. Within the Council, an Infrastructure Planning Steering Group has been set up to discuss infrastructure requirements, costs and funding sources for the Borough on a quarterly basis. Discussions have also been held with the Mayor of Tower Hamlets and the Lead Members for Housing and Resources on the proposed approach to the continued use of S106 and CIL.

Following approval by Cabinet, the Council will submit the Revised Planning Obligations SPD to a six week period of consultation, in accordance with the approach outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement.

- **Additional factors which may influence disproportionate or adverse impact?**

The Planning Obligations SPD provides guidance on when the Council is likely to secure site mitigation measures through a S106 agreement to make a development acceptable. The Council's proposed use of S106 agreements is in line with national, regional, and local planning policy. In all instances where a S106 agreement is sought the objective is to mitigate site-specific negative impacts of development. The Revised Planning Obligations SPD will therefore not have any disproportionate impacts upon any group as all measures are universally positive. Failure to adopt a Revised Planning Obligations SPD may, however, have disproportionate and adverse impacts on some of the borough's residents because some adverse impacts of development may not be appropriately mitigated.

- **The Process of Service Delivery?**

Securing site-specific development mitigation through S106 will assist service delivery in helping

the Council achieve its major objectives including ensuring Tower Hamlets is a Great Place to Live.

Summary and next steps:

This EA Scoping Report will be updated, when appropriate, an overarching analysis of LBTH's Planning Obligations SPD in terms of equalities. The results of the various consultation exercises will be fed back into the EA Scoping Report as evidence to inform future decision making, particularly for groups where the Council does not have sufficient information at this stage.

Target Groups	Impact – Positive or Adverse What impact will the proposal have on specific groups of service users or staff?	Reason(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and, • Please describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform decision making <p>Please also how the proposal will promote the three One Tower Hamlets objectives?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reducing inequalities -Ensuring strong community cohesion -Strengthening community leadership
Race	Neutral	<p>The BME groups are expected to continue to rise over the next 15 years in the Borough. Within this group, unemployment levels are generally higher than the national average.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. However, some developments will be expected to make a contribution towards local employment and enterprise, which will benefit residents of all ethnicities. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p> <p>Evidence from the 2001 Census showed that BME residents were more likely to be in need of social housing and living in overcrowded households. S106 agreements will continue to be used to secure affordable housing which will have a positive outcome to residents in need of social housing, regardless of need.</p>
Disability	Neutral	<p>People with disabilities face significant employment barriers, as disabled people are three times more likely to be unemployed than people with no disabilities.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. However, some developments will be expected to make a contribution towards local employment and enterprise, which will benefit all residents which is particularly important for groups of people less likely to be in employment. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Gender	Neutral	<p>The 2011 census figures show that the number of men outnumbers females significantly within the 35-54 age groups in the Borough. Women outnumber men among the 20-24 age group, and again in the 65 – 69 age group.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs</p>

		are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	<p>The targeted group is taken into consideration as part of the profile of the Tower Hamlets population, although the data is unavailable at this stage.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	<p>The targeted group is taken into consideration as part of the profile of the Tower Hamlets population, although the data is unavailable at this stage.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Religion or Belief	Neutral	<p>Residents in Tower Hamlets profess a wide range of faiths. Significantly represented faiths include Islam and Christianity, however many other religious, and non-religious, belief systems are represented across the borough.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Age	Neutral	<p>The older age group is expected to increase the most over the next fifteen years in the Tower Hamlets as is the peak of residents currently in their late twenties and early thirties. Tower Hamlets is a relatively young Borough which comprises 37 per cent young population aged 20 -34. Under 16 years old, the BME population is far younger than the White population.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	Neutral	<p>At the time of the 2001 Census, there were more single persons (aged 16 and over) than married/re-married persons living in the Tower Hamlets, which was about 39 per cent against 32 per cent.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would</p>

		be appropriate for a specific development.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral	<p>The targeted group is taken into consideration as part of the profile of the Tower Hamlets population.</p> <p>S106 Planning Obligations will not have direct equality impacts on this target group as it is a financial document and therefore it is not considered it will have a disproportionate effect on the targeted group. Equalities needs are assessed by relevant service areas and planning officers when assessing whether a S106 Agreement would be appropriate for a specific development.</p>
Other Socio-economic Carers	N/A	N/A

Section 4 – Mitigating Impacts and Alternative Options

From the analysis and interpretation of evidence in section 2 and 3 - Is there any evidence of or view that suggests that different equality or other protected groups (inc' staff) could have a disproportionately high/low take up of the new proposal?

No

If yes, please detail below how evidence influenced and formed the proposal? For example, why parts of the proposal were added/removed?

(Please note – a key part of the EA Scoping Report process is to show that we have made reasonable and informed attempts to mitigate any negative impacts. An EA Scoping Report is a service improvement tool and as such you may wish to consider a number of alternative options or mitigation in terms of the proposal.)

Section 5 – Quality Assurance and Monitoring

Have monitoring systems been put in place to check the implementation of the proposal and recommendations?

Yes

How will the monitoring systems further assess the impact on the equality target groups?

The EqIA will be reviewed annually to assess impact of equality target groups of the Revised Planning Obligations SPD

Does the policy/function comply with equalities legislation?
(Please consider the OTH objectives and Public Sector Equality Duty criteria)

Yes

If there are gaps in information or areas for further improvement, please list them below:

How will the results of this Equality Analysis feed into the performance planning process?

The results of this EA Scoping Report will be used to ensure that:

1. The Council is clear on any future use of S106 Planning Obligations
2. The Revised Planning Obligations SPD is consulted on for a period of six weeks prior to adoption.

Section 6 - Action Plan

As a result of these conclusions and recommendations what actions (if any) **will** be included in your business planning and wider review processes (team plan)? Please consider any gaps or areas needing further attention in the table below the example.

Recommendation	Key activity	Progress milestones including target dates for either completion or progress	Officer responsible	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local community, key stakeholders are consulted appropriately as required by the Statement of Community Involvement and Government legislation 	Undertake 6 weeks consultation	Spring – Summer 2013	Planning Obligations Officer	Consultation to begin following approval from the Mayor in Cabinet

Section 7 – Sign Off and Publication

Name: (signed off)	Anne-Marie Berni
Position:	Infrastructure Planning Manager
Date signed off: (approved)	25/02/2013