

# Sheffield City Council Equality Impact Assessment



[Guidance for completing this form is available on the intranet](#)

Help is also available by selecting the grey area and pressing the F1 key

**Name of policy/project/decision:** Rural Broadband: connecting Sheffield's rural communities

**Status of policy/project/decision:** New

**Name of person(s) writing EIA:** Laurie Brennan

**Date:** 20.03.13

**Service:** Policy, Partnerships and Research

**Portfolio:** Deputy Chief Executive's

**What are the brief aims of the policy/project/decision?** To agree an approach for supporting Sheffield's rural communities that do not have access to broadband.

**Are there any potential Council staffing implications, include workforce diversity?** No

Under the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#), we have to pay due regard to: "Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations." [More information is available on the council website](#)

Areas of possible impact	Impact	Impact level	Explanation and evidence (Details of data, reports, feedback or consultations. This should be proportionate to the impact.)
Age	Positive	Medium	The access to a usable internet service in rural areas would be beneficial across all age groups, combating digital exclusion and improving access to services.  Usable internet services may provide links to services, social networking, news and information for all ages.  There may be particularly positive impacts on meeting the expectations of younger people in rural areas and also older people who will have greater opportunity to access online services.
Disability	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities.
Pregnancy/maternity	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
Race	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
Religion/belief	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband

<b>Areas of possible impact</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Impact level</b>	<b>Explanation and evidence (Details of data, reports, feedback or consultations. This should be proportionate to the impact.)</b>
			services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
<b>Sex</b>	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
<b>Transgender</b>	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
<b>Carers</b>	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities
<b>Voluntary, community &amp; faith sector</b>	Positive	Medium	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities. The proposed approach outlined in the Cabinet Paper would seek to improve local community activism and many of the other UK examples of rural broadband solutions are based upon strong community group organisation and community enterprise.
<b>Financial inclusion, poverty, social justice:</b>	Positive	Low	As more services become available online and business need for internet presence increases, there is a potential digital exclusion issue for rural communities. It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities and address the disparity in provision between rural and urban areas. As with the areas of possible impact above, there is a need for a stronger local evidence base, particularly in terms of quantifying need.
<b>Cohesion:</b>	Positive	Low	It is expected that increasing access to broadband services will be beneficial for all people in rural communities.
<b>Other/additional:</b>	-Select-	-Select-	

**Overall summary of possible impact (to be used on EMT, cabinet reports etc): Low**

If you have identified significant change, med or high negative outcomes or for example the impact is on specialist provision relating to the groups above, or there is cumulative impact you **must** complete the action plan.

**Review date:**                      **Q Tier Ref**                      **Reference number:**

**Entered on Qtier:** -Select-                      **Action plan needed:** -Select-

**Approved (Lead Manager):**                      **Date:**

**Approved (EIA Lead person for Portfolio):** Michael Bowles **Date:** 20/02/13

**Does the proposal/ decision impact on or relate to specialist provision:** no

**Risk rating:** Low

## Action plan

Area of impact	Action and mitigation	Lead, timescale and how it will be monitored/reviewed
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		
-Select-		

**Approved (Lead Manager):**                      **Date:**

**Approved (EIA Lead Officer for Portfolio):**                      **Date:**

This page is intentionally left blank