Local Development Framework

Central Lancashire Core Strategy

Equality Impact Assessment

November 2010

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C O N T E N T S

Equality Impact Assessment – Summary

1. Name of Policy or Service/Existing or Proposed

Joint Lancashire Joint Core Strategy – Publication Version

2. Responsible Manager

Julian Jackson

3. Date EIA screening completed

8 July 2010, with further Core Strategy Changes taken onboard up to publication version.

4. Description and Aims of Policy/Service (including relevance to equalities)

The Publication Core Strategy sets the overall strategic direction for planning the Central Lancashire area over the period to 2026. It draws together strategies of the Council and other organisations whose activities have implications for the development and use of land. It puts the aspirations of the four (one for each District plus that for the County) Sustainable Community Strategies into effect. It establishes where major development and other forms of investment should be located so as to be sustainable, meet local needs and take advantage of opportunities.

5. Who are the stakeholders?

Preston, South Ribble and Chorley have a central consultation database that acts as a central resource for consultation with stakeholders. Table 1 of the main report, lists the various stakeholders associated with each equality strand involved through the production of the Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy.

6. What outcomes do we want to achieve?

By 2026, Central Lancashire will be recognised as a highly sought after place to live and work in the North West, offering an excellent quality of life to all it's residents. It will play a leading role in Lancashire's world class economy and have sustainable economic growth based on the area's unique assets- it's central location at the hub of the transport network, it's green spaces and access to open countryside – so delivering prosperity in a place with 'room to breathe'

7. What are the Key Performance Indicators?

A variety of indicators are identified to monitor the implementation of the plan, however indicators specific to the identified equality strands are:-

- Policy 7 – Affordable Housing - Number of affordable homes built

- Policy 15 - Skills and Economic Inclusion - Working age population qualified to NVQ Level 4 or higher

- Policy 23 – Health – Improving community health

- Policy 17: Design of New Buildings - Higher quality building design

8. Brief Summary of Research and Relevant Data

A variety of information sources were used to identify the relevant baseline data relating to each of the equality strands. Table 3 of the main document lists the key research findings associated with each equality strand.

9. Methods and Outcome of Consultation

Extensive consultation has been carried out throughout the various stages of the plan making process. An Equality Monitoring Form has been used to collect information when consultees make responses. The Local Strategic Partnerships include representatives from key community and social organisations and they feed into the various Sustainable Community Strategies which in turn feed into the Core Strategy.

Specific consultation measures have been undertaken in order to engage with various equality groups. Full details of the consultation processes are included within the main report.

10. Results of Equality Impact Assessment Screening

The results of the screening exercise are detailed in section 10, pages 14-20 of this report. The majority of the Core Strategy policies were screened as having a positive or potential positive effect on Equality groups within Central Lancashire. There is a small amount of policies with a neutral/ negligible effect. In conclusions to this screening, there is no need for any substantial change to Core Strategy policies, however mitigation against any future effects should be carried forward, please see the recommendations detailed below:

11. Decisions and/or Recommendations (including supporting rationale)

There has been a small amount of potential negatives identified through out the screening process, however these groups were also identified as having potential positives too. The main reason for this is the locality of equality groups in different areas of Central Lancashire. This meaning they may have various issues in terms of access to the different services, whether that be jobs, retail or access to public transport etc.

To mitigate against any potential negatives a key recommendation is that Equality Impact Assessments should be carried out at a localised/project delivery level. Effort should be made to work with developers/organisations on this, to ensure this process occurs and to also encourage this as a condition through proposals and planning applications.

12. Monitoring and Review Arrangements

These are as follows:

- Through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) process in terms of indicators related to equality and to the following performance indicators - Affordable Housing - Number of affordable homes built, Skills and Economic Inclusion - Working age population qualified to NVQ Level 4 or higher, Health – Improving community health and Design of New Buildings - Higher quality building design

- There is also the potential in the future of using an indicator based on equality / related policy within the Annual monitoring report and the performance indicators once we have a established baseline for this area of work / policy.

- The use of Equality Impact Assessments carried out at a project / planning application level locally. These could be monitored on a two yearly basis; due to the 15-20 year life span of the Core Strategy.

- When a review of the Core Strategy takes place, it would be appropriate to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment, to assess any policies changes and their effects.

Equality Impact Assessment Report

Introduction

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is required to ensure that equality is placed at the centre of policy development and review, as well as service delivery. The purpose of this EqIA is to systematically analyse the likely impact of the Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy policies on different groups of people in the community, and how the needs of such groups have been taken into account in relation to the development of policies.

The EqIA can anticipate and recommend ways to avoid any discriminatory or negative consequences for a particular group, on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, disability, faith, sexuality or age. It provides the opportunity to demonstrate the potential benefits for equality target groups arising from a proposed policy or project.

The need for an EqIA stems from the general duty placed on public authorities to eliminate unlawful discrimination in carrying out functions, and promote equality of opportunity between men and women, different racial groups, and other equality groups. The duty to carry out an EqIA of new policy is set out in the following Acts:-

- Race Relations Amendment Act 2000
- Disability Discrimination Act 2005
- Equality Act 2007

This assessment approach reflects the advice in paragraph 16 of Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1) which seeks to promote development that creates inclusive communities. It states that Plan policies should:-

- Ensure that the impact of development on the social fabric of communities is considered and taken into account;
- Seek to reduce social inequalities;
- Address accessibility (both in terms of location and physical access) for all members of the community to jobs, health, housing, education, shops, leisure and community facilities;
- Take into account the needs of all the community, including particular requirements relating to age, sex, ethnic background, religion, disability or income;
- Deliver safe, healthy and attractive places to live; and,
- Support the promotion of health and well being by making provision for physical activity.

1. Name of Policy or Service / Existing or Proposed

Policies assessed were those in the Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) as approved for publication in April 2010. Subsequent amendments to this version approved in October/November 2010 have improved the equality impact of the document.

2. Responsible Manager

Julian Jackson, the Central Lancashire LDF Team Coordinator is the officer with overall responsibility for the Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy.

3. EIA Completed

The EqIA screening was completed on 8 July 2010 and further changes to the Core Strategy up to publication stage have been factored in.

A team was formed to carry out the EqIA of the Joint Core Strategy. The team comprised individuals who have expertise in equality issues in addition to having a thorough understanding of the main aim, objectives and intended outcomes of the Core Strategy.

The team was comprised of the following officers:-

Mike Eastham – Team Leader Forward Plans – South Ribble Borough Council
Alison Marland – Principal Planning Officer – Chorley Borough Council
Rebecca Heap – Policy Manager – South Ribble Borough Council
Kath Buddle – Policy Officer (Equalities) – Lancashire County Council
Denise Johnson – Director of Regeneration and Healthy Communities – South Ribble Borough Council

4. Description and Aims of Policy/Service (including relevance to equalities)

The Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) is one of the key documents forming the Central Lancashire Local Development Framework (LDF). The Core Strategy sets the long term spatial vision to 2026, a set of spatial objectives, along with a spatial strategy and core policies for shaping the future of the Central Lancashire area and for guiding and determining development proposals. It draws together strategies of the Central Lancashire Districts and other organisations whose activities have implications for the development and use of land when adopted.

5. Who are the stakeholders?

The following groups have been identified by the Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government (IDeA) and the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) guidance and stem from existing UK legislation that covers discrimination. The groups and target areas include:

- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion or Belief
- Disability

The table below identifies the various stakeholders consulted throughout the development of the Core Strategy.

Equality Group	Organisation
Age	Age Concern Age Concern Central Lancashire Age Concern School Link Age Concern Forum Bamber Bridge OAP Association Chorley Pensioners Association Deepdale Asian Young Women's Group Help the Aged

Equality Group	Organisation
	Golden Years OAP Association
	Kingsfold Over 60s Club
	Leyland Senior Citizens Club
	Leyland Youth Action Group
	Moss Side Over 60s Club
	Older Peoples Forum
	Older People Partnership Board
	Over 55s Club
	Penwortham Community Centre Over 60s Club
	Preston Senior Citizens' Forum
	Preston Community Centre Over 60s Club
	South Ribble Pensioners Association
	St Mary's Youth Group Penwortham
	Youth Council
Gender	Asian Ladies Cultural Organisation
	Ladies Circle
	Ladies Group – Hutton
	Lancashire Federation of Women's Institutes
	National Women's Register
	Preston Conservative Men's Club
	Preston Standing Conference of Women's Organisations
	Preston Women's Refuge
	Probus Club
	Sahara in Preston
	St Bernard's Catholic Mens Club
	Town Women's Guild
	UK Federation of Business and Professional Women
	Women's National Commission
	Women's Institute
Race	Commission for Racial Equality
	Ethnic Minority Consultative Committee
	Gujarat Society
	The Gypsy Council
	Pakistan Welfare Association
	Preston and Western Lancashire Racial Equality Council.
	The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain
	Traveller Reform Coalition
	Travellers Association
Sexual Orientation	Navajo
Religion or belief	The Brethren Christian Fellowship
	Church Commissioners
	Chorley Council of Faiths
	Chorley Churches Together
	Diocese of Blackburn
	Diocesan Pastoral Centre
	Gujarat Hindu Society
	Muslim Welfare Society
	Preston Faith Forum
	Preston and South Ribble Congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses
	Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Preston (Lancashire)
	The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
	Roman Catholic Diocese of Liverpool
	Chorley Mosque
	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Preston Temple)
Disability	Action for Blind People
	Chorley Disability Sports Forum
	Chorley and South Ribble Disability Forum

Equality Group	Organisation
	Disability Equality North West (Preston DISC)
	Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee
	Disability Rights Commission (now: Equality and Human Rights Commission)
	Galloway's Society for the Blind
	Lancashire Disability Information Forum
	Multiple Sclerosis Society
	Parkinson's Disease Society
	Preston and District Blind Bowling Club
	Physical Disability Partnership Board
	Pukar Disability Resource Centre
	Preston Disability Action Group
	Young Disabled Unit

(Table 1: Stakeholders and organisations)

A number of other organisations / stakeholders that cover a variety of equality groups have also been consulted when formulating the Core Strategy. These include:-

- Cumbria & Lancashire Strategic Health Authority
- Equal Opportunities Commission
- Local Strategic Partnership
- North West Strategic Health Authority
- Central Lancashire Primary Care Trust)
- Preston Council Voluntary Service

6. What outcomes do we want to achieve?

The Joint Central Lancashire Core Strategy is composed of 31 individual policies. The table below lists these policies and identifies the outcomes that the successful application of these policies will bring.

Core Strategy Policy	Expected outcomes
Policy 1 (Locating Growth)	o To concentrate growth and investment on brownfield sites, Preston City Centre, Key Service Centres and other main urban areas o To encourage some growth and investment at Urban Local Service Centres o To encourage limited growth and investment at Rural Local Service Centres o To allow appropriate development elsewhere
Policy 2 (Infrastructure)	o To identify shortfalls in funding infrastructure for developments o To establish a standard charge approach to developer contributions for infrastructure o To secure developer contributions to enable developments to proceed without significantly worsening infrastructure capacity problems
Policy 3 (Travel)	o To reduce the need to travel and particularly car trips into Preston o To improve opportunities to change modes of travel o To improve the use of public transport o To improve cycleway provision across Central Lancashire o To improve facilities for pedestrians o To improve the road network in key locations and along congested routes

Core Strategy Policy	Expected outcomes
Policy 4 (Housing Delivery)	o To maintain a deliverable supply of land for housing development o To monitor housing land supply and manage future provision o To bring forward mixed use sites o To require all new housing to be built to high standards
Policy 5 (Housing Density)	o To achieve high quality residential design, in terms of the local characteristics of an area, whilst achieving efficient use of land
Policy 6 (Housing Quality)	o Target housing improvements in areas of greatest need and combine with wider regeneration initiatives o To encourage the conversion and reuse of empty homes
Policy 7 (Affordable Housing)	o To seek developers of market housing schemes to provide or otherwise contribute to affordable housing o To require Extra Care housing to be well located in terms of proximity to services
Policy 8 (Gypsy & Traveller & Travelling Showpeople Accommodation)	o To use criteria to guide proposals for pitch accommodation developments
Policy 9 (Economic Growth & Employment)	o To bring forward sufficient land for new employment development in a range of locations appropriate to different uses o To encourage mixed use and live/work developments
Policy 10 (Employment Premises & Sites)	o To use criteria to protect existing and proposed employment land from inappropriate other uses
Policy 11 (Retail & Town Centre Uses & Business based Tourism)	o To deliver a mixed use scheme to facilitate the regeneration of the Tithebarn Regeneration Area of Preston o To encourage other retail, office and leisure uses in Preston City Centre o To maintain and improve the vitality and viability of Chorley and Leyland town centres o To maintain, improve and control the mix of uses in district and local centres o To restrict traditional town centre shopping in out-of-centre retail parks o To provide for tourism in city and town centre locations o To support the creation, enhancement and expansion of tourist attractions and visitor facilities
Policy 12 (Cultural and Entertainment Facilities)	o To protect and increase the provision of appropriate cultural, entertainment and public realm facilities and other assets
Policy 13 (Rural Economy)	o To direct urban related uses to the urban fringe areas o To encourage appropriate new farm buildings o To improve broadband availability in rural areas o To support farm diversification o To allow limited extension and replacement of rural buildings o To control horse related development o To allow needed camping uses on appropriate sites o To encourage visitor facilities for rural attractions
Policy 14 (Education)	o To enable the provision of new and modernised education facilities
Policy 15 (Skills & Economic Inclusion)	o To improve the skills of the working age population o To improve graduate retention
Policy 16 (Heritage Assets)	o To protect and enhance natural and built environmental assets
Policy 17 (Design of New Buildings)	o To achieve better designed new buildings

Core Strategy Policy	Expected outcomes
Policy 18 (Green Infrastructure)	o To manage and improve environmental resources through a Green Infrastructure Approach
Policy 19 (Areas of Separation and Major Open Space)	o To protect the identity and local distinctiveness of specific settlements
Policy 20 (Countryside Management & Access)	o To support the continued development of the Regional Park proposals
Policy 21 (Landscape Character Areas)	o To integrate new developments into existing settlement patterns
Policy 22 (Biodiversity & Geodiversity)	o To conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and ecological networks o To safeguard important geological assets
Policy 23 (Health)	o To improve access to and provision of facilities for primary care and mental health care
Policy 24 (Sport and Recreation)	o To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to access good sport and recreation facilities
Policy 25 (Community Facilities)	o To ensure that local communities have sufficient community facilities
Policy 26 (Crime and Community Safety)	o To help reduce levels of crime and improve community safety
Policy 27 (Sustainable Resources and New Developments)	o To maximise energy efficiency o To require use of decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy o To ensure sufficient storage space is provided for waste recycling
Policy 28 (Renewable & Low Carbon Energy Schemes)	o Contribute to reducing climate change o To support the development of renewable and low carbon energy schemes
Policy 29 (Water Management)	o To reduce sewage and agricultural pollution of rivers and streams o To avoid putting more properties at risk from flooding o To increase the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and Green Infrastructure for flood avoidance/relief
Policy 30 (Air Quality)	o To promote Green Infrastructure o To improve air quality related to traffic congestion pollution
Policy 31 (Agricultural Land)	o To take account of best and most versatile land when considering both agricultural and other development

(Table 2: Core Strategy policies and outcomes)

7. What are the Key Performance Indicators?

Monitoring and review are key aspects of the 'plan, monitor, manage' approach to the preparation of Local Development Frameworks. Continuous monitoring enables an assessment of the effectiveness of the Core Strategy and the policies contained within it in terms of both delivering and controlling various types of development across the district. The Core Strategy Performance Monitoring Framework identifies 13 indicators that cover all 31 policies in the plan. Of these indicators, the following are specific to the identified equality strands:-

- Policy 7 – Affordable Housing - Number of affordable homes built

- Policy 15 - Skills and Economic Inclusion - Working age population qualified to NVQ Level 4 or higher

- Policy 23 – Health – Improving community health

- Policy 17: Design of New Buildings - Higher quality building design

8. Brief Summary of Research and Relevant Data

The EqIA should identify sources of information which will be used to assist in the determination of whether the Core Strategy is likely to have an adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community. In preparing the EqIA, a range of quantitative and qualitative; national and local data sources have been considered to compose a brief profile of each equality grouping.

The following data sources have been considered:

- Census 2001
- Central Lancashire Strategic Housing Market Assessment
- Lancashire Sub Regional Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and Related Services Assessment

The following table provides a brief summary of the different equality groups in Central Lancashire.

Equality Group	Central Lancashire Summary
Age	Information from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (August 2009) indicates that Chorley had a total resident population of 103,775 (a 4.9% increase on the 2001 Census). Population is forecast to increase to 111,582 by 2017. The principal components of change throughout the authority being net natural population change represented by pronounced increases in the 20-34 year old age categories. The older age categories are expected to witness the greatest increases as a proportion of total resident population. According to the 2001 Census, 40.8% of the Chorley population were above the age of 45 years. By 2017, it is expected that this proportion will increase to 47.8%, with the greatest increase of 72.5% in the 65-74 year old age group. Apart from the older age categories, substantial increases are expected in the 20-34 year old age group (13.7%), representing the most economically active and household formation groups, providing the greatest source of demand for new residential development.
	In 2007, Preston had a total resident population of 136,122 persons, representing a 1.7% increase since the last Census in 2001, recording a resident population of 133,803 persons.
	Preston is forecast to see a 4% population increase to 139,101 persons by 2017, representing an increase of 2,979 persons 2007-2017 (CACI). In line with forecast national trends, the older age categories are expected to witness the greatest increases as a proportion of total resident population. According to the 2001 Census 36.4% of the Preston population were above the age of 45 years. By 2017 it is expected that this proportion will increase to 41.0%, with the greatest increase of 21.4% in the 55-64 year old age group. Apart from the older age categories substantial increases are expected in the 20-34 year olds of 21.3% across Preston.
	In 2007, South Ribble had a total resident population of 108,103 persons, representing a 3.0% increase since the last Census in 2001, recording a resident population of 104,936 persons.
	South Ribble is forecast to see an 8.2% population increase to 113,511 persons by 2017; an increase of 5,408. In line with na0tional trend forecasts, the older age categories will experience the greatest increases as a proportion of total resident population. According to the 2001 Census 41.8% of the South Ribble population were above the age of 45 years. By 2017 it is expected that this proportion will increase to 48.5%, with the greatest increase of 48.1% in the 65-74 year old age group. Apart from the older age

Equality Group	Central Lancashire Summary
	categories substantial increases are expected in the 20-34 year olds (18.4%) across South Ribble. The younger age profile of Preston reflects the employment and higher education opportunities within the city. Based in the heart of Preston, the University of Central Lancashire has a staff of 3,000 and attracts more than 32,000 full and part-time students. South Ribble and Chorley record an older age profile reflecting the trend for established households, wealth permitting, to leave urban areas and move to more desirable suburban / rural locations.
Gender	The 2001 Census identifies that within Preston there are slightly more females (66,511) compared to males (63,122). This trend is replicated in South Ribble (53,253 compared to 50,614) and Chorley (50,476 compared to 49,973). This reflects both the regional and national position. There is no data available to reflect a spatial variation within the Borough with regard to gender.
Race	The 2001 Census indicates that ethnic minorities make up only 2% of the population in South Ribble. The largest ethnic minority group are Indians, making up 0.5% of the population. 96.9% of the population were born in the UK, 1.3% was born elsewhere in the European Union, and 1.8% of the population were born outside of the European Union. The 2001 Census for Chorley indicates that 96.4 % of the population were white British, 0.73% white Irish and 0.77% from other white backgrounds. 2.1% of the population belonged to an ethnic group other than white, which was significantly lower than the Lancashire average, which was 5.3%. A range of different groups were represented within the Borough, but the largest in terms of numbers were Indian (0.39%), Pakistani (0.33%), Chinese (0.31%), mixed white and black Caribbean (0.25%) and black Caribbean 0.21%. Preston is a diverse city, although the majority of the non-indigenous people are South Asians, in particular Indians. The ethnic makeup of Preston based on 2007 estimates is as follows (With national average in brackets): 81.9% White British (83.6%), 1.0% White Irish (1.1%), 1.6% Other White (3.5%). 1.6% Mixed Race (1.7%). 8.1% Indian (2.6%), 2.6% Pakistani (1.8%), 0.3% Bangladeshi (0.7%), 0.5% Other South Asian (0.7%). 0.6% Black Caribbean (1.2%), 0.4% Black African (1.4%), 0.1% Other Black (0.2%). 0.8% Chinese (0.8%) and 0.4% Other East Asian and Arab (0.7%). The Lancashire Sub Regional Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and Related Services Assessment revealed that there are no authorised caravan sites located in Chorley or South Ribble, however there are 18 Local Authority caravan sites in Preston. The survey revealed that there are also unauthorised gypsy sites located in Preston. In 2008/09 there were 210 registrations by foreign nationals in Chorley. This was 60 fewer than in the previous year (a decrease of 22%). Most people (80) registering were Polish. The second largest group (20 people) were Hungarian. In 2008/09 there were 200 registrations by foreign nationals in South Ribble. This was 100 fewer than in the previous year (a decrease of 33%). Most people (60) registering were Polish. The second largest groups (20 people in each) were Slovakians and Hungarians. In 2008/09 there were 1,710 registrations by foreign nationals in Preston. This was 340 fewer than in the previous year (a decrease of 17%). Most people (560) registering were Polish. The second largest group (360 people)

Equality Group	Central Lancashire Summary
	were Indian.
Sexual Orientation	The 2001 Census indicates that 0.18%, 0.13% and 0.14% of people in Preston, Chorley and South Ribble were identified as living in a same sex couple, compared to 0.16% regionally and 0.19% nationally.
Religion or Belief	The 2001 Census indicates that 84.7% of the South Ribble population are Christians and 8.7% have no religion. The remainder of the population is composed of Buddhist (0.1%), Hindu (0.4%), Muslim (0.3%), and other (0.1%). 5.6% of respondents indicated that they have no religion. Chorley Borough has a diverse community and a variety of faiths are represented. According to the 2001 Census 84% of the population were Christian, 9.1% had no religion, 5.6% did not state a religion, 0.6% Muslim, 0.2% Buddhist and 0.2% Hindu. The 2001 Census recorded 71.5% of the Preston population as Christians, 9.8% as having no religion, and 8.2% as Muslims. The Hindu and Sikh populations are smaller at 2.6% and 0.6% respectively, but in both cases this represents the highest percentage of any local authority area in the North West. 1.8% of the city's population was born in other EU countries. Though still small in number in Preston, the Mormons (officially known as members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - LDS for short) maintain a large profile.
Disability	The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2009) identifies the housing needs arising from limiting long term illness (LLTI) or disability. In Chorley 17.2% of households with no older members contain at least one person with a limiting long term illness or disability compared with 43% of older person households. In Preston the corresponding comparison is 23.6% and 47.8% and South Ribble is 21.4% and 42.1%. 39.5% of people living in an older person household have a LLTI or disability in Chorley have a physical disability, 15.3% have a hearing impairment and 12.6% have an age related illness. In Preston 51.3% have a physical disability, 19.5% a hearing impairment and 9.8% an age related illness. In South Ribble 44% have a physical disability, 19.5% a hearing impairment and 9.8% an age related illness.

<div align="right">(Table 3: Research and relevant data)</div>

9. Methods and Outcome of Consultation

Extensive consultation has been carried out as part of the plan making process. The approach has been consistent with proposals set out in the South Ribble, Preston and Chorley Statements of Community Involvement and have adhered to requirements set out in Town and County Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Planning Act 2008, and Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12).

Community engagement on the emerging Core Strategy has taken place during the following consultation stages, helping to guide the development of the document:

- Issues and Options (November 2006)
- Second Issues and Options (November 2007)
- Preferred Core Strategy (September 2008)
- Publication Core Strategy (November 2010)

The Preferred Core Strategy comments form contained an Equality/Diversity Monitoring Form in order to assess whether the community engagement process was reaching all sectors of the community. Of the formal responses received, 28 (about a quarter of the total) were

accompanied by a completed Equality/Diversity Monitoring Form. The relatively low number of responses may be partly explained by the fact that a large proportion of consultation responses were from planning consultants and formal organisations that tend not to use the standard comments form.

The completed Equality/Diversity Monitoring Forms revealed the following:-

- 68% of respondents were male
- 53% of respondents were over the age of 50, with the age group breakdown as follows:
  - 16-24: 11%
  - 25-29: 8%
  - 30-39: 11%
  - 40-49: 17%
  - 50-59: 32%
  - 60+: 21%
- Of the 28 completed forms, the following racial groups were recorded
  - White: British:24
  - White: any other: 1
  - Mixed: White and Black Caribbean: 1
  - Gypsies and Irish travellers:1
  - Other:1
- 4 of the respondents considered themselves disabled

The Publication Core Strategy document draws on information contained within policies and strategies across a wide range of services. Each Local Strategic Partnership produces the Sustainable Community Strategy for each of the three Central Lancashire Councils. The LSP includes representatives from key community and social organisations. Their involvement in producing the document means that the final Core Strategy reflects the priorities and strategies of these other organisations.

The Core Strategy policies have also been informed by other evidence and key data relating to particular community groups. The Central Lancashire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (August 2009) sets out statistical information and recommendations relating to the housing needs of various groups in Central Lancashire. The Community Profile Study (July 2008), the Central Lancashire Retail and Leisure Study (March 2010), and the Employment Land Review (April 2009) are key pieces of evidence that provide background information. The results of the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal process have also informed policy development in relation to sustainability issues.

The full extent of the consultation methods used to engage the community are set out in the Statement of Compliance. The table below provides a short summary of the consultation methods which were either directly targeted at individual groups or where a consultation method used to target the wider community may have indirectly benefited a particular equality group.

Equality Group	Consultation Method
Age	All documents were made available on the website, in the Council Offices and local libraries. A variety of media formats (Radio, newspaper advertisements and Local Authority newsletters) were used, aimed at targeting various age groups. A plain English summary document was provided at the Preferred Options consultation stage. The consultation database is comprised of a broad cross section of age groups. All of these groups were consulted as part of the plan preparation process.
Gender	Specific organisations were identified and consultation letters were sent to them to request comments.

Equality Group	Consultation Method
Race	All Core Strategy documents were offered in a variety of different language formats.
Sexual Orientation	N/A
Religion or Belief	Representatives of faith groups were invited to public meetings and exhibitions. Although turn out was low, the attendance of those that did turn up participated in discussions fully. Faith venues were identified and used e.g. Gujarati Centre to publicise the various stages of the evolving Core Strategy.
Disability	All documents were made available on the website, in the Council Offices and local libraries. All documents were offered by the Councils in audio and Braille formats upon request. All documents on the website are available in large format print All Equality Forum events were held in accessible buildings or areas.

(Table 4: Consultation Methods)

The Core Strategy production process has incorporated two targeted consultation events with key groups in the community. A Voluntary Sector event was held on the 4th November 2008. Despite there being a number of people invited to the event, there were only two representatives from the Preston Faith Forum and the Preston Muslim Forum.

A joint Local Strategic Partnerships event was held on the 14th November 2008 and 45 people were in attendance. Relevant to the various equality stands were representatives from the following organisations:-

- Age Concern Lancashire
- Chorley and South Ribble Council for Voluntary Service
- Chorley Pensioners Association
- Central Lancashire Primary Care Trust
- Lancashire College
- Older Peoples Forum
- Older peoples Partnership Board
- Preston Faith Forum
- Vice Chair, Preston Strategic Partnership
- Youth Council

10. Results of the EqIA Screening:

The Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy Publication Version contains a strategic vision, objectives and policies (which aim to deliver the vision and objectives). The following assessment outlines the key characteristics of each individual policy within the Joint Core Strategy and summarises whether there is potential for the policy to have an adverse impact on each of the equality strands recognised previously in this report.

The following questions have been considered in order to evaluate the various equality groups:-

Gender – Is there any concern that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of gender? Including men, women and transgender people.

Race – Is there any concern that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of race? All ethnic groups recognised under the Race Relations Act including Asian, Black, East

Asian and white minority ethnic groups, including Eastern Europeans, Irish people and Gypsy Travellers

Disability – Are there any concerns that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of disability? All forms of disability recognised under the Disability Discrimination Act including sensory impairment, mental health, learning disabilities, mobility related conditions, conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and asthma.

Age – Is there any concern that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of age? All age groups.

Sexual Orientation – Is there any concern that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of sexuality? Including heterosexual, gay, lesbian and bisexual people.

Religion or belief – Is there any concern that this policy could cause differential impact on the grounds of religion or faith? All faiths including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and non religious beliefs such as Humanism.

A commentary has been provided for each policy where appropriate.

The appraisal will utilise the following symbols to identify the potential impact of each policy on each equality group.

Symbol	Impact
+	Positive
O	Neutral / Negligible
-	Negative
N/A	Not applicable
P	Potential issue

Policy	Equalities Group						Commentary
	Age	Gender	Race	Sexual Orientation	Religion or belief	Disability	
Policy 1 – Locating Growth ○ *To concentrate growth and investment on brownfield sites, Preston City Centre, Key Service Centres and other main urban areas* ○ *To encourage some growth and investment at Urban Local Service Centres* ○ *To encourage limited growth and investment at Rural Local Service Centres* ○ *To allow appropriate development elsewhere*	*P -* */* *P+*	*O*	*P –* */* *P+*	*O*	*P –* */* *P+*	*P –* */* *P+*	• For some Equalities Groups this policy reveals potential negative and positive impacts; this is due to the location of certain groups within different areas of Central Lancashire having access to different services based on their actual locations. To mitigate against any potential negatives, a recommendation for EqIA's to be carried out at localised/project delivery level is needed, this will also help to monitor any future effects. • Rural deprivation could be an issue, i.e. access to public transport / services. • Scope to align community transport with developments – relevant officers need to remain in dialogue. • Housing developments need to take into account the appropriateness of the local market, e.g. in an area with an acutely ageing population, ground floor access is important. • Any major developments need to recognise the importance of religious buildings, both in determining sites and marketing completed projects. • Broadband access is increasingly important as a means of communication, particularly with older or vulnerable people.

Policy	Equalities Group						Commentary
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							• However note Policy 13 – Rural Economy, includes improved broadband facilities and is screened as a potential positive effect. • If any developments are likely to incur significant immigration, relevant stakeholders e.g. churches need to be proactively engaged.
Policy 2 – Delivering Infrastructure ○ *To identify shortfalls in funding infrastructure for developments* *To establish a standard charge approach to developer contributions for infrastructure* ○ *To secure developer contributions to enable developments to proceed without significantly worsening infrastructure capacity problems*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	• This has the potential for a strong positive local impact. • Scope to engage with specific groups to inform investment, e.g. Preston LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Group
Policy 3 – Catering for Sustainable Travel ○ *To reduce the need to travel and particularly car trips into Preston* ○ *To improve opportunities to change modes of travel* ○ *To improve the use of public transport* ○ *To improve cycleway provision across Central Lancashire* ○ *To improve facilities for pedestrians* ○ *To improve the road network in key locations and along congested routes*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	• This has the potential to change behaviours, with a positive local impact, e.g. walking buses promote cohesion. • Secure public bicycle storage makes cycling to work more accessible. • Individual travel plans for each employment site will need to consider equality issues, e.g. shower facilities. • Park and ride networks are a positive for disabled or mobility impaired people. • Community groups need to be engaged and consulted with on about transport provision and how needs are balanced, e.g. late night buses may promote safety, but can create noise nuisance if stopping points are inappropriate. • Communication of travel options needs to be considered to generate interest and take up – car travel is almost always

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							the easiest option.
Policy 4 - Housing Delivery o *To maintain a deliverable supply of land for housing development* o *To monitor housing land supply and manage future provision* o *To bring forward mixed use sites* o *To require all new housing to be built to high standards* **Policy 5 - Housing Density** o *To achieve high quality residential design, in terms of the local characteristics of an area, whilst achieving efficient use of land* **Policy 6 - Housing Quality** o *Target housing improvements in areas of greatest need and combine with wider regeneration initiatives* o *To encourage the conversion and reuse of empty homes* **Policy 7 - Affordable Housing** o *To seek developers of market housing schemes to provide or otherwise contribute to affordable housing* o *To require Extra Care housing to be well located in terms of proximity to services*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	• New properties need to be appropriately sized for the local market, and wherever possible, adaptable in their internal structure. • Mixed developments, i.e. house, flats, bungalows promote cohesion. • Current guidelines are that in developments of more than 15 properties, 30% should be affordable in urban areas, and up to 35% affordable in rural areas. • Local demographic information should be used to inform developments, both in terms of providing for the existing local market, and attracting new residents / visitors.
Policy 8 - Gypsy & Traveller & Travelling Showpeople Accommodation o *To use criteria to guide proposals for pitch accommodation developments*	*P +*	*O*	*P +*	*O*	*P +*	*P +*	• Individual needs of member communities need to be identified – can differ greatly. • Requirements in local services need to be considered, e.g. schools, doctors and dentists.

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							• Cohesion opportunities can be identified as part of planning pitch developments. • Impact on the wider community needs to be considered. • Communication and engagement with both Gypsy and Traveller and travelling show people communities and local communities is vital.
Policy 9 - Economic Growth & Employment o *To bring forward sufficient land for new employment development in a range of locations appropriate to different uses* o *To encourage mixed use and live/work developments* **Policy 10 - Employment Premises & Sites** o *To use criteria to protect existing and proposed employment land from inappropriate other uses*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*O*	*P +*	*P +*	• Borough profile data could be used to show the local labour market / inform the appropriateness of employment opportunities. • Local residents should be engaged and informed with the locations of new sites – each should be impact assessed. • Access to employment & transport need to be considered.
Policy 11 - Retail & Town Centre Uses & Business based Tourism o *To deliver a mixed use scheme to facilitate the regeneration of the Tithebarn Regeneration Area of Preston* o *To encourage other retail, office and leisure uses in Preston City Centre* o *To maintain and improve the vitality and viability Chorley and Leyland town centres* o *To maintain, improve and control the mix of uses in district and local centres* o *To restrict traditional town centre*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	• Local residents should be engaged and informed with the locations of new sites – each should be impact assessed. • Access & transport need to be considered. • The night time economy needs to be age appropriate for the local area.

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shopping in out-of-centre retail parks o *To provide for tourism in city and town centre locations* o *To support the creation, enhancement and expansion of tourist attractions and visitor facilities*							
Policy 12 - Cultural and Entertainment Facilities o *To protect and increase the provision of appropriate cultural, entertainment and public realm facilities and other assets*							
Policy 13 - Rural Economy o *To direct urban related uses to the urban fringe areas* o *To encourage appropriate new farm buildings* o *To improve broadband availability in rural areas* o *To support farm diversification* o *To allow limited extension and replacement of rural buildings* o *To control horse related development* o *To allow needed camping uses on appropriate sites* o *To encourage visitor facilities for rural attractions*	*O / P +*	*O / P +*	*O / P +*	*O*	*O / P +*	*O / P +*	• Broadband access is increasingly important as a means of communication, particularly with older or vulnerable people. • Rural deprivation could be an issue, i.e. access to public transport / services. • Needs of communities need to be identified, and developments individually impact assessed.
Policy 14 - Education o *To enable the provision of new and modernised education facilities which meet the needs of the range of people in the community.*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	*P +*	• It is important that work in this area includes all sections of the community, and that presumptions are not made about educational or working ages. • Student accommodation can create cohesion issues, as

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Policy 15 - Skills & Economic Inclusion o *To improve the skills of the population* o *To improve graduate retention*							houses / flats are only lived in during term time. There could be scope to make better use of housing stock, or co-locate community assets.
Policy 16 - Heritage Assets o *To protect and enhance natural and built environmental assets*	O	O	O	O	O	O	
Policy 17 - Design of New Buildings o *To achieve better designed new buildings that meet the needs of all sections of the community.*	P +	O	O	O	O	P +	• All developments will need to be individually impact assessed to ensure that the needs of communities have been identified and considered.
Policy 18 - Green Infrastructure o *To manage & improve environmental resources through a Green Infrastructure Approach* **Policy 19 - Areas of Separation and Major Open Space** o *To protect the identity and local distinctiveness of specific settlements* **Policy 20 - Countryside Management & Access** o *To support the continued development of the Regional Park proposals*	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Generally speaking, green and open spaces promote cohesion. • Accessibility to facilities needs to be considered, e.g. proximity to transport routes, wheelchair access, lighting and security. • Potential to positively impact on the health and well being of all sections of the community.
Policy 21 - Landscape Character Areas o *To integrate new developments into existing settlement patterns* **Policy 22 - Biodiversity & Geodiversity** o *To conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and ecological networks* o *To safeguard important geological assets*	O	O	O	O	O	O	
Policy 23 - Health							• Deprivation and health inequality are intrinsically linked – an

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o To improve access to and provision of facilities for primary care and mental health care	+	+	+	+	+	+	inclusive policy would potentially be beneficial for all.
Policy 24 - Sport and Recreation o To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to access good sport and recreation facilities	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Policy 25 - Community Facilities o To ensure that local communities have sufficient community facilities	P +	P +	P +	P +	P +	P +	• Facilities at the 'heart of the community', e.g. family friendly activities, drop in services and a meeting point or hub would all support cohesion.
Policy 26 - Crime and Community Safety o To help reduce levels of crime and improve community safety	+	+	+	+	+	+	• All positive – cohesive communities are safe, happy, confident communities.
Policy 27 - Sustainable Resources and New Developments o To maximise energy efficiency o To require use of decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy o To ensure sufficient storage space is provided for waste recycling	O	O	O	O	O	O	• No specific impact on any one group
Policy 28 - Renewable & Low Carbon Energy Schemes o Contribute to reducing climate change o To support the development of renewable and low carbon energy schemes							
Policy 29 - Water Management o To reduce sewage and agricultural pollution of rivers and streams o To avoid putting more properties at risk from flooding							

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o *To increase the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and Green Infrastructure for flood avoidance/relief*							
Policy 30 - Air Quality o *To promote Green Infrastructure* o *To improve air quality related to traffic congestion pollution*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	
Policy 31 - Agricultural Land o *To take account of best and most versatile land when considering both agricultural and other development*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	*O*	