

Appendix 3 - Equality Impact Assessment

Initial Impact Assessment

Service Area: Policy Culture and Communications	Section: Policy	Key person responsible for the assessment: Sebastian Johnson (with advice from Jarlath Brine)	Date of Assessment: 24 October 2012
Name of the document to be assessed: Oxford Super Connected Cities Bid and Plan (Urban Broadband Fund Phase 2)			
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the bid	<p>The bid is to fund ultrafast broadband and wireless infrastructure in the city centre and areas of the city where market failure exists and existing infrastructure will not be upgraded without public sector “gap” funding.</p> <p>The bid is focused on economic benefits through enabling SME’s and businesses to benefit from ultrafast broadband and social benefits which enable residents to benefit from ultrafast broadband</p> <p>Two key issues with respect to equality impact assessment in the plan are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To ensure our significant base of socially deprived communities (which are at risk of falling outside commercial market rollout) can engage in the new more flexible learning and employment opportunities which depend on high-speed fixed and wireless infrastructure 2. To deliver new and improved public services using ultrafast broadband infrastructure. This will achieve a step change in the quality, accessibility and cost-effectiveness of a wide range of services, from education, health and social care. 		

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<p>2. Who is intended to benefit from the bid and in what way</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of spend is on Fibre to the Premise upgrade to city core and areas of business clusters, currently not getting or planned to be able to access ultrafast services. • Project will ensure Ultrafast broadband is available to 96% (up from 76%) of businesses and 89% (up from 84%) of residents. • Wireless solution is also planned for the city centre initially, as it is more commercially viable due to footfall, with plan to expand into wider parts of Oxford through working closely with eventual telecoms partner. • Business support aspect is integral to project to ensure businesses realise benefit and support start-ups – this is expected to integrate into the Oxonline and LEP lead projects to ensure consistency and efficiencies are realised.
<p>3. What outcomes are wanted from this bid?</p> <p>Increased broadband speeds across the city Wireless infrastructure to create a wireless city centre Economic competitiveness with other cities nationally and globally Access to Ultrafast broadband for as many business and residents as possible</p>	
<p>4. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure with the bid 2. Withdrawal of commitment of matched funding from partners 3. Change of Government policy and cancellation of funding 4. Partners withdrawing support for the bid.

5. Who are the key partners in relation to the bid?	City Council County Council Local Enterprise Partnership University of Oxford Oxford Brookes University Oxfordshire Business First ProOxford Group Oxford and Cherwell Valley College	6. Who is responsible for the bid and who will lead the project if successful?	The bid id lead by Oxford City Council (Officers from Policy Team, Economic Development and Corporate Assetts have been involved) Lead partners are the County Council (Broadband Team) The bid was Coordinated and led by the Strategic Policy and Partnership Officer. If successful a project board lead by the City Council will be convened with County Council, University and business representation to deliver the project
7. Could the bid have a differential impact on racial groups?		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
8. Could the bid have a differential impact due to gender?		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
9. Could the bid have a differential impact due disability		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
10. Could the bid have a differential impact on people due to sexual orientation?		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered

11. Could the bid have a differential impact on people due to their age		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
12. Could the bid have a differential impact on people due to their religious belief?		No	No. If successful the bid will provide funding for infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
13. Could the negative impact identified in 7-12 create the potential for the bid to discriminate against certain groups?		No	<p>Please explain</p> <p>No – No negative impacts identified have been identified.</p>
14. Can this negative impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason		No	<p>Please explain for each equality heading (question 8-13) on a separate piece of paper</p> <p>There are no negative impacts identified.</p> <p>A full impact assessment will be necessary if through monitoring the plan gaps in service, negative trends emerge or if there are significant changes in resources.</p>
15. Are there implications for the Service Plans?	YES if the bid is successful the work will need to be inserted into service plans	16. Date the Service Plan will be updated	The Plan will be updated December 2012