

Appendix 3 - Equality Impact Assessment

Equality 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: 2 September 2013
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 project	The project bid is to deliver ultrafast broadband vouchers targeted at SMEs and wireless infrastructure across the city of Oxford. The project is focused on economic benefits through enabling SME's and businesses to benefit from ultrafast broadband and social benefits which enable providers of services to benefit from ultrafast broadband Two key issues with respect to equality impact assessment for the project is: 1. 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. 2. Ensure all businesses and residents where appropriate have equal access to the potential benefits of the project 3. 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. Who is intended to benefit from the project and in what way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of spend is on vouchers to support connection to ultrafast broadband (fibre) • Project will ensure Ultrafast broadband is available to increased numbers of premises in the city • Wireless solution is also planned for the city (priority areas of city centre, Cowley Road, Headington and Banbury Road 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 Oxfordshire Better Broadband Project and LEP lead projects to ensure consistency and efficiencies are realised.
3. What outcomes are wanted from this project? Increased ultrafast broadband connections across the city Wireless infrastructure to create a wireless city Economic competitiveness with other cities nationally and globally Access to Ultrafast broadband for as many business and residents as possible	
4. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to secure the Govt funding 2. Change of Government policy and cancellation of funding 4. Partners withdrawing support for the project.

5. Who are the key partners in relation to the project?	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 Project and who will lead the project?	<p>The bid for funding was made by Oxford City Council (Officers from Policy Team, Economic Development and Corporate Assets have been involved) Lead partners are the County Council (Broadband Team)</p> <p>The bid was Coordinated and led by the Strategic Policy and Partnership Officer.</p> <p>The project delivery will be undertaken by the City Council. A project board led by the City Council has been convened with County Council, University and Government representation to deliver the project</p>
7. Could the project have a differential impact on racial groups?		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
8. Could the project have a differential impact due to gender?		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
9. Could the project have a differential impact due disability		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered
10. Could the project have a differential impact on people due to sexual orientation?		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered

11. Could the project have a differential impact on people due to their age		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered	
12. Could the project have a differential impact on people due to their religious belief?		No	No. The funding secured will provide infrastructure improvements that will benefit all in the areas covered	
13. Could the negative impact identified in 7-12 create the potential for the project to discriminate against certain groups?		No	Please explain No – No negative impacts identified have been identified.	
14. Can this negative impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason		No	Please explain for each equality heading (question 8-13) on a separate piece of paper There are no negative impacts identified.	
15. Are there implications for the Service Plans?	The project will be inserted into service plans		16. Date the Service Plan will be updated	The Plan will be updated November 2013