



Form to be used for the initial assessment

535

Service Area: Environmental Development	Section: Health Development	Key person responsible for the assessment: Ian Wright	Date of Assessment: 24/2/2012	
Is this assessment in the Corporate Equality Impact assessment Timetable?			Yes	No
Name of the Service/Policy to be assessed: Environmental Development Enforcement Policy			Is this a new or existing Service/ policy	Existing
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the policy		The enforcement policy provides guidance to officers, businesses and the public about how Oxford City Council's Environmental Development Service carries out its enforcement activities consistently, proportionately, without fear or favour, minimises personal prejudices, etc.		

<p>2. Are there any associated objectives of the policy, please explain</p>	<p>Achieve regulatory compliance and to ensure that the health, safety, wellbeing and environment of Oxford's residents, visitors, employees and employers are protected and improved wherever possible.</p>		
<p>3. Who is intended to benefit from the policy and in what way</p>	<p>Oxford's residents, visitors, employees and employers, i.e. everyone who lives, works or visits Oxford.</p>		
<p>4. What outcomes are wanted from this policy?</p>	<p>Strong, proportionate, consistent enforcement that complies with statutory guidance is in the public interest. Enforcement is perceived to be proportionate, fair and without discrimination.</p>		
<p>5. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?</p>	<p>Over-zealous enforcement. Poor communication of policy and its application.</p>		
<p>6. Who are the key people in relation to the policy?</p>	<p>All staff in Environmental Development Service who carry out enforcement duties</p>	<p>7. Who implements the policy and who is responsible for the policy?</p>	<p>Ian Wright – implements John Copley – responsible officer</p>

536

8. Could the policy have a differential impact on racial groups?		<u>NO</u>	Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and all racial groups are able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on racial grounds. Service users from different racial groups will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance.
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.		
9. Could the policy have a differential impact on people due to their gender?		<u>NO</u>	Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and all genders are able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on the basis of gender. Service users from different genders will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance.
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.		
10. Could the policy have a differential impact on people due to their disability?		<u>NO</u>	Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and everybody is able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on the grounds of disability. Service users from disabled and non-disabled groups will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance. .
What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.		

<p>11. Could the policy have a differential impact on people due to their sexual orientation?</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and everybody, regardless of their sexual orientation is able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on the grounds of their sexual orientation. Service users from different sexually orientated groups will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance.</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.</p>		
<p>12. Could the policy have a differential impact on people due to their age?</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and everybody, regardless of their age is able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on the grounds of their age. Service users of different ages will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance.</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.</p>		
<p>13. Could the policy have a differential impact on people due to their religious belief?</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>Compliance with national law applies equally to everyone and everybody, regardless of their religious belief is able to comply with the law without it being to their detriment on the grounds of their religious beliefs. Service users from different religious beliefs will not be disadvantaged by enforcement activities ensuring legal compliance.</p>
<p>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</p>	<p>The Environmental Development service enforces national legislation that has been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny. Dutyholders have a right to legal redress should they feel that an enforcement decision was unfairly/unlawfully taken; this can be via the Council's Complaints system, an appeal process, or at a court hearing. Service users can use the Council's Complaints system if they believe we have failed to adequately enforce the law.</p>		

538

<p>14. Could the negative impact identified in 8-13 create the potential for the policy to discriminate against certain groups?</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>Please explain None were identified</p>		
<p>15. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group? Or any other reason</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>Please explain for each equality heading (question 8-13) on a separate piece of paper</p>		
<p>16. Should the policy proceed to a partial impact assessment</p>		<p><u>NO</u></p>	<p>If Yes, is there enough evidence to proceed to a full EIA</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>N</p>
			<p>Date on which Partial or Full impact assessment to be completed by</p>		
<p>17. Are there implications for the Service Plans?</p>		<p><u>YES</u></p>	<p>Collect and collate data on enforcement activity and compare with comments and activities.</p>		
<p>18. Date the Service Plan will be updated</p>			<p>Following approval of the Policy.</p>		
<p>19. Date copy sent to Equalities Officer in Policy, Performance and Communication</p>					

539

<p>20. Date reported to Equalities Board:</p>	<p>N/A</p>		<p>Date to Scrutiny and EB</p>	<p>4/4/2012</p>	<p>21. Date published</p>	
------------------------------------------------------	------------	--	---------------------------------------	-----------------	----------------------------------	--

Signed (completing officer)_ 

Signed (Lead Officer) _____

Please list the team members and service areas that were involved in this process:

Ian Wright - Health Development Service Manager

Environmental Development