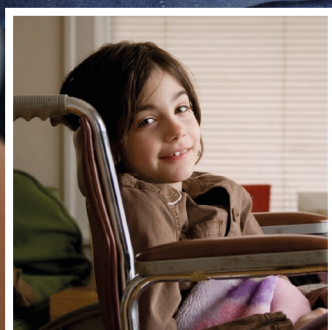


Equality Impact Assessment Delivery and Allocations Local Plan

(incorporating Partial Review of the Core Strategy)
April 2019



HALTON LOCAL PLAN 2014-2037

Assessment	Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Submission Draft
New or Existing Document?	New
Compiled by	A. Moyers & S. Semoff
Date of screening	April 2019

Strategic Director (Enterprise, Resources and Communities)
Halton Borough Council
Municipal Building
Kingsway
Widnes
WA8 7QF

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Operational Director
 Enterprise, Resources and Communities,
 Planning Policy
 Halton Borough Council
 2nd Floor Municipal Building
 Kingsway
 Widnes
 WA8 7QF

Equality Impact Assessment

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Equalities Review (2007) says that *“an equal society protects and promotes equal, real freedom and opportunity to live in the way people value and would choose, so that everyone can flourish. An equal society recognises people’s different needs, situations and goals, and removes the barriers that limit what people can do and be”*.
- 1.2 To ensure the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Scoping Document contributes to an equal society, an initial Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been used to highlight the likely impact of the DALP Policies on different groups, and to show how the needs of such groups have been taken into account in relation to the development of the policies. By doing this, policies will be improved, such that areas of discrimination are eliminated and the needs of Halton’s communities are better served.
- 1.3 The need for an EqIA to be undertaken stems from the duty placed on Public Authorities to eliminate unlawful discrimination in carrying out their function, and promoting equality of access and opportunity for all communities. Local Authorities are also specifically required to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and how they promote equality in all aspects of strategic decision making and service provision. The Borough’s Corporate Equality Scheme 2016-2018 highlights the importance of equality being mainstreamed in the delivery of all Council services. EqIA’s are considered the best way to do this. The Equality Act (2010) brings disability, sex, race and other grounds of discrimination within one piece of legislation. In order to ensure this protection the Act also introduced, in April 2011, the public sector equality duty, incorporating general and specific duties on Local Authorities. Under the general duty a public authority must, in carrying out its functions have regard to the need to:
- a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conflict that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
 - b. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
 - c. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
 - d. This applies to all protected groups.
- 1.4 This assessment approach reflects the advice in the following paragraphs of the National Planning Policy Framework:

To deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, local planning authorities should plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older

people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes). (Paragraph 50)

The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Local planning authorities should create a shared vision with communities of the residential environment and facilities they wish to see. To support this, local planning authorities should aim to involve all sections of the community in the development of Local Plans. (Paragraph 69)

Early and meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods, local organisations and businesses is essential. A wide section of the community should be proactively engaged, so that Local Plans, as far as possible, reflect a collective vision. (Paragraph 155)

2. The Approach and Structure of the Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The Scoping version of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) EqIA follows a similar approach and structure to that set out in national guidance and particularly the guidance from the Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government (IDeA)¹. A brief summary is included below.

Stage 1: Initial Screening

- 2.2 Initial screening of all new or revised policies, strategies, procedures and functions should determine whether or not it is necessary to carry out a full EqIA. This is based on whether the area of work will have the potential to cause adverse impacts or discriminate against different groups in the community described in the Act as protected characteristics.
- 2.3 Due to the scope of the Revised Core Strategy Policies and the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan there may be potential to cause adverse impacts or to discriminate against different groups. It was therefore considered appropriate to carry out an EqIA screening of the Revised Core Strategy Policies and DALP document.

Stage 2: Scoping and Defining

- 2.4 Different perspectives and experiences are used in undertaking an EqIA. As a result the team involved in the Core Strategy Local Plan production employed technical expertise and specialist knowledge from across the Council divisions including:
- Environmental and Regulatory Services;
 - Children and Young People;
 - Adults and Community;
 - Major Projects; and,
 - Policy and Strategy;

Stage 3: Information Gathering

- 2.5 Stage 3 of the assessment aims to identify the sources of information which will be used to assist in the determination of whether the Revised Core Strategy policies and the DALP is likely to have an adverse impact or discriminate against different groups. The information used for this stage of the EqIA has drawn upon a wide evidence base including:
- Census data 2001 and 2011
 - National and Local Statistics
 - Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), (2015)
 - Halton Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), (2015)
 - Halton State of the Borough Report, (2010)

¹ IDeA (2009) The EqIA Process: Six-Step Guide, available at: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=8017502>

- Halton's Economic Profile, (2015)

2.6 Using the information gathered from the sources listed above, section 3 provides some base-line information on the different protected characteristic focused upon in this assessment.

Stage 4: Making a Judgement

2.7 This stage is used to decide whether or not there is potential for a strategy or policy to result in a less favourable outcome or discrimination of any kind on any group in a community.

2.8 As the DALP publication document contains numerous policies dealing with a diversity of topics, this stage has been broken into two parts. The first part of the assessment (section 5) focuses on the individual policies and the second part (section 6) assesses the policies in combination, summarising the effects of the revised Core Strategy policies and the DALP publication document.

Stage 5: Action Planning

2.9 The real value of completing an EqlA comes from the actions that will take place and the positive changes that will emerge through conducting the assessment. A recommendations section has been included in section 8.

Stage 6: Publication and Review

2.10 It is recommended best practice to publish EqlA to ensure transparency. It is also important to show the local community that the Council is actively engaged and committed to challenging potential discrimination, as well as improving its service delivery in relation to equalities.

2.11 The Council will be consulting on the contents of this EqlA at the same time as it is inviting representations on the DALP publication document, from 25th July to 19th September 2019 Any comments on this assessment can be returned:

Online at: www.halton.gov.uk

By emailing: forward.planning@halton.gov.uk

In writing to: Operational Director
Enterprise Communities and Resources Directorate,
Policy, Planning and Transportation
Halton Borough Council
2nd Floor Municipal Building
Kingsway
Widnes
WA8 7QF

3. Protected Characteristic

3.1 The EqIA focuses on specific protected characteristics in the Borough and includes:

- Race and Ethnicity;
- Gender;
- Disability;
- Sexual Orientation;
- Transgender;
- Age;
- Religion/Belief;
- Marital/Civil Partnerships status; and,
- Pregnancy/Maternity

In Halton two further vulnerable groups have been identified: -

- Socio Economic Disadvantage; and
- Carers

3.2 It should be acknowledged through the EqIA that these groups are not homogeneous. People within these equality groups may have different and individual needs and many of the members of one group may also be members of several groups. Additionally, the implementation of the policies within the DALP will have an impact on Halton's communities as a whole and not just those identified in the different protected characteristic.

3.3 The table below (Table 1) presents some baseline information on the different protected characteristics focused upon in this EqIA.

Table 1: Protected Characteristics within Halton	
Protected Characteristic	Explanation/Comments
Race & Ethnicity	• The 2011 census showed that Halton at that time had a low proportion of people from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups, 2% of the total population. This compares to the England average of 14.5%. • Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are recognised ethnic minority groups. In the North West these groups are identified as having less access to healthcare, are less well supported by unemployment services and suffer from educational exclusion.² As at July 2015 Halton had 64 Gypsy and Traveller Caravans³.

² NWDA (2005) North West Action for Equality Report.

³ CLG (2015) Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/traveller-caravan-count>)

Gender	- Gender is essentially balanced in Halton with 51% of residents being female and 49% male. - Research⁴ shows that women are likely to spend more time in and around the home and the local community.
Disability	- Although there is no single measure of the proportion of the population with a disability, the 2011 census identified that 11.6% of the population in Halton indicated that they had a limiting illness. This is slightly higher than the average for England which is 8.3%. - The overall pattern shows a strong relationship between levels of learning disability with areas of deprivation in Halton.
Sexual Orientation Transgender	Although there are no definite statistics about sexuality, the Government estimates that between 5 and 7% of the population are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. More recent data⁵ from the Integrated Household Survey⁶ puts the figure lower. The 2010/11 survey states that 1.5% of adults in the UK identified themselves as Gay/Lesbian or Bisexual. This equals the 2011 Census.
Age	- At present Halton has a younger population profile than the national and regional averages. However, Halton mirrors the national picture of an ageing population, with projections indicating that the population of the Borough will age at a faster rate than the national average. - Halton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment⁷ states that in 1996 12.9% of the total population were aged 65 and over, by 2006 this had increased to nearly 14% and by 2015 this is projected to have increased to 17%. - The assessment also identifies that in Halton almost 6,000 adults live alone and it is projected by 2025 that over 8,500 pensioners will be living alone. - The Mid-Mersey Strategic Housing Market Assessment (Jan 2016) projects a 198% increase in the numbers of people aged 85+ between 2014 and 2037.⁸
Religion/Belief	- The community in Halton is made up of a number of different religions and beliefs. - Over recent years there has been a growth in realisation that faith communities may play a vital role in building community networks⁹.
Carers	As the elderly population in Halton increases there is also predicted to be a steady increase in the number of carers. The Halton JSNA (2014) indicates an increased demand for services to support carers in Halton.

⁴ DCLG (2004) Planning and Diversity: Research into policies

⁵ Aspinall PJ (2009) Estimating the size and composition of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual population in Britain Equality and Human Rights Commission

⁶ ONS (2011) Integrated Household Survey April 2010 to March 2011 : Experimental Statistics

⁷ Halton Borough Council (2014), Health and Wellbeing in Halton 2014: Halton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Summary of Findings, available at: <http://www.haltonchildrenstrust.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Childrens-JSNA-Chapter-2-Population-profile.pdf>

⁸ GL Hearn (2016) Mid-Mersey Strategic Housing Market Assessment

⁹ CLG (2004) Planning and Diversity: Research into Policies and Procedures, available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/planningdiversity>

Marital Status/Civil Partnerships	- The 2011 Census data reveals that 45.4% of Halton's residents are single, 34.2% are married, 1.8% is separated (but still legally married) and 5.2% are re-married. Compared to the regional and national figures Halton has a slightly higher percentage of single people. - The 2011 Census identifies a very small percentage of people aged over 16 were in a same-sex relationship, only 0.1% of Halton's residents. This is similar to regional (0.16%) and national (0.2%) figures. Data is also available from ONS on the number of civil partnerships formed in Halton.
Pregnancy/Maternity	- The Office for National Statistics provides vital statistical information (including births) down to ward level on an annual basis. The data shows that there were 1,556 live births in Halton in 2014, compared to 1,597 in 2013, 1,661 in 2012, 1,571 in 2011 and 1,667 in 2010. - In line with the birth statistics, ONS also provide numbers of teenage conceptions at local authority level. The latest ONS data for quarter 3, 2012 shows Halton is reducing its teenage conceptions. Halton has seen a 25.9% reduction in rate from 1998 to 2012 Q3, and a 48.8% reduction from 2007. However, Halton has a significantly higher rate of teenage conception when compared to the England average.
Socio – Economic Disadvantage	- The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (IMD) can be used to identify disadvantaged groups and areas in Halton. - Halton's overall deprivation score and rank have improved since the previous IMD in 2007, with 26% of Halton's population living in the worst 10% of SOAs¹⁰ nationally. Halton is ranked 27th out of 376 English Local Authorities, with a rank of 1 being the most deprived. <i>The Health Deprivation & Disability Domain</i> - The health and disability domain of the Halton IMD is the one which shows the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. The domain measures morbidity, disability and premature mortality but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation. Halton is ranked 13th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 37 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 39 in 2010. Overall this is showing that the gap is widening between the healthiest and least healthy parts of the Borough and a clear link to ill health and deprivation. <i>The Employment Domain</i> - Employment deprivation is the second most severe deprivation within Halton (after health). Halton is ranked 21st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 27 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 34 in 2010. <i>The Income Domain</i> - Income deprivation has shown a slight increase. Halton is ranked 34th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 23 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for income, compared to 20 in 2010.

¹⁰ SOAs (Super Output Areas) are small geographical units used as the building blocks for the IMD. Since they are smaller than wards, SOAs enable a finer level of data analysis to be carried out.

The Education & Skills Training Domain

- The education, skills and training domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills. Halton is ranked 77th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 12 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for Education, Skills and Training, compared to 11 in 2010.

The Crime & Disorder Domain

- The crime and disorder domain measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at the local level, using data around violence, burglary, theft and criminal damage. Halton is ranked 61st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 13 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 14 in 2010.

The Living Environment Domain

- The living environment domain includes housing in poor condition and houses without central heating, as well as poor air quality and accidents to pedestrians and cyclists. Halton is ranked 131st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 7 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for living environment, compared to 4 in 2010.

The Barriers to Housing and Service Domain

- This domain measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and key local services. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: 'geographical barriers', which relate to the physical proximity of local services, and 'wider barriers' which includes issues relating to access to housing such as affordability. For these reasons the SOAs exhibit a broadly different pattern as compared to other domains. Halton is ranked 229th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 2 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for barriers to housing and services, compared to 0 in 2010.

4. The Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Publication Document

Table 2: Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Summary

1.1	What are the aims and objectives of the strategy?	The Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) forms part of the statutory Development Plan for Halton. The role of the DALP is twofold: 1 To identify the scale of development in Halton and allocate sites to meet the development needs of Halton to 2037 in order to achieve the vision for growth and sustainable development outlined in the Halton Core Strategy, and; 2 To identify key local issues and provide a set of policies to manage change which will be used by decision makers to determine planning applications. These are known as development management policies. The DALP will ensure that appropriate forms of development occur in the most suitable and sustainable locations. It helps provide a level of certainty about what areas will be developed or protected in the future and for what purpose. The DALP will establish the spatial distribution of future growth and development in the Borough. The DALP is intended to replace the remainder of saved Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (2005) policies that have not already been replaced by the Halton Core Strategy Local Plan (2013) or the Joint Waste Local Plan (2013) and to review a number of outdated Core Strategy policies. It will therefore be a key policy document for the future development of the Borough and the Council's investment and economic prosperity strategies. The DALP will assist in achieving the Core Strategy vision for Halton in 2026 and beyond: <i>"In 2026, Halton is well equipped to meet its own needs with housing for all sections of society, a range of employment opportunities, plus retail and leisure facilities for everyone. Halton continues to contribute positively to achieving the economic, environmental and social potential of the Liverpool City Region and the North West.</i> <i>Thriving and diverse residential communities are emerging at Sandymoor, Daresbury and Runcorn Waterfront while additional high quality housing in other locations across Runcorn and Widnes are reinforcing and diversifying the Borough's residential offer, responding to the needs of the Borough's communities. There has been a renewed emphasis on the delivery of affordable housing providing accommodation for those who were previously unable to access the type of home they required.</i>
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The Borough's economy has been strengthened by the expansion of key employment areas at Daresbury, 3MG, Mersey Gateway Port and Widnes Waterfront, and Halton has developed an important role in the sub-region for sustainable distribution and logistics and in high-tech science and research. Halton's residents are well equipped with the skills needed to compete for jobs in all sectors and locations throughout the Borough, where existing employment areas have been retained and improved through appropriate regeneration to meet the needs of modern employers. The Borough's traditional industries, centred on the chemicals sector, continue to play a key role in both Runcorn and Widnes.

Retail and leisure centres in the Borough maintain their function as key areas for the provision of shops, services and community facilities. The town centres at Widnes and Halton Lea offer vibrant and busy destinations for people to do their shopping, access services and meet one another. Runcorn Old Town has developed into a unique location for shopping and leisure, with a niche role compared to the two main town centres in the Borough.

Development across the Borough is highly sustainable and contributes to the health and well-being of Halton's communities, has made the best use of previously developed land and has utilised infrastructure and resources efficiently. Climatic risks continue to be managed and mitigated and development has contributed to minimising Halton's carbon footprint. Additionally, Halton benefits from high quality infrastructure serving new and existing development.

The rural character and setting of the Borough's villages of Moore, Daresbury and Preston-on-the-Hill within the Green Belt has been retained through restrictions on new development. The character of Hale Village (inset within the Green Belt), has also been protected, and any negative impacts associated with the expansion at Liverpool John Lennon Airport are minimised. The Borough's Green Belt continues to provide a vital resource for current and future residents, keeping important spaces between settlements.

The historic and natural environments across Halton have been conserved and enhanced for future generations and the Borough's multifunctional green infrastructure network fulfils the recreational needs of residents, contributes to general well-being and provides important linked diverse habitats. Additionally, Halton's legacy of contaminated land continues to be remediated and regenerated, and development responds to the potential risks of major accidents and flooding.

Transport routes both through the Borough and to surrounding areas are

		<i>intrinsic to how the Borough functions on its own and as part of the sub-region, for the movement of goods and people. A second river crossing between the Borough's towns of Runcorn and Widnes, in the form of the Mersey Gateway Project, has been secured, improving connections and acting as a major sub-regional catalyst for development and regeneration."</i>
2	What outcomes are wanted from the strategy?	The DALP intends to deliver a number of outcomes over the period to 2037, all of which will help to deliver the Core Strategy vision as set out above. More detail relating to the anticipated outcomes of the individual policies can be found in the monitoring framework of the Core Strategy Local Plan.
3	Who is intended to benefit from the strategy?	The outcomes intended by the DALP are wide ranging and are envisaged to benefit all of Halton's residents, visitors, investors, developers and businesses.
4	Who are the main stakeholders, and who has lead responsibility for delivery of the strategy?	A number of stakeholders are likely to be responsible for the delivery of the strategy, including the Council, Halton Strategic Partnership, national agencies like Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency, the voluntary and community sector, and land owning interests such as water companies, transport bodies and private landowners and the development industry.
5	Please list any policies related to the one being assessed:	The DALP, once adopted, will form part of Halton's Local Plan which will be supported by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The DALP is an important corporate Council document and will be closely related to a number of policies and strategies across the Council including Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy, economic strategies, the Children and Young People's Plan and many more. The DALP also has regard to, and is in compliance with, a number of national policies including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

5. Screening the Delivery and Allocations Publication Document

- 5.1 As the previous section has highlighted, the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) Publication document includes a diversity of topics and covers a range of issues. The first part of this section therefore focuses on assessing the individual policies of the DALP Publication Document, screening their potential impacts on each of the protected characteristics.
- 5.2 Table 3 outlines the key elements of each policy and summarises whether there is the potential for the policy to have a positive or negative impact on each of the protected characteristics identified in Section 1.3. Please note that for the purposes of screening the full policy outlines from the DALP Publication Document have been used. The policy summaries provided in the table are only to be used as a quick point of reference, further context and policy detail can be found in the DALP Publication Document and overarching Core Strategy Local Plan.
- 5.3 The key below identifies the symbols used to highlight the likely impact on each of the groups that an individual policy may have. Where a policy is likely to impact upon all of Halton's communities this has been identified as neutral, as there is no disproportionate impact for any specific group.

Symbol	Likely Impact
+	Positive
o	Neutral
-	Negative

Table 3 Screening the Delivery and Allocations Publication Document

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
CS(R) 1: Halton's Spatial Strategy (Formerly CS1)	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Halton's Spatial Strategy establishes the spatial distribution of future growth and development in the Borough and so flows into all policies within the Core Strategy and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan. The three groups highlighted through the assessment of the Spatial Strategy (Disability, Age and Socio-economic disadvantage groups) therefore reflect the key groups that are repeatedly identified as having positive impacts through the Local Plan. The Spatial Strategy focuses on development in defined urban areas close to existing services and <i>facilities</i> increasing access and connectivity and reducing the need to travel. This will have a positive impact for those with a disability, socioeconomic disadvantage groups and will take into account the needs of an ageing population. Delivering housing diversity, health improvements and employment opportunities in the Key Areas of Change will also benefit those in socio-economic disadvantage groups. These positive effects are repeated throughout the Core Strategy and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan policies in

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
												the assessment.
CS(R) 3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities (Formerly CS3 and H1) The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the net number of dwellings to be provided in Halton; b. Set out, if appropriate, the number of dwellings to be provided in any sub-housing market areas; c. Identify, if appropriate, any requirements for the mix of housing to be provided; and d. Recognise the Council's commitments to the emerging LCR (Devolution) agenda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	One of the locational priorities for housing supply is to consider additional housing allocations this intervention could potentially improve housing diversity in these areas with the potential to benefit disadvantaged groups and ultimately ensure balanced and sustainable communities.
CS(R) 4: Employment Land supply and Locational Priorities (Formerly CS4 and E1) The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the amount of employment land to be provided in Halton; b. Consider the appropriateness of defining separate 'strategic' and 'local' employment sites c. Identify, if appropriate, any requirements for the mix of land to be provided; d. Identify the policy for existing employment land; and e. Recognise the Council's commitments to the emerging LCR (Devolution) agenda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	As with housing supply, one of the priorities for a. employment supply is to maintain employment sites across the Borough with the aim of providing local jobs which are accessible for local people. This should benefit local residents within these areas, improving the skills base, lowering unemployment and increasing income.
CS(R) 5: A Network of Centres (Formerly CS5 and TC1) The aim of this policy is to:	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	A Network of Centres focuses on improving resident's accessibility to services and facilities and therefore will

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
a. Set out the hierarchy of retail centres; b. Identify potential new centres; and c. Set out the amount of retail capacity within Halton and the town and district centres.												have a positive impact on the protected characteristics. For instance this will help to reduce the need to travel and assist those who do not have access to a private vehicle, which includes older and younger people, disabled people and those identified within disadvantaged groups.
CS(R) 6: Green Belt (Formerly CS6) The aim of this policy is to; a. Define the Green Belt within Halton; and b. Prevent inappropriate development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
CS(R) 13: Affordable Housing (Formerly CS13 and H3) The aim of this policy is to: a. Provide the thresholds for when affordable housing will be required; b. Set out the proportion of affordable housing that will be required; c. Set out the mix of affordable housing that will be required; and d. Identify the circumstances when off-site provision or a payment in lieu may be accepted.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	The increase in the supply of affordable housing will have a positive impact on all of the protected characteristics in particular the socio economic disadvantaged groups.
CS(R) 14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (Formerly CS14 and H4) The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the level of Gypsy and Traveller provision required within Halton; and b. Identify the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller applications will be	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are recognised ethnic minority groups, and so providing adequate pitch and site provision will have a positive impact on the 'race' equality strand. Ensuring good access to health facilities from pitches and sites will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
considered against.												with a disability within this minority group.
CS(R)15: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT [Formerly CS15 DALP scoping policies C1 / C2] Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that development is only permitted where frequent public transport provision exists or is made for; b. Protect existing and disused facilities (location specific); c. Ensure that development would not be permitted where this would prejudice the provision of new public transport facilities (location specific); d. Require development to prioritise design measures to ensure safe and convenient cycle and pedestrian access; and e. Seek, where appropriate, new routes to link appropriately to the Greenway Network (including the Trans-Pennine Trail and the Mersey Way), and include improvements and extensions where feasible.	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Encouraging sustainable transport will benefit those with disabilities, older and younger people without access to a private vehicle, and people on low incomes.
ED1: Employment Provision Allocations (Formerly policy E2) Aim of this policy would be to: a. allocate sites for employment purposes to deliver the Core Strategy requirements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	This policy seeks to make provision for new employment land in the Borough to strengthen Halton's economy and to offer business and industry a choice of sites so that differing site requirements and locational needs can be met. One of the priorities for employment supply is to maintain employment sites across the Borough with the aim of providing local jobs which are accessible for local people. This should benefit local residents within these areas, improving the skills base,

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
												lowering unemployment and increasing income.
CS (R)17: Expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport Aim of this policy would be to: a. consider the expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport (LJLA), including any revised Airport Masterplan within defined Sustainable Development Principals ; b. define existing and expanded Airport boundary (particularly with regard to runway end safety zones); and c. identify extent (if any) of land to be removed from the Green Belt (specific to the runway extension).	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
ED2: Employment Development (formerly policy E3) Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify and designate Primarily Employment Areas; b. ensure development is compatible with existing and proposed surrounding uses; c. ensure employment development is designed to allow for future flexibility for a range of uses, including future subdivision and/or amalgamation for a range of business accommodation; d. encourage the intensification of existing business floorspace within Town/District centres and employment areas; and e. require development to consider design and access issues and where possible alleviate issues.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	Primarily Employment Areas are those areas of the Borough where employment is and will continue to be, the predominant land use in the area. By ensuring that these areas are designed to improve accessibility and flexibility for a range of uses, this will have a positive outcome on the disabled and socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas (formerly policy E4)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy is intended to apply to applications for uses such as a children's day nursery, a service provision

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Aim of this policy would be to: a. define complementary services and facilities; b. permit complementary services and facilities in employment areas where appropriate; c. ensure that complementary services and facilities do not impact on local employment or the local economy; and d. explain that, where appropriate, housing development can form an integral part of a mixed use development and could be permitted within a designated employment area if it is located in or adjacent to a Town or District Centre.												(eg bank, shop, sandwich bar) or a conference facility within Primarily Employment Areas. Such complementary services and facilities will serve the local workforce or help the employment area function well. This would have a positive impact on each of the protected characteristics.
RD1: Residential Development Allocations (Formerly policy H2) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Allocate sites for residential development purposes to deliver the Core Strategy housing requirements;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The supply of residential development sites and the identification of Primarily Residential Areas will assist in the sustainable location of future housing. This has the potential to benefit disadvantaged groups and ultimately ensure balanced and sustainable communities. There is therefore no disproportionate impact for any of the protected characteristics.
RD2:Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations) (Formerly policy H5) Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify specific sites that will enable continuous delivery of sites for at least 15 years; and b. identify existing sites to be retained.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are recognised ethnic minority groups, and so providing adequate pitch and site provision will have a positive impact on the 'race' equality strand. Ensuring a supply of suitable sites will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those with a disability within this minority group.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings (Formerly policy H6) Aim of this policy would be to: a. retain character of existing properties and residential areas b. Including consideration of the form, scale, design and materials to be used; c. ensure that any extensions do not increase the size of the property by more than a set percentage over the original property; d. ensure that any replacement dwelling is not more than a set percentage larger than the dwelling it is replacing; e. ensure that any conversion is within a building of permanent and substantial construction capable of being converted; f. ensure that the proposal would not result in isolated residential development; g. maintain safe highway conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles; and h. provide, or retain, appropriate parking i. Provide, or retain, appropriate garden space	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	The design of a dwelling, extension, conversion or replacement dwelling is a material consideration in the planning process. Improving design will not only ensure that the aesthetics of development are taken into consideration but it will also ensure that amenity, safety, access and accessibility are key issues to consider in the determination of planning applications to meet the needs of the whole community. In addition maintaining highway safety, ensuring residential development is not isolated and providing adequate parking will have a positive impact on the elderly and those with a disability. It is considered that this policy will have no negative impacts on the remaining protected characteristics.
RD4: Open Space Provision for Residential Development (Formerly H7) Aim of this policy would be to: a. require development to consider adequate open space provision; b. set open space standards (in accordance with the current draft Open Space SPD); c. explain that the precise levels for open space will depend on the location	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Policy RD4 will set out the criteria for the protection of existing open space from other uses. It will also set out the requirements for the provision of new open space as a result of new development, how this will be achieved and funded. The provision of open space will benefit all of the protected characteristics.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
of the development; d. state that off-site provision or financial contributions will only be agreed where it can be demonstrated that there is no practical alternative; and e. identify other exceptions to policy.												
RD5: Specialist Housing (Formerly H8) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that development gives consideration to the ageing population in relation to types, size, style and flexibility of dwellings provided; b. Ensure that any specialist housing or accommodation is appropriately located and meets the needs of its residents; and c. Identify appropriate locations for development and /or provide criteria to define appropriate locations.	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	The need for extra care or supported housing in Halton is particularly pronounced because of low levels of existing provision. This policy will enable the management of the provision of specialist housing ensuring they are available in the most sustainable locations. This will have a positive impact particularly for the elderly and carers. No impacts have been anticipated for the remaining characteristics.
RD6: Primarily Residential Areas (Formerly policy H2) The aim of this policy is to; a. Identify Primarily Residential Areas.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
RD7: Custom and Self Build Housing The aim of this policy is to; Require residential developments of more than 250 dwellings to support prospective custom and self-builders; and Provide a criteria for the provision of plots	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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C1: Transport Network and Accessibility [Formerly Policy C1, C2 C3] Aim of this policy would be to: a. where necessary allocate sites for transport purposes. b. ensure that development is only permitted where frequent public transport provision exists or is made for; b. protect existing and disused facilities (location specific); c. ensure that development would not be permitted where this would prejudice the provision of new public transport facilities (location specific); d. require development to prioritise design measures to ensure safe and convenient cycle and pedestrian access; and e. seek, where appropriate, new routes to link appropriately to the Greenway Network (including the Trans-Pennine Trail and the Mersey Way), and include improvements and extensions where feasible. a. define road schemes (location specific); b. Freight and logistic hubs; c. Identify when a Transport Assessment, Travel Plan and / or Transport Statement will be required; d. ensure that development does not increase traffic to undesirable levels unless traffic problems can be alleviated; e. ensure that development considers the effects on the sustainable transport network including public transport links, pedestrian and cycling routes; f. ensure that development provides safe access to the overall transport network; g. ensure that development seeks to enhance accessibility for sustainable modes of transport, by giving priority to pedestrian, cycling and public transport access to ensure they are safe, convenient and attractive, and linked to existing networks; h. highlight the need for development to incorporate traffic management and traffic calming schemes where appropriate; and	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	There are positive impacts for the elderly and disabled people. Improved accessible transport facilities will benefit all but in particular disabled people and those at SE disadvantage but no evidence of negative impacts on any of the remaining protected characteristics.
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Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
C2: Parking Standards (Formerly C4) Aim of this policy would be to: a. incorporate appropriate parking standards (including cycle parking); b. require development proposals to provide an appropriate level of safe, secure, accessible and viable parking provision; c. highlight any exceptions to the policy – development would need to justify in terms of no harmful impact to street scene or the availability of on-street parking; d. consider off-airport car parks (LJLA); e. consider the provision of electric car charging points where acceptable; and f. consider space for on-site car clubs and pool car schemes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ensuring that all new development incorporates appropriate parking facilities for both vehicles and cycles will benefit all, in particular the elderly and disabled people. Improving the accessibility and provision of electric charging points will also have positive impacts on these groups. These policy aims have no identified negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics.
C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure (Formerly C5) Aim of this policy would be to: a. encourage and support proposals for the provision, upgrading and enhancement of wireless and fixed data transfer and telecommunications networks and their associated infrastructure; b. ensure that development proposals have no unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area, on residential amenity or on the safe and satisfactory functioning of highways; c. require that development proposals demonstrate that there will be no significant and irremediable interference with electrical equipment, air traffic service or instrumentation operating in the national interest; and d. ensure that development proposals have special regard to the Green Belt,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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and the natural and historic environment where the quality of the landscape / townscape may be particularly sensitive to the intrusion of communications infrastructure.												
C4: Operation of Liverpool John Lennon Airport (Formerly C7) Aim of this policy would be to: a. seek to ensure that development is not permitted that may impede the operational requirements of the Airport; b. ensure that development has regard to the Airports Surface Access Strategy; c. address the issues of Airport parking; and d. consider Circular 1/2003 Safeguarding Aerodromes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC1: Vital and Viable Centres (Formerly TC4) Aim of this policy would be to: a. protect primary retail role of local centres with other uses supported where they complement the existing role of these centres; b. provide the thresholds for when a Sequential Test or Retail Impact Assessment is required; c. ensure that retail developments do not detrimentally effect the appearance or character of the area, local amenity or highway conditions; d. ensure that development is compatible with the prime retail function of the area; e. identify non retail uses; f. consider food and drink outlets; and support the retention and enhancement of the town markets.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres (Formerly TC2) Aim of this policy would be to: a. allocate sites for retail / leisure / cultural / tourism / community purposes to deliver the Core Strategy requirements.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC3: Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages (Formerly TC3) Aim of this policy would be to: a. define the town, district and local centre boundaries; b. define and protect primary and secondary retail frontages; and c. define and protect primary shopping areas of the town centres by managing changes and development that do not contribute to the vitality and viability of the centre.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC4: Shop Fronts, Signage and Advertising (Formerly TC5) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that the design of retail development is considered, including it being of an appropriate size and scale; b. ensure that new and altered shop fronts are only permitted should they be appropriate to the building and the character of the area; c. ensure that proposals for shop fronts have appropriate regard to design, security and safety, amenity and access; and d. ensure that signage and advertisements are only permitted where the size, design, positioning, materials and degree of illumination of the advertisement would not have an adverse visual impact or a detrimental effect on public safety.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC5: Commercial Leisure Developments and Cultural Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy seeks to provide specific policy direction for

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(Formerly TC6) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that the development of leisure and cultural facilities are permitted in or adjacent to town, district or local centre; b. Support the provision of new leisure and cultural facilities and the retention and enhancement of existing leisure facilities (unless their loss can be justified); c. Ensure that the development involving the loss of a community facility would only be permitted where it can be justified; d. Set out the criteria for leisure and cultural facilities in designated centres, edge of designated centres and out of centre locations; e. Ensure that the design of leisure and cultural development is considered, including it being of an appropriate size and scale; and f. Ensure that leisure and cultural developments do not detrimentally affect the appearance or character of the area, local amenity or highway conditions.												the implementation of Core Strategy policy CS22: Health and Wellbeing. By ensuring that an opportunity to widen the Borough's cultural and leisure facilities are supported. This approach will benefit all of Halton's communities.
HC6: Community Facilities (including health facilities) Formerly TC7 Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that the development of community facilities is permitted in or adjacent to town, district or local centres; b. support the provision of new community facilities and the retention and enhancement of existing community facilities; and c. ensure that the development involving the loss of a community facility would only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the existing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy also seeks to provide specific policy direction for the implementation of Core Strategy policy CS22: Health and Wellbeing. No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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community use is no longer required, not viable, or proposals for its replacement are included in the application.												
HC7: Visitor Attractions Formerly TC8 Aim of this policy would be to: a. promote tourism assets and encourage tourism development; b. identify specific areas of assets and future development; c. ensure that development that would affect an existing tourist attraction would not be permitted if it would be likely to detract from the function, appearance or setting of the attraction; d. ensure that development proposals for new tourism attractions / facilities be permitted provided that the proposals are appropriate in size, visually unobtrusive and would not lead to unsatisfactory traffic conditions or other nuisance; and e. seek to consider favourably tourism attractions associated with the Borough's waterfronts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC8: Food and Drink (Formerly TC9: Evening Economy) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Manage the development of hot food takeaways and late night bars and pubs.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC9: Mixed Use Area (Formerly TC10) Aim of this policy would be to: • Identify appropriate development within a Mixed Use Area • Identify Mixed Use Allocations • Designate Mixed Use Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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HE1: Natural Environment and Nature Conservation The aim of this policy is to: a. Conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of Halton; and b. Conserve and enhance biodiversity. c. Consider development issues associated with the natural environment including Local Nature Reserves, Local Geological Sites, Local Wildlife Sites, Ancient Woodland, habitat networks / wildlife corridors and habitats and species identified in the BAP d. Consider other development issues in the natural environment including the protection of ponds, hedgerows, trees and woodlands. e. Set out the mitigation hierarchy. f. Consider the ecological network within and across the Borough.	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy will have a positive impact for those with a disability and the elderly as conserving and managing the historic and natural environment will assist in improving access for all.
HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment (Formerly SD11) Aim of this policy would be to: a. support proposals that help preserve or enhance heritage assets and their settings b. consider the development of listed buildings including demolition, change of use, alterations and additions. c. consider development within Conservation Areas including requesting Conservation Area Appraisals to be undertaken (where appropriate) to help increase understanding and respect the significance, special character, context, appearance and historical importance d. consider other development issues associated with the historic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.

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environment including those related to Areas of Archaeological Interest and Scheduled Monuments e Consider locally significant buildings (those that have been identified on the Local List – these are assets which have been jointly identified by local residents and the Council as a valued and distinctive element of the local historic environment)												
HE3: Halton's Waterfronts and Waterways Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify the coastal change management areas and provide policy to reduce risk to these areas from inappropriate development b. explain how waterways and their banks provide established habitats with nature conservation value c. support proposals for recreation and tourism (where appropriate) d. expect development to respect the important amenity, landscape and ecological characteristics, important landscape and wildlife resources, attractive views and access points e. ensure that waterside development is not permitted if it would have an unacceptable effect on water quality or cause significant run-off f. seek opportunities for development to connect any identified habitats, species or features g. set out the need to consult (if appropriate) the owners of any waterways for any works that might affect the integrity of the waterway or linkages (for instance to towpaths) h. continue support for the Bridgewater Trust, including seeking contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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from canalside development. i. support the reinstatement of the Runcorn Locks (subject to consequential water loss through operation/vandalism not being detrimental to the safe operation of the Bridgewater Canal)												
HE4: Green Infrastructure (Formerly HE5) Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify in what instances appropriate compensatory / financial contributions would be sought with regard to green infrastructure b. require development, where appropriate, to include assessments for on-site ecology, connectivity of the site with the green infrastructure network and make provision for improvements where necessary both on-site and off-site c. ensure that where development is permitted, that it is of a scale, form, layout and design which respects the character of the Borough's green infrastructure network and does not lead to a loss in the overall amenity d. support cross boundary working to support the maintenance and development of wider green infrastructure networks	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Multi-functional Green Infrastructure will increase opportunities for formal and informal recreation supporting residents of all ages and improving resident's health and well-being. Enhancing connectivity and access will also ensure that the Borough's Green Infrastructure is accessible for all the protected characteristics.
HE5: Trees and Landscaping (Formerly SD7) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Protect woodlands, trees and hedgerows b. Conserve the local landscape c. Ensure development incorporates appropriate hard and soft landscaping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Conserving and protecting woodlands, trees and hedgerows and conserving the local landscape will benefit all of Halton's communities. It is considered that this policy would not have negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics.
HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision Aim of this policy would be to:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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a. set out standards for open space and outdoor playing pitch, sport and recreation provision in the Borough, to help in assessing development proposals for sport and recreation facilities (link to policy H7); b. Define the extent of Open Spaces within the Borough; and Define Local Green Spaces.												
HE7: Pollution and Nuisance Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that development near to established sources is not permitted if it is likely that those existing sources of pollution will have an unacceptable effect on the proposed development b. ensure that development proposals would not be permitted if it is likely to have an unacceptable effect on: i. air quality ii. noise nuisance iii. odour nuisance iv. light pollution and nuisance v. water quality c. explain that 'unacceptable effects' include those which have an effect on: local amenity; public health; public safety; quality standards; investment confidence; visual obtrusion and risk to the natural environment d. require that any development which has the potential to pollute or cause nuisance to demonstrate that mitigation measures have been incorporated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HE8: Contaminated Land Aim of this policy would be to:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy will benefit all members of Halton's communities; however, there must be consideration of

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a. require development proposals on land which may be contaminated to be accompanied by a land investigation to establish the level of contamination b. require appropriate site remediation and aftercare measures where appropriate and if necessary include details of a programme of implementation c. encourage the adoption of sustainable remediation technologies d. ensure that Development is not permitted if it is likely to cause contamination of the soil or sub-soil e. consideration given to the impact of contamination on the wider environment including water courses, flora and fauna. f. explain that the requirement to undertake work associated with contaminated land will be controlled by either planning conditions or where necessary by planning obligations g. seek innovative methods to assist in enabling remediation and regeneration of contaminated sites to be economically viable												those with a disability and the elderly as these groups may be at the greatest risk in the event of a major hazard. Tackling contaminated land will benefit all of the Borough's communities.
HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk (Formerly HE10) Aim of this policy would be to: a. set out the criteria for development regarding flood risk b. identify land to be safeguarded from development that is required for current and future flood management (if necessary) c. ensure that development provides for appropriate sustainable drainage mechanisms, evidenced where appropriate by drainage strategies for development sites.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy aims to make a significant contribution to making Halton a safer place to live, work and visit by protecting people and the environment from the consequences of natural or other forces, such as flooding. This will benefit all of Halton's communities.

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d. Ensure development fully takes account of flood risk and climate change and incorporates adaptation measures where appropriate (see policy HE10) e. Ensure water resources are protected appropriately g. Ensure that development is served by adequate water services including supply and sewerage												
HE10: Minerals Allocations (Formerly HE11) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Prioritise the use of recycled and secondary aggregates (if replacing instead of supplementing CS25) b. allocate areas of winnable mineral resources – Minerals Safeguarding Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy aims to manage the Borough's mineral resources through minimising the need for minerals extraction and where proposals for minerals extractions do occur, ensuring that economic, social and environmental issues and impacts are fully considered in the allocation of sites for winnable mineral resources. No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
HE11: Minerals (Formerly HE12) Aim of this policy would be to: a. set out the criteria for the potential extraction of minerals resources ensuring that minerals development does not have an unacceptable detrimental impact on the Borough's Green Belt, green infrastructure network, the natural environment, the historic environment, local amenity, the best and most versatile agricultural land, or the highway network. Development should also not cause unacceptable nuisance to surrounding uses b. set out the circumstances (where appropriate) for the prior extraction of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

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minerals c. require minerals development to incorporate a restoration plan for the reclamation of the site to an appropriate after use, or to a state capable of beneficial after use within a suitable timeframe												
HE12: Growth and Improvement Priority Areas (Formerly SD6: Environmental Improvement Areas) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that development has regard to the need to raise environmental standards within this area.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Raising environmental standards will benefit all of Halton's communities. No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
HE13: Open Countryside (Formerly HE4) Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that any land designated as Open Countryside is appropriately protected	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
GR1: Design of Development (Formerly SD4) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that development has regard to: local character, frontages, scale, height, massing, proportion, form, sustainable development, adaptability, layout, access, boundary walls and fences, public realm, amenity, links to Green and Blue Infrastructure, climate change, low carbon, use of renewables detailing and materials	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	In the long term the increased use of sustainable design and construction methods/technologies could decrease the cost of heating and servicing a home. This will particularly benefit the elderly and those on low incomes who are more likely to suffer from fuel poverty.
GR2: Amenity (Formerly SD5) Aim of this policy would be to: a. retain character of existing properties and local area; b. preserve amenity of existing area;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

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c. ensure that adequate private garden space is provided; d. ensure that appropriate external storage space is provided, in particular for waste and recycling facilities; e. maintain safe highway conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles; f. provide a high standard of amenity and living conditions for future occupiers; g. Support retrofitting to existing stock to improve energy efficiency / sustainability h. prevent unreasonably restricting the continued operation of established authorised uses and activities on adjacent sites; i. support redevelopment of residential areas where it would improve amenity, quality and the local environment; and support development in identified regeneration areas which provides for the improvement of the housing stock.												
GR3: Boundary Fences and Walls (New Policy) Aim of this policy would be to; a. Identify what is considered acceptable in terms of boundary walls and fences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
GR4: Temporary Buildings (Formerly SD8) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that proposals for temporary buildings do not prejudice the long term after-use of the site d. require proposals for temporary buildings to be for a specified period	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.

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GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy (Formerly SD9) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure renewable and low carbon energy proposals are of the appropriate scale and design b. seek Energy Statements as part of the Design and Access Statement to demonstrate how the energy hierarchy has been achieved (subject to exclusions) c. highlight that opportunities for Energy Priority Zones in the Key Areas of Change will be supported where development can draw its energy from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy d. require developments in Energy Priority Zones to connect to District Heating networks where it is feasible and viable to do so e. ensure that proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation includes a landscape and visual assessment b. support the sustainable retrofitting of existing development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.
GB1: Control of Development in the Green Belt (Formerly SD2) Aim of this policy would be to: b. identify what is considered appropriate development in Halton's Green Belt; c. identify the local circumstances for the construction of new buildings and changes of use in the Green Belt; d. ensure that extensions, alterations and replacement dwellings will only be permitted subject to scale, character and appearance; and e. highlight local circumstances for limited infilling.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
GB2: Safeguarded Land (Formerly SD3) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that an appropriate level of land is safeguarded for future needs; and b. identify the approach to applications for development on safeguarded land.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
KA1:3MG The policy would: - include site specific policies - include an illustrative layout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	By contributing towards improving the quality of life of residents at Ditton and Halebank the policy will positively impact upon disadvantaged groups in these areas. The 3MG Key Area of Change will also provide employment opportunities for local people in the Borough.
KA2: South Widnes The policy would: - include site specific policies - include an illustrative layout	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	By improving connectivity and access across this Key Area of Change, there will be a positive benefit for a number of equality groups including those with a disability and women with young children. Increasing connectivity and access may also support healthy activities for instance walking and cycling which would potentially benefit all ages including the active elderly. Disadvantaged groups would also benefit, especially in regard to the regeneration opportunities connected to the West Bank residential neighbourhood and potential local employment opportunities in Widnes Town Centre and at Widnes Waterfront.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
KA3: West Runcorn The policy would: - include site specific policies - include an illustrative layout	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Improved access and connectivity across this Key Area of Change will have a positive impact for members of the population including those with a disability, the elderly and women with young children. This will be especially beneficial for those groups accessing community services and facilities including Riverside College.
KA4: East Runcorn The policy would: - include site specific policies - include an illustrative layout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.
KA5: North Widnes The policy would: - include site specific policies - include an illustrative layout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.

Table 3 Screening the Delivery and Allocations Publication Document

6. Summary of Impacts

- 6.1 This section focuses on the overall impact of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP), in combination for each of the protected characteristics.

Table 4: Assessment of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Document Policy (++ significant positive impact)				
Protected Characteristic	+ve	o	-ve	Comment
Race/Ethnicity	+			Ensuring good access to health facilities for all ethnic groups will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those with a disability.
Gender		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Disability	++			A key theme across all of the policies in the proposed submission document is to improve access for all, especially to community services and facilities. This will have particular positive benefits for people with mobility issues including those with a disability.
Sexual Orientation		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Transgender		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Age	++			The policies are likely to have a positive benefit on younger people and on the elderly due to the emphasis on ensuring access to community services and facilities and affordable housing of the right type, size and mix.
Religion/belief		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Carers	+			The need for extra care or supported housing in Halton is particularly pronounced because of low levels of existing provision. The provision of specialist housing in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on this protected characteristic.

Marital Status/Civil Partnership		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Pregnancy and Maternity		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.

Table 4: Assessment of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Publication Document Policy

(++ significant positive impact)

- 6.2 Overall, the EqIA reveals that the majority of policies are likely to have a positive or neutral impact on the different groups in the community.
- 6.3 The overall summary has not identified any disproportionate negative impacts for any of the protected characteristics.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 In addition to determining the likely impact of the policy on the protected characteristics, it is important to consider whether the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP+) Publication Document consultation arrangements have, or will cause, an adverse impact or discriminate against any group in the community. The EqlA will be subject to consultation alongside the DALP Publication Document and will be in conformity with the 'Statement of Community Involvement'. This document was subject to public consultation and approved by Council. It is available at:
<http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/planning/policyguidance/Planning-Policy-Framework.aspx>.
- 7.2 In considering the particular needs of various protected characteristics in the Borough the DALP Publication Document has drawn upon a number of policies, guidance and background documents at all spatial levels in the UK, from national to Borough level. All evidence based and policy documents are referenced and included on Halton Borough Council's website available at:
<http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/planning/policyguidance/Evidence.aspx>.

8. General, Duty and Recommendations

- 8.1 This EqlA concludes that the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) Publication Document is not considered to have any adverse impacts on Halton's minority groups or on the protected characteristics, and it recommends that a full EqlA is not needed at this stage.
- 8.2 Following on from a six week consultation period, the DALP Publication Document will be amended in light of the representations received. The timetable for the remaining key stages in the production of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Document is shown in the table below.

	Preparation of a Local Plan (Reg 18*)	Publication (Reg 19*)	Submission (Reg 22*)	Examination (Reg 24*)	Adoption (Reg 26*)
Delivery and Allocations Local Plan	January 2014 and January 2016	October 2017	June/ July 2018	December 2018	July 2019



Equality Impact Assessment

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I. Introduction

- I.1 The Equalities Review (2007) says that “an equal society protects and promotes equal, real freedom and opportunity to live in the way people value and would choose, so that everyone can flourish. An equal society recognises people’s different needs, situations and goals, and removes the barriers that limit what people can do and be”.
- I.2 To ensure Halton’s Local Plan Proposed Submission Document contributes to an equal society, an initial Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been used to highlight the likely impact of the DALP Policies on different groups, and to show how the needs of such groups have been taken into account in relation to the development of the policies. By doing this, policies will be improved, such that areas of discrimination are eliminated and the needs of Halton’s communities are better served.
- I.3 The need for an EqIA to be undertaken stems from the duty placed on Public Authorities to eliminate unlawful discrimination in carrying out their function, and promoting equality of access and opportunity for all communities. Local Authorities are also specifically required to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and how they promote equality in all aspects of strategic decision making and service provision. The Borough’s Corporate Equality Scheme 2016-2018 highlights the importance of equality being mainstreamed in the delivery of all Council services. EqIA’s are considered the best way to do this. The Equality Act (2010) brings disability, sex, race and other grounds of discrimination within one piece of legislation. In order to ensure this protection the Act also introduced, in April 2011, the public sector equality duty, incorporating general and specific duties on Local Authorities. Under the general duty a public authority must, in carrying out its functions have regard to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conflict that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
 - b. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
 - c. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- I.4 This assessment approach reflects the advice in the following paragraphs of the National Planning Policy Framework:

Plans should be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan- makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees; (Paragraph 16)

Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives):

a) an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;

b) a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and

c) an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.(Paragraph 8)

Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which:

a) promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other – for example through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres, street layouts that allow for easy pedestrian and cycle connections within and between neighbourhoods, and active street frontages;

b) are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas; and

c) enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling. (Paragraph 91)

The creation of high quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities. Being clear about design expectations, and how these will be tested, is essential for achieving this. So too is effective engagement between applicants, communities, local planning authorities and other interests throughout the process. (Paragraph 124)

2. The Approach and Structure of the Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The Proposed Submission version of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) EqlA follows a similar approach and structure to that set out in national guidance and particularly the guidance from the Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government (IDeA)¹. A brief summary is included below.

Stage 1: Initial Screening

- 2.2 Initial screening of all new or revised policies, strategies, procedures and functions should determine whether or not it is necessary to carry out a full EqlA. This is based on whether the area of work will have the potential to cause adverse impacts or discriminate against different groups in the community described in the Act as protected characteristics.
- 2.3 Due to the scope of the Revised Core Strategy Policies and the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan there may be potential to cause adverse impacts or to discriminate against different groups. It was therefore considered appropriate to carry out an EqlA screening of Halton's Local Plan proposed submission document.

Stage 2: Scoping and Defining

- 2.4 Different perspectives and experiences are used in undertaking an EqlA. As a result the team involved in the Core Strategy Local Plan production employed technical expertise and specialist knowledge from across the Council divisions including:
- Environmental and Regulatory Services;
 - Children and Young People;
 - Adults and Community;
 - Major Projects; and,
 - Policy and Strategy;

Stage 3: Information Gathering

- 2.5 Stage 3 of the assessment aims to identify the sources of information which will be used to assist in the determination of whether the Revised Core Strategy policies and the DALP is likely to have an adverse impact or discriminate against different groups. The information used for this stage of the EqlA has drawn upon a wide evidence base including:
- Census data 2001 and 2011
 - National and Local Statistics
 - Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), (2015)
 - Halton Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), (2015)
 - Halton's Economic Profile²

¹ IDeA (2009) The EqlA Process: Six-Step Guide, available at: <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=8017502>

² HBC Halton Area Profiles available at: www.halton.gov.uk/areaprofiles/

- 2.6 Using the information gathered from the sources listed above, section 3 provides some base-line information on the different protected characteristic focused upon in this assessment.

Stage 4: Making a Judgement

- 2.7 This stage is used to decide whether or not there is potential for a strategy or policy to result in a less favourable outcome or discrimination of any kind on any group in a community.
- 2.8 As the DALP proposed submission document contains numerous policies dealing with a diversity of topics, this stage has been broken into two parts. The first part of the assessment (section 5) focuses on the individual policies and the second part (section 6) assesses the policies in combination, summarising the effects of the revised Core Strategy policies and the DALP proposed submission document.

Stage 5: Action Planning

- 2.9 The real value of completing an EqlA comes from the actions that will take place and the positive changes that will emerge through conducting the assessment. A recommendations section has been included in section 8.

Stage 6: Publication and Review

- 2.10 The public sector equality duty requires publication of equality analysis and the Council does this through the process of publishing its EIA's to ensure transparency. It is also important to show the local community that the Council is actively engaged and committed to challenging potential discrimination, as well as improving its service delivery in relation to equalities.
- 2.11 The Council will be consulting on the contents of this EqlA at the same time as it is inviting representations on the DALP proposed submission document, from 25th July 2019 to 19th September 2019. Any comments on this assessment can be returned:

By e-mail: forward.planning@halton.gov.uk

In writing to: Policy, Planning and Transportation
Halton Borough Council
2nd Floor Municipal Building
Kingsway
Widnes
WA8 7QF

3. Protected Characteristic

3.1 The EqIA focuses on specific protected characteristics in the Borough and includes:

- Race and Ethnicity;
- Gender;
- Disability;
- Sexual Orientation;
- Transgender;
- Age;
- Religion/Belief;
- Marital/Civil Partnerships status; and,
- Pregnancy/Maternity

In Halton two further vulnerable groups have been identified: -

- Socio Economic Disadvantage; and
- Carers

3.2 It should be acknowledged through the EqIA that these groups are not homogeneous. People within these equality groups may have different and individual needs and many of the members of one group may also be members of several groups. Additionally, the implementation of the policies within the DALP will have an impact on Halton's communities as a whole and not just those identified in the different protected characteristic.

3.3 The table below (Table I) presents some baseline information on the different protected characteristics focused upon in this EqIA.

Table I: Protected Characteristics within Halton	
Protected Characteristic	Explanation/Comments
Race & Ethnicity	• The 2011 census showed that Halton at that time had a low proportion of people from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups, 2% of the total population. This compares to the England average of 14.5%. • Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are recognised ethnic minority groups. In the North West these groups are identified as having less access to healthcare, are less well supported by unemployment services and suffer from educational exclusion.³ As at January 2018 Halton had 63 Gypsy and Traveller Caravans⁴.

³ NWDA (2005) North West Action for Equality Report.

⁴ MHCLG (2018) Local Authority Traveller Caravan Count (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/traveller-caravan-count>)

Gender	- Gender is essentially balanced in Halton with 51% of residents being female and 49% male. - Research⁵ shows that women are likely to spend more time in and around the home and the local community.
Disability	- Although there is no single measure of the proportion of the population with a disability, the 2011 census identified that 11.6% of the population in Halton indicated that they had a limiting illness. This is slightly higher than the average for England which is 8.3%. - The overall pattern shows a strong relationship between levels of learning disability with areas of deprivation in Halton.
Sexual Orientation Transgender	Although there are no definite statistics about sexuality A recent ONS survey estimates that 1.5% of the population is lesbian, gay or bi-sexual (LGB). Regional variations were found in the proportion of adults identifying as LGB, ranging from the highest at 2.2% in London, to the lowest at 0.9% in Northern Ireland. In the North West, the proportion was the same as the UK average (1.5%)⁶. This equals the 2011 Census. In addition the GP patient survey for England includes a question relating to sexual orientation. The survey suggests between 92% and 96% of patients across Cheshire & Merseyside define themselves as being heterosexual / straight, with around 4% stating their sexual orientation as being either Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Other. Results for Halton CCG 96% heterosexual/straight, 1% gay, 1% bisexual, 2% prefer not to say⁷.
Age	- At present Halton has a younger population profile than the national and regional averages. However, Halton mirrors the national picture of an ageing population, with projections indicating that the population of the Borough will age at a faster rate than the national average. - Halton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment⁸ states as of 2016 12.0% of Halton's population were aged 70 and above, whereas, in 2039 Halton's projected population aged over 70 will represent almost a fifth (19.6%) of the entire population of the area. - The assessment also identifies that over half (57.8%) of all Halton residents aged 65 and over live alone, compared to 47.1% of the total population in the borough. This is slightly higher than the UK average. The proportions who live alone rise across each 'older age' band.

⁵ DCLG (2004) Planning and Diversity: Research into policies

⁶ Joloza, T., Evans, S.T. and O'Brian, R. (2010) Measuring Sexual Identity: An Evaluation Report. London: Office for National Statistics

⁷ HBC (2015/16) JSNA; Older people, demographics, economic, living and social circumstances

⁸ Halton Borough Council (2016), Health and Wellbeing in Halton 2016: Halton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Summary of Findings, available at: <http://www.haltonchildrenstrust.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Childrens-JSNA-Chapter-2-Population-profile.pdf>

	The Mid-Mersey Strategic Housing Market Assessment (Jan 2016) projects a 198% increase in the numbers of people aged 85+ between 2014 and 2037.⁹
Religion/Belief	- The community in Halton is made up of a number of different religions and beliefs. - Over recent years there has been a growth in realisation that faith communities may play a vital role in building community networks¹⁰.
Carers	As the elderly population in Halton increases there is also predicted to be a steady increase in the number of carers. The Halton JSNA (2016) indicates an increased demand for services to support carers in Halton.
Marital Status/Civil Partnerships	- The 2011 Census data reveals that 35.4% of Halton's residents are single, 44.9% are married, 0.2% in a registered same sex civil partnership, 2.58% is separated (but still legally married.. Compared to the regional and national figures Halton has a slightly higher percentage of single people. - The 2011 Census identifies a very small percentage of people aged over 16 were in a same-sex relationship, only 0.2% of Halton's residents. This is similar to regional (0.16%) and national (0.2%) figures. Data is also available from ONS on the number of civil partnerships formed in Halton.
Pregnancy/Maternity	- The Office for National Statistics provides vital statistical information (including births) down to ward level on an annual basis. The ONS 2014 report¹¹ data shows that there were 1,556 live births in Halton in 2014, compared to 1,597 in 2013, 1,661 in 2012, 1,571 in 2011 and 1,667 in 2010. - In line with the birth statistics, ONS also provide numbers of teenage conceptions at local authority level. The latest ONS data for 2014 shows Halton is reducing its teenage conceptions. However, Halton has a significantly higher rate of teenage conception when compared to the England average. Quarterly rates of pregnancies per 1000 women aged under 18 included in the needs assessment show Halton had 24.6 pregnancies per 1000 women aged under 18 which is higher than the national average of 21.2%.
Socio – Economic Disadvantage	- The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (IMD) can be used to identify disadvantaged groups and areas in Halton. - Halton's overall deprivation score and rank have improved since the previous IMD in 2007, with 26% of Halton's population living in the worst 10% of SOAs¹² nationally. Halton is ranked 27th out of 376 English Local Authorities, with a rank of 1 being the most deprived. <i>The Health Deprivation & Disability Domain</i> - The health and disability domain of the Halton IMD is the one which shows the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of

⁹ GL Hearn (2016) Mid-Mersey Strategic Housing Market Assessment

¹⁰ CLG (2004) Planning and Diversity: Research into Policies and Procedures, available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/planningdiversity>

¹¹ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_396674.pdf

¹² SOAs (Super Output Areas) are small geographical units used as the building blocks for the IMD. Since they are smaller than wards, SOAs enable a finer level of data analysis to be carried out.

	life through poor physical or mental health. The domain measures morbidity, disability and premature mortality but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation. Halton is ranked 13th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 37 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 39 in 2010. Overall this is showing that the gap is widening between the healthiest and least healthy parts of the Borough and a clear link to ill health and deprivation. <i>The Employment Domain</i> • Employment deprivation is the second most severe deprivation within Halton (after health). Halton is ranked 21st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 27 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 34 in 2010. <i>The Income Domain</i> • Income deprivation has shown a slight increase. Halton is ranked 34th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 23 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for income, compared to 20 in 2010. <i>The Education & Skills Training Domain</i> • The education, skills and training domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills. Halton is ranked 77th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 12 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for Education, Skills and Training, compared to 11 in 2010. <i>The Crime & Disorder Domain</i> • The crime and disorder domain measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at the local level, using data around violence, burglary, theft and criminal damage. Halton is ranked 61st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 13 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived, compared to 14 in 2010. <i>The Living Environment Domain</i> • The living environment domain includes housing in poor condition and houses without central heating, as well as poor air quality and accidents to pedestrians and cyclists. Halton is ranked 131st out of 326 Local Authorities, with 7 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for living environment, compared to 4 in 2010. <i>The Barriers to Housing and Service Domain</i> • This domain measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and key local services. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: 'geographical barriers', which relate to the physical proximity of local services, and 'wider barriers' which includes issues relating to access to housing such as affordability. For these reasons the SOAs exhibit a broadly different pattern as compared to other domains. Halton is ranked 229th out of 326 Local Authorities, with 2 small areas falling in the top 10% most deprived nationally for barriers to housing and services, compared to 0 in 2010.
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4. The Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Proposed Submission Document

Table 2: Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Summary		
1.	What are the aims and objectives of the strategy?	The Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) forms part of the statutory Development Plan for Halton. The role of the DALP is threefold: 1 To refresh and review Halton’s Core Strategy policies to ensure they are compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework, guidance and local evidence based documents, 2 To identify the scale of development in Halton and allocate sites to meet the development needs of Halton to 2037 in order to achieve the vision for growth and sustainable development outlined in the Halton Core Strategy, and; 3 To identify key local issues and provide a set of policies to manage change which will be used by decision makers to determine planning applications. These are known as development management policies. The DALP will ensure that appropriate forms of development occur in the most suitable and sustainable locations. It helps provide a level of certainty about what areas will be developed or protected in the future and for what purpose. The DALP will establish the spatial distribution of future growth and development in the Borough. The DALP is intended to replace the remainder of saved Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (2005) policies that have not already been replaced by the Halton Core Strategy Local Plan (2013) or the Joint Waste Local Plan (2013) and to review a number of outdated Core Strategy policies. It will therefore be a key policy document for the future development of the Borough and the Council’s investment and economic prosperity strategies. The DALP will assist in achieving the Core Strategy vision for Halton in 2026 and beyond: <i>“In 2026, Halton is well equipped to meet its own needs with housing for all sections of society, a range of employment opportunities, plus retail and leisure facilities for everyone. Halton continues to contribute positively to achieving the economic, environmental and social potential of the Liverpool City Region and the North West.</i> <i>Thriving and diverse residential communities are emerging at Sandymoor, Daresbury and Runcorn Waterfront while additional high quality housing in other locations across Runcorn and Widnes are reinforcing and diversifying the Borough’s residential offer, responding to the needs of the</i>

		Borough's communities. There has been a renewed emphasis on the delivery of affordable housing providing accommodation for those who were previously unable to access the type of home they required. The Borough's economy has been strengthened by the expansion of key employment areas at Daresbury, 3MG, Mersey Gateway Port and Widnes Waterfront, and Halton has developed an important role in the sub-region for sustainable distribution and logistics and in high-tech science and research. Halton's residents are well equipped with the skills needed to compete for jobs in all sectors and locations throughout the Borough, where existing employment areas have been retained and improved through appropriate regeneration to meet the needs of modern employers. The Borough's traditional industries, centred on the chemicals sector, continue to play a key role in both Runcorn and Widnes. Retail and leisure centres in the Borough maintain their function as key areas for the provision of shops, services and community facilities. The town centres at Widnes and Halton Lea offer vibrant and busy destinations for people to do their shopping, access services and meet one another. Runcorn Old Town has developed into a unique location for shopping and leisure, with a niche role compared to the two main town centres in the Borough. Development across the Borough is highly sustainable and contributes to the health and well-being of Halton's communities, has made the best use of previously developed land and has utilised infrastructure and resources efficiently. Climatic risks continue to be managed and mitigated and development has contributed to minimising Halton's carbon footprint. Additionally, Halton benefits from high quality infrastructure serving new and existing development. The rural character and setting of the Borough's villages of Moore, Daresbury and Preston-on-the-Hill within the Green Belt has been retained through restrictions on new development. The character of Hale Village (inset within the Green Belt), has also been protected, and any negative impacts associated with the expansion at Liverpool John Lennon Airport are minimised. The Borough's Green Belt continues to provide a vital resource for current and future residents, keeping important spaces between settlements. The historic and natural environments across Halton have been conserved and enhanced for future generations and the Borough's multifunctional green infrastructure network fulfils the recreational needs of residents, contributes to general well-being and provides important linked diverse habitats. Additionally, Halton's legacy of contaminated
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		<i>land continues to be remediated and regenerated, and development responds to the potential risks of major accidents and flooding.</i> <i>Transport routes both through the Borough and to surrounding areas are intrinsic to how the Borough functions on its own and as part of the sub-region, for the movement of goods and people. A second river crossing between the Borough's towns of Runcorn and Widnes, in the form of the Mersey Gateway Project, has been secured, improving connections and acting as a major sub-regional catalyst for development and regeneration."</i>
2	What outcomes are wanted from the strategy?	The DALP intends to deliver a number of outcomes over the period to 2037, all of which will help to deliver the Core Strategy vision as set out above. More detail relating to the anticipated outcomes of the individual policies can be found in the monitoring framework of the Core Strategy Local Plan.
3	Who is intended to benefit from the strategy?	The outcomes intended by the DALP are wide ranging and are envisaged to benefit all of Halton's residents, visitors, investors, developers and businesses.
4	Who are the main stakeholders, and who has lead responsibility for delivery of the strategy?	A number of internal and external stakeholders are likely to be responsible for the delivery of the strategy, including the Council, national agencies like Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency, the private, voluntary and community sectors, and land owning interests such as water companies, transport bodies and private landowners and the development industry.
5	Please list any policies related to the one being assessed:	The DALP, once adopted, will form part of Halton's Local Plan which will be supported by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The DALP is an important corporate Council document and will be closely related to a number of policies and strategies across the Council including Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy, economic strategies, the Children and Young People's Plan and many more. The DALP also has regard to, and is in compliance with, a number of national policies including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

5. Screening the Delivery and Allocations Proposed submission Document

- 5.1 As the previous section has highlighted, the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) proposed submission document includes a diversity of topics and covers a range of issues. The first part of this section therefore focuses on assessing the individual policies of the DALP proposed submission Document, screening their potential impacts on each of the protected characteristics.
- 5.2 Table 3 outlines the key elements of each policy and summarises whether there is the potential for the policy to have a positive or negative impact on each of the protected characteristics identified in Section 1.3. Please note that for the purposes of screening the full policy outlines from the DALP proposed submission document have been used. The policy summaries provided in the table are only to be used as a quick point of reference, further context and policy detail can be found in the DALP proposed submission document and overarching Core Strategy Local Plan.
- 5.3 The key below identifies the symbols used to highlight the likely impact on each of the groups that an individual policy may have. Where a policy is likely to impact upon all of Halton's communities this has been identified as neutral, as there is no disproportionate impact for any specific group.

Symbol	Likely Impact
+	Positive
o	Neutral
-	Negative

Table 3 Screening the Delivery and Allocations Proposed Submission Document

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
CS(R) 1: Halton's Spatial Strategy	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Halton's Spatial Strategy establishes the spatial distribution of future growth and development in the Borough and so flows into all policies within the Core Strategy and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan. The three groups highlighted through the assessment of the Spatial Strategy (Disability, Age and Socio-economic disadvantage groups) therefore reflect the key groups that are repeatedly identified as having positive impacts through the Local Plan. The Spatial Strategy focuses on development in defined urban areas close to existing services and <i>facilities</i> increasing access and connectivity and reducing the need to travel. This will have a positive impact for those with a disability, socioeconomic disadvantage groups and will take into account the needs of an ageing population. Delivering housing diversity, health improvements and employment opportunities in the Key Areas of Change will also benefit those in socio-economic disadvantage groups. These positive effects are repeated throughout the Core Strategy and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan policies in the assessment.
CS(R) 3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the net number of dwellings to be provided in Halton;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	One of the locational priorities for housing supply is to consider additional housing allocations this intervention could potentially improve housing diversity in these

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b. Set out, if appropriate, the number of dwellings to be provided in any sub-housing market areas; c. Identify, if appropriate, any requirements for the mix of housing to be provided; and d. Recognise the Council's commitments to the emerging LCR (Devolution) agenda												areas with the potential to benefit disadvantaged groups and ultimately ensure balanced and sustainable communities.
CS(R) 4: Employment Land supply The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the amount of employment land to be provided in Halton; b. Consider the appropriateness of defining separate 'strategic' and 'local' employment sites c. Identify, if appropriate, any requirements for the mix of land to be provided; d. Identify the policy for existing employment land; and e. Recognise the Council's commitments to the emerging LCR (Devolution) agenda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	As with housing supply, one of the priorities for employment supply is to maintain employment sites across the Borough with the aim of providing local jobs which are accessible for local people. This should benefit local residents within these areas, improving the skills base, lowering unemployment and increasing income.
CS(R) 5: A Network of Centres The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the hierarchy of retail centres; b. Identify potential new centres; and c. Set out the amount of retail capacity within Halton and the town and district centres.	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	A Network of Centres focuses on improving resident's accessibility to services and facilities and therefore will have a positive impact on the protected characteristics. For instance this will help to reduce the need to travel and assist those who do not have access to a private vehicle, which includes older and younger people, disabled people and those identified within disadvantaged groups.
CS(R) 6: Green Belt The aim of this policy is to;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

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a. Define the Green Belt within Halton; and b. Prevent inappropriate development												
CS(R) 13: Affordable Housing The aim of this policy is to: a. Provide the thresholds for when affordable housing will be required; b. Set out the proportion of affordable housing that will be required; c. Set out the mix of affordable housing that will be required; and d. Identify the circumstances when off-site provision or a payment in lieu may be accepted.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	The increase in the supply of affordable housing will have a positive impact on all of the protected characteristics in particular the socio economic disadvantaged groups.
CS(R) 14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople The aim of this policy is to: a. Set out the level of Gypsy and Traveller provision required within Halton; and b. Identify the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller applications will be considered against.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are recognised ethnic minority groups, and so providing adequate pitch and site provision will have a positive impact on the 'race' equality strand. Ensuring good access to health facilities from pitches and sites will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those with a disability within this minority group.
CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that development is only permitted where frequent public transport provision exists or is made for; b. Protect existing and disused facilities (location specific); c. Ensure that development would not be permitted where this would prejudice the provision of new public transport facilities (location specific); d. Require development to prioritise design measures to ensure safe and convenient cycle and pedestrian access; and	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Encouraging sustainable transport will benefit those with disabilities, older and younger people without access to a private vehicle, and people on low incomes.

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e. Seek, where appropriate, new routes to link appropriately to the Greenway Network (including the Trans-Pennine Trail and the Mersey Way), and include improvements and extensions where feasible.												
CS (R)17: Expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport Aim of this policy would be to: consider the expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport (LJLA), including any revised Airport Masterplan within defined Sustainable Development Principals and ;define existing and expanded Airport boundary (particularly with regard to runway end safety zones); and identify extent (if any) of land to be removed from the Green Belt (specific to the runway extension).	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
CS(R)19 Sustainable Development and Climate Change Aim of this policy would be to: seek to reduce the causes and tackle the effects of climate change by ensuring developments contribute to reductions in carbon emissions, are adaptable to the effects of a changing climate, and are sustainable for current communities and future generations.	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Achieving sustainable development will have a significant positive impact for all members of Halton's communities including the identified protected characteristic of each equality group. There is therefore no disproportionate impact for any of the protected characteristics. In the long term the increased use of sustainable design and construction methods/technologies could decrease the cost of heating and servicing a home. This will particularly benefit the elderly and those on low incomes who are more likely to suffer from fuel poverty.
CS(R)20 Natural and Historic Environment Aim of this policy would be to: Require all new development to conserve, manage and enhance Halton's historic and natural environments for current and future generations and to ensure a strong sense of place, enhance local distinctiveness and improve environmental quality.	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	This policy will have a positive impact for those with a disability and the elderly as conserving and managing the historic and natural environment will assist in improving access for all.

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CS(R)21 Green Infrastructure Aim of this policy would be to: Recognise the multi-functionality of Halton's Green Infrastructure and its contribution to improving the quality of life of Halton's residents. The policy aims to protect, enhance and expand (where appropriate) Green Infrastructure in the Borough.	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Multi-functional Green Infrastructure will increase opportunities for formal and informal recreation supporting residents of all ages and improving resident's health and well-being. Enhancing connectivity and access will also ensure that the Borough's Green Infrastructure is accessible for all.
CS(R)25 Minerals Aim of this policy would be to: to manage the Borough's mineral resources through minimising the need for minerals extraction and where proposals for minerals extractions do occur, ensuring that economic, social and environmental issues and impacts are fully considered.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
CS26 Unallocated land in Urban Areas (New Policy) Aim of this policy would be to: Identify land not coloured on the policies map that is not subject to any site specific policies which propose a change of use.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
ED1: Employment Allocations Aim of this policy would be to: a. allocate sites for employment purposes to deliver the Core Strategy requirements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	This policy seeks to make provision for new employment land in the Borough to strengthen Halton's economy and to offer business and industry a choice of sites so that differing site requirements and locational needs can be met. One of the priorities for employment

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												supply is to maintain employment sites across the Borough with the aim of providing local jobs which are accessible for local people. This should benefit local residents within these areas, improving the skills base, lowering unemployment and increasing income.
ED2: Employment Development Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify and designate Primarily Employment Areas; b. ensure development is compatible with existing and proposed surrounding uses; c. ensure employment development is designed to allow for future flexibility for a range of uses, including future subdivision and/or amalgamation for a range of business accommodation; d. encourage the intensification of existing business floorspace within Town/District centres and employment areas; and e. require development to consider design and access issues and where possible alleviate issues.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	Primarily Employment Areas are those areas of the Borough where employment is and will continue to be, the predominant land use in the area. By ensuring that these areas are designed to improve accessibility and flexibility for a range of uses, this will have a positive outcome on the disabled and socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas) Aim of this policy would be to: a. define complementary services and facilities; b. permit complementary services and facilities in employment areas where appropriate; c. ensure that complementary services and facilities do not impact on local employment or the local economy; and d. explain that, where appropriate, housing development can form an integral part of a mixed use development and could be permitted within a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy is intended to apply to applications for uses such as a children's day nursery, a service provision (eg bank, shop, sandwich bar) or a conference facility within Primarily Employment Areas. Such complementary services and facilities will serve the local workforce or help the employment area function well. This would have a positive impact on each of the protected characteristics.

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designated employment area if it is located in or adjacent to a Town or District Centre.												
RD1: Residential Development Allocations Aim of this policy would be to: a. Allocate sites for residential development purposes to deliver the Core Strategy housing requirements;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The supply of residential development sites and the identification of Primarily Residential Areas will assist in the sustainable location of future housing. This has the potential to benefit disadvantaged groups and ultimately ensure balanced and sustainable communities. There is therefore no disproportionate impact for any of the protected characteristics.
RD2:Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations) Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify specific sites that will enable continuous delivery of sites for at least 15 years; and b. identify existing sites to be retained.	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show people are recognised ethnic minority groups, and so providing adequate pitch and site provision will have a positive impact on the 'race' equality strand. Ensuring a supply of suitable sites will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those with a disability within this minority group.
RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings Aim of this policy would be to: a. retain character of existing properties and residential areas b. Including consideration of the form, scale, design and materials to be used; c. ensure that any extensions do not increase the size of the property by more than a set percentage over the original property; d. ensure that any replacement dwelling is not more than a set percentage larger than the dwelling it is replacing;	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	The design of a dwelling, extension, conversion or replacement dwelling is a material consideration in the planning process. Improving design will not only ensure that the aesthetics of development are taken into consideration but it will also ensure that amenity, safety, access and accessibility are key issues to consider in the determination of planning applications to meet the needs of the whole community. In addition maintaining highway safety, ensuring residential development is not isolated and providing adequate parking will have a positive impact on the elderly and those with a

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e. ensure that any conversion is within a building of permanent and substantial construction capable of being converted; f. ensure that the proposal would not result in isolated residential development; g. maintain safe highway conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles; and h. provide, or retain, appropriate parking i. Provide, or retain, appropriate garden space												disability. It is considered that this policy will have no negative impacts on the remaining protected characteristics.
RD4: Greenspace Provision for Residential Development Aim of this policy would be to: a. require development to consider adequate open space provision; b. set open space standards (in accordance with the current draft Open Space SPD); c. explain that the precise levels for open space will depend on the location of the development; d. state that off-site provision or financial contributions will only be agreed where it can be demonstrated that there is no practical alternative; and e. identify other exceptions to policy.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Policy RD4 will set out the criteria for the protection of existing open space from other uses. It will also set out the requirements for the provision of new open space as a result of new development, how this will be achieved and funded. The provision of open space will benefit all of the protected characteristics.
RD5: Specialist Housing Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that development gives consideration to the ageing population in relation to types, size, style and flexibility of dwellings provided; b. Ensure that any specialist housing or accommodation is appropriately located and meets the needs of its residents; and	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	The need for extra care or supported housing in Halton is particularly pronounced because of low levels of existing provision. This policy will enable the management of the provision of specialist housing ensuring they are available in the most sustainable locations. This will have a positive impact particularly for

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c. Identify appropriate locations for development and /or provide criteria to define appropriate locations.												the elderly and carers. No impacts have been anticipated for the remaining characteristics.
RD6: Primarily Residential Areas The aim of this policy is to; a. Identify Primarily Residential Areas.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
RD7: Custom and Self Build Housing The aim of this policy is to; a. Require residential developments of more than 250 dwellings to support prospective custom and self-builders; and b. Provide a criteria for the provision of plots	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
C1: Transport Network and Accessibility Aim of this policy would be to: a. where necessary allocate sites for transport purposes. b. ensure that development is only permitted where frequent public transport provision exists or is made for; b. protect existing and disused facilities (location specific); c. ensure that development would not be permitted where this would prejudice the provision of new public transport facilities (location specific); d. require development to prioritise design measures to ensure safe and convenient cycle and pedestrian access; and e. seek, where appropriate, new routes to link appropriately to the Greenway Network (including the Trans-Pennine Trail and the Mersey Way), and include improvements and extensions where feasible. a. define road schemes (location specific); b. Freight and logistic hubs;	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	There are positive impacts for the elderly and disabled people. Improved accessible transport facilities will benefit all but in particular disabled people and those at SE disadvantage but no evidence of negative impacts on any of the remaining protected characteristics.

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c. Identify when a Transport Assessment, Travel Plan and / or Transport Statement will be required; d. ensure that development does not increase traffic to undesirable levels unless traffic problems can be alleviated; e. ensure that development considers the effects on the sustainable transport network including public transport links, pedestrian and cycling routes; f. ensure that development provides safe access to the overall transport network; g. ensure that development seeks to enhance accessibility for sustainable modes of transport, by giving priority to pedestrian, cycling and public transport access to ensure they are safe, convenient and attractive, and linked to existing networks; h. highlight the need for development to incorporate traffic management and traffic calming schemes where appropriate; and i. highlight the need for development to provide equal access for all people, including inclusive access. j. Seek to minimise increases in the usage of level crossings associated with new development and where necessary consider the requirement for alternatives (footbridge / underbridge / diversions)												
C2: Parking Standards Aim of this policy would be to: a. incorporate appropriate parking standards (including cycle parking); b. require development proposals to provide an appropriate level of safe, secure, accessible and viable parking provision;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ensuring that all new development incorporates appropriate parking facilities for both vehicles and cycles will benefit all, in particular the elderly and disabled people. Improving the accessibility and provision of electric charging points will also have positive impacts on these groups. These policy aims

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c. highlight any exceptions to the policy – development would need to justify in terms of no harmful impact to street scene or the availability of on-street parking; d. consider off-airport car parks (LJLA); e. consider the provision of electric car charging points where acceptable; and f. consider space for on-site car clubs and pool car schemes.												have no identified negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics.
C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure Aim of this policy would be to: a. encourage and support proposals for the provision, upgrading and enhancement of wireless and fixed data transfer and telecommunications networks and their associated infrastructure; b. ensure that development proposals have no unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area, on residential amenity or on the safe and satisfactory functioning of highways; c. require that development proposals demonstrate that there will be no significant and irremediable interference with electrical equipment, air traffic service or instrumentation operating in the national interest; and d. ensure that development proposals have special regard to the Green Belt, and the natural and historic environment where the quality of the landscape / townscape may be particularly sensitive to the intrusion of communications infrastructure.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
C4: Operation of Liverpool John Lennon Airport Aim of this policy would be to: a. seek to ensure that development is not permitted that may impede the operational requirements of the Airport;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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b. ensure that development has regard to the Airports Surface Access Strategy; c. address the issues of Airport parking; and d. consider Circular 1/2003 Safeguarding Aerodromes.												
HC1: Vital and Viable Centres Aim of this policy would be to: a. protect primary retail role of local centres with other uses supported where they complement the existing role of these centres; b. provide the thresholds for when a Sequential Test or Retail Impact Assessment is required; c. ensure that retail developments do not detrimentally effect the appearance or character of the area, local amenity or highway conditions; d. ensure that development is compatible with the prime retail function of the area; e. identify non retail uses; f. consider food and drink outlets; and g. support the retention and enhancement of the town markets.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC2: Retail and Town Centre Allocations Aim of this policy would be to: a. allocate sites for retail / leisure / cultural / tourism / community purposes to deliver the Core Strategy requirements.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC3: Primary Shopping Areas Aim of this policy would be to: a. define the town, district and local centre boundaries; b. define and protect primary and secondary retail frontages; and	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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c. define and protect primary shopping areas of the town centres by managing changes and development that do not contribute to the vitality and viability of the centre.												
HC4: Shop Fronts, Signage and Advertising Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that the design of retail development is considered, including it being of an appropriate size and scale; b. ensure that new and altered shop fronts are only permitted should they be appropriate to the building and the character of the area; c. ensure that proposals for shop fronts have appropriate regard to design, security and safety, amenity and access; and d. ensure that signage and advertisements are only permitted where the size, design, positioning, materials and degree of illumination of the advertisement would not have an adverse visual impact or a detrimental effect on public safety.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC5: Commercial Leisure Developments and Cultural Facilities Aim of this policy would be to: a. Ensure that the development of leisure and cultural facilities are permitted in or adjacent to town, district or local centre; b. Support the provision of new leisure and cultural facilities and the retention and enhancement of existing leisure facilities (unless their loss can be justified); c. Ensure that the development involving the loss of a community facility would only be permitted where it can be justified; d. Set out the criteria for leisure and cultural facilities in designated centres, edge of designated centres and out of centre locations;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy seeks to provide specific policy direction for the implementation of Core Strategy policy CS22: Health and Wellbeing. By ensuring that an opportunity to widen the Borough's cultural and leisure facilities are supported. This approach will benefit all of Halton's communities.

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e. Ensure that the design of leisure and cultural development is considered, including it being of an appropriate size and scale; and f. Ensure that leisure and cultural developments do not detrimentally affect the appearance or character of the area, local amenity or highway conditions.												
HC6: Community Facilities (including health facilities) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that the development of community facilities is permitted in or adjacent to town, district or local centres; b. support the provision of new community facilities and the retention and enhancement of existing community facilities; and c. ensure that the development involving the loss of a community facility would only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the existing community use is no longer required, not viable, or proposals for its replacement are included in the application.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy also seeks to provide specific policy direction for the implementation of Core Strategy policy CS22: Health and Wellbeing. No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC7: Visitor Attractions Aim of this policy would be to: a. promote tourism assets and encourage tourism development; b. identify specific areas of assets and future development; c. ensure that development that would affect an existing tourist attraction would not be permitted if it would be likely to detract from the function, appearance or setting of the attraction; d. ensure that development proposals for new tourism attractions / facilities be permitted provided that the proposals are appropriate in size, visually unobtrusive and would not lead to unsatisfactory traffic conditions or other nuisance; and	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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e. seek to consider favourably tourism attractions associated with the Borough's waterfronts.												
HC8: Food and Drink Aim of this policy would be to: a. Manage the development of hot food takeaways and late night bars and pubs.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HC9: Mixed Use Area Aim of this policy would be to: a. Identify appropriate development within a Mixed Use Area b. Identify Mixed Use Allocations c. Designate Mixed Use Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HE1: Natural Environment and Nature Conservation The aim of this policy is to: a. Conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of Halton; and b. Conserve and enhance biodiversity. c. Consider development issues associated with the natural environment including Local Nature Reserves, Local Geological Sites, Local Wildlife Sites, Ancient Woodland, habitat networks / wildlife corridors and habitats and species identified in the BAP d. Consider other development issues in the natural environment including the protection of ponds, hedgerows, trees and woodlands. e. Set out the mitigation hierarchy. f. Consider the ecological network within and across the Borough.	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy will have a positive impact for those with a disability and the elderly as conserving and managing the historic and natural environment will assist in improving access for all.

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HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment Aim of this policy would be to: a. support proposals that help preserve or enhance heritage assets and their settings b. consider the development of listed buildings including demolition, change of use, alterations and additions. c. consider development within Conservation Areas including requesting Conservation Area Appraisals to be undertaken (where appropriate) to help increase understanding and respect the significance, special character, context, appearance and historical importance d. consider other development issues associated with the historic environment including those related to Areas of Archaeological Interest and Scheduled Monuments e. Consider locally significant buildings (those that have been identified on the Local List – these are assets which have been jointly identified by local residents and the Council as a valued and distinctive element of the local historic environment)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.
HE3: Halton's Waterfronts and Waterways Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify the coastal change management areas and provide policy to reduce risk to these areas from inappropriate development b. explain how waterways and their banks provide established habitats with nature conservation value c. support proposals for recreation and tourism (where appropriate)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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d. expect development to respect the important amenity, landscape and ecological characteristics, important landscape and wildlife resources, attractive views and access points e. ensure that waterside development is not permitted if it would have an unacceptable effect on water quality or cause significant run-off f. seek opportunities for development to connect any identified habitats, species or features g. set out the need to consult (if appropriate) the owners of any waterways for any works that might affect the integrity of the waterway or linkages (for instance to towpaths) h. continue support for the Bridgewater Trust, including seeking contributions from canal side development. i. support the reinstatement of the Runcorn Locks (subject to consequential water loss through operation/vandalism not being detrimental to the safe operation of the Bridgewater Canal)												
HE4: Green Infrastructure Aim of this policy would be to: a. identify in what instances appropriate compensatory / financial contributions would be sought with regard to green infrastructure b. require development, where appropriate, to include assessments for on-site ecology, connectivity of the site with the green infrastructure network and make provision for improvements where necessary both on-site and off-site c. ensure that where development is permitted, that it is of a scale, form, layout and design which respects the character of the Borough's green infrastructure network and does not lead to a loss in the overall amenity	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Multi-functional Green Infrastructure will increase opportunities for formal and informal recreation supporting residents of all ages and improving resident's health and well-being. Enhancing connectivity and access will also ensure that the Borough's Green Infrastructure is accessible for all the protected characteristics.

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d. support cross boundary working to support the maintenance and development of wider green infrastructure networks												
HE5: Trees and Landscaping Aim of this policy would be to: a. Protect woodlands, trees and hedgerows b. Conserve the local landscape c. Ensure development incorporates appropriate hard and soft landscaping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Conserving and protecting woodlands, trees and hedgerows and conserving the local landscape will benefit all of Halton's communities. It is considered that this policy would not have negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics.
HE6: Greenspace and Outdoor Sports Provision Aim of this policy would be to: a. set out standards for open space and outdoor playing pitch, sport and recreation provision in the Borough, to help in assessing development proposals for sport and recreation facilities (link to policy H7); b. Define the extent of Open Spaces within the Borough; and c. Define Local Green Spaces.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics
HE7: Pollution and Nuisance Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that development near to established sources is not permitted if it is likely that those existing sources of pollution will have an unacceptable effect on the proposed development b. ensure that development proposals would not be permitted if it is likely to have an unacceptable effect on: i. air quality ii. noise nuisance iii. odour nuisance iv. light pollution and nuisance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics

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v. water quality c. explain that 'unacceptable effects' include those which have an effect on: local amenity; public health; public safety; quality standards; investment confidence; visual obtrusion and risk to the natural environment d. require that any development which has the potential to pollute or cause nuisance to demonstrate that mitigation measures have been incorporated												
HE8: Land Contamination Aim of this policy would be to: a. require development proposals on land which may be contaminated to be accompanied by a land investigation to establish the level of contamination b. require appropriate site remediation and aftercare measures where appropriate and if necessary include details of a programme of implementation c. encourage the adoption of sustainable remediation technologies d. ensure that Development is not permitted if it is likely to cause contamination of the soil or sub-soil e. consideration given to the impact of contamination on the wider environment including water courses, flora and fauna. f. explain that the requirement to undertake work associated with contaminated land will be controlled by either planning conditions or where necessary by planning obligations g. seek innovative methods to assist in enabling remediation and regeneration of contaminated sites to be economically viable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy will benefit all members of Halton's communities; however, there must be consideration of those with a disability and the elderly as these groups may be at the greatest risk in the event of a major hazard. Tackling contaminated land will benefit all of the Borough's communities.
HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk Aim of this policy would be to: a. set out the criteria for development regarding flood risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy aims to make a significant contribution to making Halton a safer place to live, work and visit by protecting people and the environment from the

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
b. identify land to be safeguarded from development that is required for current and future flood management (if necessary) c. ensure that development provides for appropriate sustainable drainage mechanisms, evidenced where appropriate by drainage strategies for development sites. d. Ensure development fully takes account of flood risk and climate change and incorporates adaptation measures where appropriate (see policy HE10) e. Ensure water resources are protected appropriately g. Ensure that development is served by adequate water services including supply and sewerage												consequences of natural or other forces, such as flooding. This will benefit all of Halton's communities.
HE10: Minerals Allocations Aim of this policy would be to: a. allocate areas of winnable mineral resources – Minerals Safeguarding Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy aims to manage the Borough's mineral resources through minimising the need for minerals extraction and where proposals for minerals extractions do occur, ensuring that economic, social and environmental issues and impacts are fully considered in the allocation of sites for winnable mineral resources. No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
HE11: Minerals Aim of this policy would be to: a. set out the criteria for the potential extraction of minerals resources ensuring that minerals development does not have an unacceptable detrimental impact on the Borough's Green Belt, green infrastructure network, the natural environment, the historic environment, local amenity, the best and most versatile agricultural land, or the highway network.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
Development should also not cause unacceptable nuisance to surrounding uses b. set out the circumstances (where appropriate) for the prior extraction of minerals c. require minerals development to incorporate a restoration plan for the reclamation of the site to an appropriate after use, or to a state capable of beneficial after use within a suitable timeframe												
GR1: Design of Development Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that development has regard to: local character, frontages, scale, height, massing, proportion, form, sustainable development, adaptability, layout, access, boundary walls and fences, public realm, amenity, links to Green and Blue Infrastructure, climate change, low carbon, use of renewables detailing and materials	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	In the long term the increased use of sustainable design and construction methods/technologies could decrease the cost of heating and servicing a home. This will particularly benefit the elderly and those on low incomes who are more likely to suffer from fuel poverty.
GR2: Amenity Aim of this policy would be to: a. retain character of existing properties and local area; b. preserve amenity of existing area; c. ensure that adequate private garden space is provided; d. ensure that appropriate external storage space is provided, in particular for waste and recycling facilities; e. maintain safe highway conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles; f. provide a high standard of amenity and living conditions for future occupiers;	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
g. Support retrofitting to existing stock to improve energy efficiency / sustainability h. prevent unreasonably restricting the continued operation of established authorised uses and activities on adjacent sites; i. support redevelopment of residential areas where it would improve amenity, quality and the local environment; and support development in identified regeneration areas which provides for the improvement of the housing stock.												
GR3: Boundary Fences and Walls Aim of this policy would be to; a. Identify what is considered acceptable in terms of boundary walls and fences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
GR4: Temporary Buildings Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that proposals for temporary buildings do not prejudice the long term after-use of the site b. require proposals for temporary buildings to be for a specified period	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.
GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy) Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure renewable and low carbon energy proposals are of the appropriate scale and design b. seek Energy Statements as part of the Design and Access Statement to demonstrate how the energy hierarchy has been achieved (subject to exclusions)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the protected characteristics.

Policy	Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Disability	Sexual orientation	Age	Religion / belief	Carers	Socio-economic disadvantage	Transgender	Marital status/Civil Partnership	Pregnancy/Maternity	Commentary
c. highlight that opportunities for Energy Priority Zones in the Key Areas of Change will be supported where development can draw its energy from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy d. require developments in Energy Priority Zones to connect to District Heating networks where it is feasible and viable to do so e. ensure that proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation includes a landscape and visual assessment f. support the sustainable retrofitting of existing development.												
GB1: Control of Development in the Green Belt Aim of this policy would be to: b. identify what is considered appropriate development in Halton's Green Belt; c. identify the local circumstances for the construction of new buildings and changes of use in the Green Belt; d. ensure that extensions, alterations and replacement dwellings will only be permitted subject to scale, character and appearance; and e. highlight local circumstances for limited infilling.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.
GB2: Safeguarded Land Aim of this policy would be to: a. ensure that an appropriate level of land is safeguarded for future needs; and b. identify the approach to applications for development on safeguarded land.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No significant impacts are anticipated for the equality groups.

6. Summary of Impacts

- 6.1 This section focuses on the overall impact of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP), in combination for each of the protected characteristics.

Table 4: Assessment of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Document Policy (++ significant positive impact)				
Protected Characteristic	+ve	o	-ve	Comment
Race/Ethnicity	+			Ensuring good access to health facilities for all ethnic groups will positively benefit the elderly, young people and those with a disability.
Gender		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Disability	++			A key theme across all of the policies in the proposed submission document is to improve access for all, especially to community services and facilities. This will have particular positive benefits for people with mobility issues including those with a disability.
Sexual Orientation		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Transgender		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Age	++			The policies are likely to have a positive benefit on younger people and on the elderly due to the emphasis on ensuring access to community services and facilities and affordable housing of the right type, size and mix.
Religion/belief		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Carers	+			The need for extra care or supported housing in Halton is particularly pronounced because of low levels of existing provision. The provision of specialist housing in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on this protected characteristic.

Marital Status/Civil Partnership		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.
Pregnancy and Maternity		oo		The policies are not envisaged to have any disproportionate impact on this protected characteristic.

Table 4: Assessment of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Proposed submission Document Policy

(++ significant positive impact)

- 6.2 Overall, the EqIA reveals that the majority of policies are likely to have a positive or neutral impact on the different groups in the community.
- 6.3 The overall summary has not identified any disproportionate negative impacts for any of the protected characteristics.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 In addition to determining the likely impact of the policy on the protected characteristics, it is important to consider whether the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP+) Proposed Submission Document consultation arrangements have, or will cause, an adverse impact or discriminate against any group in the community. The EqlA will be subject to consultation alongside the DALP Proposed Submission Document and will be in conformity with the 'Statement of Community Involvement'. This document was subject to public consultation and approved by Council. It is available at: <http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/planning/policyguidance/Planning-Policy-Framework.aspx>.
- 7.2 In considering the particular needs of various protected characteristics in the Borough the DALP proposed Submission Document has drawn upon a number of policies, guidance and background documents at all spatial levels in the UK, from national to Borough level. All evidence based and policy documents are referenced and included on Halton Borough Council's website available at: <http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/planning/policyguidance/Evidence.aspx>.

8. General, Duty and Recommendations

- 8.1 This EqlA concludes that the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) Proposed Submission Document is not considered to have any adverse impacts on Halton's minority groups or on the protected characteristics, and it recommends that a full EqlA is not needed at this stage.
- 8.2 Following on from a six week consultation period, the DALP Proposed Submission Document will be amended in light of the representations received. The timetable for the remaining key stages in the production of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Document is shown in the table below.

	Preparation of a Local Plan (Reg 18*)	Proposed Submission Consultation (Reg 19*)	Submission (Reg 22*)	Examination (Reg 24*)	Adoption (Reg 26*)
Delivery and Allocations Local Plan	January 2014, January 2016 and January 2018	May 2019	Autumn 2019	Winter 2019/20	Spring 2020