EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT ODPH



STAGE I: WHAT IS BEING ASSESSED AND BY WHOM?

What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?	The Corporate Plan sets out a clear aim to ensure that Plymouth is a clean and tidy city. Unfortunately, there is evidence that achievement towards this is affected by a small proportion of people breaking the law, through environmental offences such as littering and fly tipping. The enforcement of laws around environmental protection is therefore a necessary step to meet this aim. The Council has authority to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for various environmental crimes and can set the amount payable to discharge liability for the offence between amounts specified by Government. The maximum fine available for some offences was increased in 2018 by legislation. The decision seeks to ensure that all relevant environmental offences are set at the maximum permitted level.
	The income generated by Fixed Penalty Notices must be spent on enforcement of relevant activities. The increase in income generated from the Fixed Penalty Notices will ensure that resources are targeted to continue to ensure our streets and open spaces are kept clean with action targeted at the few who act irresponsibly.
	The impact of this decision will be to increase the cleanliness of the city, improving areas that are currently experienced as untidy through activities such as fly tipping, littering and dog fouling. This will therefore have a positive impact on the vast majority of people; those people who are currently acting unlawfully will be fined for this activity and therefore strongly dissuaded from doing so in future.
Author	Nicola Horne
Department and service	Public Protection Service, ODPH
Date of assessment	06/10/21

STAGE 2: EVIDENCE AND IMPACT

Protected characteristics	Evidence and information	Any adverse impact	Actions	Timescale and who is
(Equality Act)	(e.g. data and feedback)	See guidance on how to make judgement		responsible

Age	This decision relates to setting FPN's at the maximum amount. Age is not considered relevant in terms of the maximum amount an FPN is set at. However, although FPN's can be issued to those over 10 years, Plymouth City Council have agreed to not pursue offences carried out by under 18's. In our experience from carrying out this work, offences are committed by a broad range of ages and no age group has been found to be adversely affected.	be subject to receiving an FPN. Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne
Disability	Disability is not thought to be adversely affected by the decision to increase the FPN's to the maximum amount.	Adverse impact will be for those limited numbers of people who commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any person particularly those on limited income across all protected characteristics.	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne

			taking into a count a person means. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	
Religion or belief	Religion or belief is not a barrier or target for enforcement work to be carried out and does not impact upon environmental offences committed or the appropriate level of the FPN.	Adverse impact will be for those limited numbers of people who commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any person particularly those on limited income across all protected characteristics.	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne
Sex - including marriage, pregnancy and maternity	Sex including marriage, pregnancy and maternity is not a barrier or target for enforcement work to be carried out and does not impact upon environmental offences committed or the appropriate level of the FPN	Adverse impact will be for those limited numbers of people who commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any person particularly those on limited income across all protected characteristics.	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne

			the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	
Gender reassignment	The issuing of FPN's and the FPN being set at the maximum level is not gender specific but offence specific.	Adverse impact will be for those limited numbers of people who commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any person particularly those on limited income across all protected characteristics.	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne
Race	Race is not necessarily known when carrying out enforcement work, although language barriers may be apparent during any face to face interaction. However, this does	commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne

	not affect the amount of FPN and recipients of FPN's are advised to obtain support and advice from relevant support agencies to interpret any written information.	limited income across all protected characteristics.	publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	
Sexual orientation - including civil partnership	A person's sexuality is not known by the service and is not a barrier or target for enforcement work to be carried out. There is no data available to indicate a person's sexuality.	Adverse impact will be for those limited numbers of people who commit environmental offences and would be subject to receiving an FPN which could affect any person particularly those on limited income across all protected characteristics.	Information on the increase of the FPN's would be subject to publication on normal communication channels by the Council including social media, and publications on line. The adverse impacts are offset by the positive benefits experienced by those who live in a clean and tidy city with open spaces to enjoy. If any FPN is not paid, it	At point of decision making process. Nicola Horne
			would be subject to prosecution whereby the courts can decide on appropriate levels of penalty taking into a count a person means.	

STAGE 3: ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING? IF SO, PLEASE RECORD ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

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I OCAL	priorities
Local	prioricics

Implications

Timescale and who is responsible

Celebrate diversity and ensure that Plymouth is a welcoming city.	None	
Pay equality for women, and staff with disabilities in our workforce.	None	
Supporting our workforce through the implementation of Our People Strategy 2020 – 2024	None	
Supporting victims of hate crime so they feel confident to report incidents, and working with, and through our partner organisations to achieve positive outcomes.	None	
Plymouth is a city where people from different backgrounds get along well.	None	
Human rights Please refer to guidance	None	

STAGE 4: PUBLICATION

Responsible Officer Sarah Lees

Date 06/10/21

Strategic Director, Service Director or Head of Service