

# EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Strategic Planning and Infrastructure



## STAGE 1: WHAT IS BEING ASSESSED AND BY WHOM?

**What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?**

This assessment is for the Saltram Meadow to Colesdown Hill walking and cycling route which forms part of Plymouth's Strategic Cycle Network (SCN). This document should be read in conjunction with the EIA for the Strategic Cycle Network.

A copy of the strategic cycle network is available at:-  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk/strategiccyclenetwork](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/strategiccyclenetwork)

As noted previously, the Saltram Meadow to Colesdown Hill walking and cycling route running along a former railway line north of the A379 (hereafter referred to as "the route") forms a key extension of the city's strategic cycle network.

The route has steps and a wheeling ramp for cycles at the eastern end where it joins Colesdown Hill.

The objectives of the route, as set out in the eastern corridor and city centre business case submitted to the LTB of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership are as follows:

- Improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists to encourage the modal shift needed for the sustainable development of Saltram Meadow; Sherford new town; the city centre and the waterfront;
- Reduce the impacts of transport on health and the environment, and maximise health benefits; and
- Encourage walking and cycling trips for leisure and tourism.

**Author**

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**Department and service**

Strategic Planning and Infrastructure - Place

**Date of assessment**

26 September 2021

## STAGE 2: EVIDENCE AND IMPACT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and feedback)	Any adverse impact See <a href="#">guidance</a> on how to make judgement	Actions	Timescale and who is responsible
<b>Age</b>	<p>50+ Plymouth - 34.1% (nationally - 33.3%)            75+ Plymouth - 7.6% (nationally - 7.5%)            0-15 Plymouth - 17.5% (nationally - 20.2%)            Over 75's predicted to rise faster than any other group (19k in 2011 to 24k k in 2021).</p> <p>The route would provide, an alternative path that will enable many people, including the elderly to walk, away from the air pollution of the A379 and therefore providing a substantial health benefit by encouraging exercise, and avoiding the adverse impacts of air pollution whilst carrying out the exercise.</p>	<p>Whilst the proposed route does have steps at the eastern end with a cycle wheeling ramp, all existing routes remain open, and therefore there are no negative impacts on people with a physical disability, a proportion of which are likely to be elderly.</p> <p>This is a new route with all existing routes remaining open, and therefore the issues of conflict noted above will be reduced on adjacent routes.</p>	<p>Continue the development of plans to provide a level, step free continuation of the route under Colesdown Hill and onto the A379 via the property of adjacent landowners.</p>	<p>Positive discussions have taken place with the adjacent landowner, but approval, and also funding for the route has not yet been secured, and therefore it is difficult to commit to a timescale at this stage. Similar schemes can take around 2 years from the point at which funding is secured.</p>
<b>Disability</b>	<p>The route provides an opportunity for people with a range of disabilities to walk and cycle for leisure, exercise and to access services and opportunities. Those with learning difficulties and other challenges which make them less able to cycle safely in traffic in particular will benefit from being able to cycle well away from traffic without road safety concerns along the A379 which is the only current alternative. This alternative has no cycle lane in the westbound direction on this stretch.</p>			

<b>Religion or belief</b>	The 2011 census reports that:- 148,917 people in Plymouth are Christian, 881 are Buddhist, 567 are Hindu, 168 are Jewish, 2,078 are Muslim, 89 are Sikh, 1,198 are listed as 'other religion', 84,295 have no religion and 18,191 did not state a religion. (Plymouth's population is 256,384).	No negative impact	None	
<b>Sex - including marriage, pregnancy and maternity</b>	The delivery of the SCN is in accordance with PCC's values i.e. that we are democratic, responsible, fair and work cooperatively with our partners and in accordance with our equality and diversity commitment. The network is designed to be accessible to everyone regardless of gender.	No negative impact.  The steps at the eastern end of the route would be challenging for parents with pushchairs, but the existing route along the A379 will be unchanged.	None  Continue work to develop a level, step free route as noted under the Disability section.	
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	The delivery of the SCN will provide routes which are accessible to everyone, regardless of gender.	No negative impact	No negative impact	
<b>Race</b>	The 2011 census reports that:-238,263 people in Plymouth are white British, 153 are Gypsies or Travellers, 875 are British Indian, 202 British Pakistani, 359 British Bangladeshi, 1,251 British Chinese and 1,219 British Other Asian. 1,106 people are defined as Black British African, 343 Caribbean, 229 as other Black. The census lists 399 people in Plymouth as Arab and 605 as 'other'.  The delivery of the SCN will provide routes which are accessible to everyone, regardless of race.	No negative impact	No negative impact	

<b>Sexual orientation -including civil partnership</b>	The delivery of the SCN will provide routes which are accessible to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation.	No negative impact	None	
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**STAGE 3: ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING? IF SO, PLEASE RECORD ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN**

<b>Local priorities</b>	<b>Implications</b>	<b>Timescale and who is responsible</b>
<b>Celebrate diversity and ensure that Plymouth is a welcoming city.</b>	No negative impact	
<b>Pay equality for women, and staff with disabilities in our workforce.</b>	No negative impact	
<b>Supporting our workforce through the implementation of Our People Strategy 2020 – 2024</b>	No negative impact	
<b>Supporting victims of hate crime so they feel confident to report incidents, and working with, and through our partner organisations to achieve positive outcomes.</b>	No negative impact	
<b>Plymouth is a city where people from different backgrounds get along well.</b>	Delivery of the route will physically improve the connections between communities, particularly for those that do not have access to a car. No negative impacts are expected from the delivery of this route.	This action is the responsibility of the Smarter Choices Team and the scheme designer
<b>Human rights</b> Please refer to <a href="#">guidance</a>	No negative impact	

**STAGE 4: PUBLICATION**



Philip Heseltine

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Head of Transport