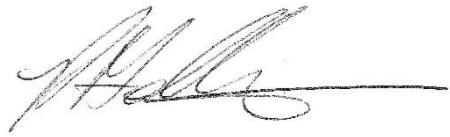


EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – THE PARK, PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEME

SECTION ONE: INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

Author(s): The person completing the EIA template.	Rosemary Starr Sustainable Transport Manager	Department and service:	Strategic Planning and Infrastructure; Sustainable Transport Team	Date of assessment:	24 June 2025
Lead Officer: Head of Service, Service Director, or Strategic Director.	Philip Heseltine Head of Transport	Signature:		Approval date:	24 June 2025
Overview:	<p>The Park – Public Transport Infrastructure Scheme involves the installation of two bus stops on Merafield Road close to the entrance of the Park crematorium (including two marked Bus Stop Clearways on the carriageway), a puffin crossing on Merafield Road itself, approximately 15 m north of the entrance to The Park and associated footway links. The proposal is necessary in order to allow members of the public to access The Park, by bus, following the introduction of the service 19 which is a Plymouth City Council tendered bus service. The service has been introduced following requests from the public to be able to access The Park by bus.</p> <p>The scheme is necessary in order to allow passengers to safely board and alight the bus, and cross Merafield Road, when accessing The Park.</p> <p>A formalised, puffin, crossing has been assessed as required based upon vehicle count information, the number of which is significant, together with the fact that it is anticipated that large numbers of elderly and mobility impaired people will be using the bus service to access the crematorium.</p>				
Decision required:	This Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) assesses the impact of the recommendation:-				

	To install a new controlled pedestrian (puffin) crossing on Merafield Road approximately 15 metres north of the access to The Park crematorium in order allow passengers to safely board and alight the bus, and cross Merafield Road, when accessing The Park.
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SECTION TWO: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

Potential external impacts: Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact service users, communities or residents with protected characteristics?	Yes		No	X
Potential internal impacts: Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact Plymouth City Council employees?	Yes		No	X
Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (if you have answered yes to either of the questions above then a full impact assessment is required and you must complete section three)	Yes		No	X
If you do not agree that a full equality impact assessment is required, please set out your justification for why not.	A full equality impact assessment has been undertaken.			

SECTION THREE: FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act, 2010)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and consultation feedback)	Adverse impact	Mitigation activities	Timescale and responsible department

Age	<p>Plymouth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16.4 per cent of people in Plymouth are children aged under 15. • 65.1 per cent are adults aged 15 to 64. • 18.5 percent are adults aged 65 and over. • 2.4 percent of the resident population are 85 and over. <p>South West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15.9 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14, 61.8 per cent are aged 15 to 64. • 22.3 per cent are aged 65 and over. <p>England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.4 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14. • 64.2 per cent of people are aged 15 to 64. • 18.4 per cent of people are aged 65 and over. <p>(2021 Census)</p> <p>Public Transport Data</p> <p>In 2019/2020 18,027,681 bus trips were made, of which 5,098,348 (28%) were concessionary trips.</p> <p>In 2020/2021 6,881,673 bus trips were made, of which 1,722,313 (25%) were concessionary trips.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p> <p>The formalised, puffin, crossing will allow everyone to safely cross Merafield Road at this location. However, it is expected to be particularly beneficial to elderly and mobility impaired people using the bus service to access the crematorium.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
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	<p>In 2021/2022 12,481,802 bus trips were made, of which 2,870,138 (23%) were concessionary trips.</p> <p>In 2022/2023 14,430,064 bus trips were made, of which 3,232,668 (22%) were concessionary trips and</p> <p>In 2023/24 15,556,201 bus trips were made, of which 3,446,205 (22%) were concessionary trips.</p> <p>There are currently circa 50,000 people living within Plymouth that hold a concessionary bus pass. The passes are issued either to residents who are over state pension age or have a disability that entitles them to a pass. There are currently circa 46,000 active age related passes.</p> <p>Older people by the nature of the scheme are overrepresented as beneficiaries of concessionary fares. National data shows that young people are overrepresented amongst public transport users (Gov.uk).</p>			
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<p>Care experienced individuals</p> <p>(Note that as per the Independent Review of Children's Social Care recommendations, Plymouth City Council is treating care experience as though it is a protected characteristic).</p>	<p>It is estimated that 26 per cent of the homeless population in the UK have care experience. In Plymouth there are currently 7 per cent of care leavers open to the service (6 per cent aged 18-20 and 12 per cent of those aged 21+) who are in unsuitable accommodation.</p> <p>The Care Review reported that 41 per cent of 19-21 year old care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to 12 per cent of all other young people in the same age group.</p> <p>In Plymouth there are currently 50 per cent of care leavers aged 18-21 Not in Education Training or Employment (54 per cent of all those care leavers aged 18-24 who are open to the service).</p> <p>There are currently 195 care leavers aged 18 to 20 (statutory service) and 58 aged 21 to 24 (extended offer). There are more care leavers aged 21 to 24 who could return for support from services if they wished to.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
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Disability	<p>9.4 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a lot' because of a physical or mental health problem.</p> <p>12.2 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a little' because of a physical or mental health problem (2021 Census)</p> <p>Public Transport Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2019/2020 18,027,681 bus trips were made, of which 5,098,348 (28%) were concessionary trips. • In 2020/2021 6,881,673 bus trips were made, of which 1,722,313 (25%) were concessionary trips. • In 2021/2022 12,481,802 bus trips were made, of which 2,870,138 (23%) were concessionary trips. • In 2022/2023 14,430,064 bus trips were made, of which 3,232,668 (22%) were concessionary trips. • In 2023/24 15,556,201 bus trips were made, of which 3,446,205 (22%) were concessionary trips. <p>There are currently circa 50,000 people living within Plymouth that hold a concessionary bus pass. The passes are issued either to residents who are over state pension age or have a disability that entitles them to a pass. There are currently circa 4,500 active disabled bus passes.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p> <p>The formalised, puffin, crossing will allow everyone to safely cross Merafield Road at this location. However, it is expected to be particularly beneficial to elderly and mobility impaired people using the bus service to access the crematorium.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
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Gender reassignment	0.5 per cent of residents in Plymouth have a gender identity that is different from their sex registered at birth. 0.1 per cent of residents identify as a trans man, 0.1 per cent identify as non-binary and, 0.1 per cent identify as a trans women (2021 Census).	None The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Marriage and civil partnership	40.1 per cent of residents have never married and never registered a civil partnership. 10 per cent are divorced, 6 percent are widowed, with 2.5 per cent are separated but still married. 0.49 per cent of residents are, or were, married or in a civil partnerships of the same sex. 0.06 per cent of residents are in a civil partnerships with the opposite sex (2021 Census).	None The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Pregnancy and maternity	The total fertility rate (TFR) for England was 1.62 children per woman in 2021. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Plymouth in 2021 was 1.5.	None The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.	Not applicable	Not applicable

Race	<p>In 2021, 94.9 per cent of Plymouth's population identified their ethnicity as White, 2.3 per cent as Asian and 1.1 per cent as Black (2021 Census)</p> <p>People with a mixed ethnic background comprised 1.8 per cent of the population. 1 per cent of the population use a different term to describe their ethnicity (2021 Census)</p> <p>92.7 per cent of residents speak English as their main language. 2021 Census data shows that after English, Polish, Romanian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic are the most spoken languages in Plymouth (2021 Census).</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable
Religion or belief	<p>48.9 per cent of the Plymouth population stated they had no religion. 42.5 per cent of the population identified as Christian (2021 Census).</p> <p>Those who identified as Muslim account for 1.3 per cent of Plymouth's population while Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish or Sikh combined totalled less than 1 per cent (2021 Census).</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable
Sex	<p>51 per cent of our population are women and 49 per cent are men (2021 Census).</p>	<p>None</p> <p>The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sexual orientation	88.95 per cent of residents aged 16 years and over in Plymouth describe their sexual orientation as straight or heterosexual. 2.06 per cent describe their sexuality as bisexual, 1.97 per cent of people describe their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. 0.42 per cent of residents describe their sexual orientation using a different term (2021 Census).	None The scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all.	Not applicable	Not applicable
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SECTION FOUR: HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

Human Rights	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
	No adverse impacts on Human Rights are anticipated from this decision.	Not applicable	Not applicable

SECTION FIVE: OUR EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Equality objectives	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
Work together in partnership to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote equality, diversity and inclusion facilitate community cohesion support people with different backgrounds and lived experiences to get on well together 	The scheme positively supports community cohesion through enabling access, by bus, to The Park crematorium allowing residents and visitors to Plymouth, who may not have access to a private car, to be able to attend ceremonies at The Park and use the facilities.	The scheme mitigates the current inability for residents and visitors to Plymouth, who may not have access to a private car, to travel to The Park	2025/26 – Sustainable Transport Team (SP&I)
Give specific consideration to care experienced people to improve their life outcomes, including access to training, employment and housing.	This scheme has no specific impact on care experienced people; the scheme is designed to improve access to The Park crematorium, by bus, for all	Not applicable; no adverse impacts are anticipated	Not applicable

Build and develop a diverse workforce that represents the community and citizens it serves.	This scheme has no direct impact on building a diverse workforce.	Not applicable; no adverse impacts are anticipated	Not applicable
Support diverse communities to feel confident to report crime and anti-social behaviour, including hate crime and hate incidents, and work with partners to ensure Plymouth is a city where everybody feels safe and welcome.	This scheme has no direct impact on empowering communities to feel confident to report crime and anti-social behaviour.	Not applicable; no adverse impacts are anticipated	Not applicable