

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT



STAGE 1: What is being assessed and by whom?

What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?	<p>Council are being asked to approve an 'in principle' agreement to proceed towards the development of a Combined Authority, as a vehicle to administer a Devolution Deal with Government. This is based on the submission of a Prospectus for Productivity sent to Government in late February 2016.</p> <p>Any Deal agreed with Government is expected to create a change to policy at a strategic level in terms of drawing down powers and funding not currently available to councils across the Heart of the South West area, and in terms of how the constituent councils and the LEP work together in the context of a new Combined Authority.</p> <p>However, any impact that these might have on individuals or communities with protected characteristics is not yet known and will be dependent on the form of any Devolution Deal from Government, and subsequent changes to the ways in which services are locally commissioned, designed and delivered.</p>
Responsible Officer	Giles Perritt
Department and Service	Assistant Chief Executive, Policy, Performance and Partnerships
Date of Assessment	20 th June 2016

STAGE 2: Evidence and Impact

Protected Characteristics (Equality Act)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and feedback)	Any adverse impact?	Actions	Timescale and who is responsible?
Age	Broad policy areas included in the Heart of the South West Prospectus for Productivity include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health, Care and Wellbeing • Skills and Employment • Business Support • Connectivity • Resilience • Housing and Planning 	This Council report and its recommendations do not directly affect any people or communities; however the proposals, if ultimately included in a Devolution Deal, may affect all communities in Plymouth. Further equality impact assessments will therefore need to be carried out on specific proposals for any service changes.	None at this stage – further evaluation will be required once a deal has been announced.	A final Deal is not anticipated until 2017 at the earliest.
Disability				
Faith, Religion or Belief				
Gender - including marriage, pregnancy and maternity				
Gender Reassignment				
Race				
Sexual Orientation -including Civil Partnership				

STAGE 3: Are there any implications for the following? If so, please record 'Actions' to be taken		
Local Priorities	Implications	Timescale and who is responsible?
Reduce the inequality gap, particularly in health between communities.	A major theme within the Devolution Deal is around increased integration between health, care and wellbeing services which is expected to have a positive impact on reducing the inequality gap in health. There will be a particular focus on mental health. In addition, the ability to influence the commissioning	A final Deal is not anticipated until 2017 at the earliest. This is likely to be a first settlement with an expectation that if successfully delivered; further devolved powers may follow subsequently.

STAGE 3: Are there any implications for the following? If so, please record 'Actions' to be taken		
Local Priorities	Implications	Timescale and who is responsible?
	of employment support (DWP Work Programme or similar) and provision around skills should provide greater flexibility to reflect local differences, and therefore more opportunity to reduce inequalities.	
Good relations between different communities (community cohesion).	None	
Human Rights	None	

STAGE 4: Publication			
Director, Assistant Director/Head of Service approving EIA.	Giles Perritt	Date	20 June 2016