



APPENDIX 23

CLYST HONITON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

EQUALITIES IMPACT STATEMENT



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Equalities Impact Assessment

Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Plan

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Equality Act (2010) places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between persons who have a “protected characteristic” and those who do not.
- 1.2. ‘Protected characteristics’ are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 1.3. This report assesses the Submission Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Plan (NP) to ensure that Clyst Honiton Parish Council (as the qualifying body responsible for preparing the Clyst Honiton NP) is satisfying its statutory duties in this regard. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is a systematic analysis of a policy or policies, in order to explore the potential for an adverse impact on a particular group or community. It is a method of assessing and recording the likely differential and/or adverse impact of a policy on people from different groups. If a policy results in unfairness or discrimination then changes to eliminate or lessen the impact should be considered.
- 1.4. The purpose of the analysis is to increase participation and inclusion, to change the culture of public decision-making and to place a more proactive approach to the promotion of equality and fairness at the heart of public policy. The processes involved in conducting the analysis should not be looked on as an end in themselves. Instead, it should be borne in mind that the aim is the promotion of fairness and equality of opportunity and thus it is the outcomes that are of primary concern. In undertaking the EIA, it is important to keep in mind why the Clyst Honiton NP is needed, what the intended outcomes are, and how it will be ensured that the policies will work as intended.

2. Methodology

- 2.1. An assessment has been made on whether the Clyst Honiton NP has a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics (in so far as data is available). The vision and objectives of the NP have been assessed, and individual policies are highlighted where they are considered likely to have a negative impact.

3. Baseline data

- 3.1. Data for the Parish of Clyst Honiton is available from the 2021 Census for the following protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and religious belief.
- 3.2. No data is available for the following protected characteristics: gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity and sexual orientation.

Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Area – Population Characteristics

Total Population: 313

Age: 16.6% of the population are children aged 17 or less, 61.3% are in the working age groups (ages 18-64), with 21.7% in the older age groups (over 64). The mean age is 45 years.

Sex: 152 males; 160 females.

Main language: English is the main language for all residents in 98.1% of households.

Country of birth: 93.6% of residents were born in the UK; 4.5% were born elsewhere in the EU and 2.2% were born in other countries.

Ethnic group: 97.8% of residents are White; 2.2% of residents are Mixed/multiple ethnic groups.

Religion: 47.0% of residents are Christian; 47.0% of residents do not have a religion; 6.0% of residents did not state their religion in the 2021 Census.

Marriage and Civil Partnership: 54.9% of residents are married; 0.3% are in a registered same-sex civil partnership; 8.0% are divorced; 9.8% are widowed.

Health: The local community is generally healthy, with 79.7% reporting 'Very good' or 'Good' health at the time of the 2021 Census.

Source: ONS - 2021 Census

4. Process of Community Consultation

- 4.1. All written communications were in English and it was not considered necessary to translate them into any other language.
- 4.2. Throughout the plan preparation process, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has sought to ensure that local residents, their representatives, local businesses, interest groups and wider interested parties, including statutory and regulatory bodies, have been actively consulted and their views sought.
- 4.3. Agendas, key reports and updates have been regularly provided online on the Clyst Honiton Parish Council website.
- 4.4. The overarching principles of the stakeholder engagement process has been to engage in a manner that is extensive, effective, inclusive, fair, transparent and proportionate.
- 4.5. Widespread consultation was carried out during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Working Group made every effort, using a variety of methods, to reach all of the local community.
- 4.6. A considerable number of community consultation exercises, including questionnaires and public meetings, were carried out between 2016 and 2020, when the first Clyst Honiton NP was progressing.
- 4.7. The details of the consultations carried out are summarized in the Consultation Statement attached to the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan.

- 4.8. The initial Pre-submission HNP (Regulation 14) and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal (SA) were formally published for consultation between 05 January 2016 and 16 February 2016. The Submission Documents were subsequently prepared and submitted to MSDC in June 2016. The Submission Plan and associated documents underwent further public consultation in July 2016-September 2016. In light of feedback from the ongoing Examination of the Mid Sussex District Plan (MSDP), in particular with respect to the overall level of housing need, the Local Planning Authority advised that the Neighbourhood Plan should not proceed to Examination at that time. Progress of the HNP was paused, pending the final adoption of the MSDP, which occurred in March 2018.
- 4.9. On 27 June 2018 the NPWG agreed it would progress a 'light touch' review of the HNP. It was agreed that the revised Clyst Honiton NP would need to be subject of further statutory consultation (Regulation 14 and Regulation 16 consultation). There would also need to be additional evidence gathering and updates to evidence base.
- 4.10. The HNP was prepared mindful of the issues raised as part of public consultation exercises undertaken between 2012-2015 and of the key issues the new plan would need to address including reflecting the District Plan Housing Requirement.
- 4.11. The revised Pre-submission Clyst Honiton NP (Regulation 14) and accompanying SA were formally published for a six week period commencing 07 January 2019 and closing 18 February 2019. The consultation documents were available to view online on the dedicated Clyst Honiton NP webpage. Hard copies of the documents were made available for inspection at the Parish Centre. Comments were invited by email and/or by post. Stakeholders were alerted to the consultation via email alerts. Notices alerting residents and stakeholders to the consultation were placed on Parish notice boards and on the Parish Council website.

5. Likely Impact on Groups with Protected Characteristics

- 5.1. The Vision of the Clyst Honiton states that:
- **Clyst Honiton is a happy and healthy community which is inspired by positive change for those living and working in the Plan Area.**
 - **The wellbeing of our rural and village communities is enhanced by spaces which provide a strong community and business focus which harness community spirit.**
 - **Clyst Honiton aspires to be an attractive, friendly, safe place, encouraging a diverse community to set down their roots and value their river and rural landscape.**
- 5.2. The vision of the Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Plan is expected to have a positive impact on everyone in the parish, and this analysis looks at the protected groups in particular to ensure that it does not have a negative effect on any of them.
- 5.3. The Clyst Honiton NP is expected to have a **positive likely impact** on groups with protected characteristics. It recognises and supports access for the whole community to local social, cultural, sporting and environmental amenities.
- 5.4. All of the Clyst Honiton NP Policies are considered to have a **positive or neutral likely impact** on those with protected characteristics, especially the objectives to support local services. There are no individual policies that are considered likely to have a negative impact. The objective to ensure the Parish is safe and accessible is particularly positive for some groups with protected characteristics, as are the objectives that seek to provide opportunity to affordable and sustainable housing.

Policy	Age	Gender Reassignment	Married or single	Pregnant or maternity	Disability	Race or Colour	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
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<i>C1: Community facilities and services</i>	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral
<i>C2: New Community Building</i>	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>C3: New Community Facilities and Services</i>	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS1: Development of High-Quality Design</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS2: Sustainable Design and Construction of Buildings</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS3: Communications Infrastructure</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS4: Sustainable Drainage</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS5: Flood Risk Management</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS6: Storage Spaces</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS7: Provision of charging points</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS8: Provision and Use of Renewable Energy.</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>DS9: Community Led Renewable Energy Production.</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>E1: Supporting a Rural Economy</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>E2: Rural Economy: Live-Work Units</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>E3: Opportunities for New and/or Improved Business Development in Zone A (Fig 6)</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>SA1: Slate and Tile Site.</i>	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>H1: Self – Build and Custom Build Houses.</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>NE1: Landscape and Biodiversity</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
<i>NE2: Green Landscaped Corridor</i>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Policy	Age	Gender Reassignment	Married or single	Pregnant or maternity	Disability	Race or Colour	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
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NE3: River Clyst Park	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
N4: Local Green Spaces	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
AC1 – Parking Provision	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
AC2: Public realm improvements to Clyst Honiton village road, its road junctions and the enhancement of the historic core.	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
AC3: Active Travel Provision	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

6. Conclusion

- 6.1. The Clyst Honiton NP provides a suite of objectives and policies to respond to the vision for the benefit of the local community as a whole including those with protected characteristics.
- 6.2. In preparing the Clyst Honiton NP, Clyst Honiton Parish Council and the NP Working Group have sought to engage widely with the all of the local community. They have gone beyond minimum consultation requirements to gather the views of the community.
- 6.3. In conclusion, the assessment finds the Clyst Honiton NP to be appropriate and that the duty of care prescribed by the Equalities Act (2010) is met.