

# Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment (FEIA)

Version 3.6 May 2017

The purpose of this assessment is to provide balanced information to support decision making and to promote better ways of working in line with equalities (Equalities Act 2010), Welsh language promotion (The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), sustainable development (Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015), and the four parameters of debate about fairness identified by the Newport Fairness Commission (NFC Full Report to Council 2013).

**Completed by:** Sarah Spicer      **Role:** Manager

**Head of Service:** David Walton      **Date:** 14/03/2024

**I confirm that the above Head of Service has agreed the content of this assessment**

Yes

**When you complete this FEIA, it is your responsibility to submit it to**  
impact.assessments@newport.gov.uk

## **1. Name and description of the policy / proposal being assessed. Outline the policy's purpose.**

The proposal is to set Ellen Ridge pitch fees at 80% of market rent and to cap service charge fees.

Local Authorities have a duty to meet the housing needs of the Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) community. To enable those needs to be met Newport City Council have developed a permanent GRT site, called Ellen Ridge.

A decision is sought regarding the methodology and level and which to set fees. Consideration has been given to ensuring that fees are affordable, and they are set at levels which could be fully covered by benefits for those households eligible for financial assistance.

## **2. Outline how you have/ will involve stakeholders who will be affected by the policy/proposal**

We have consulted with a range of organisations to obtain technical advice regarding options and impacts including:

- Other Local Authorities that manage pitches and fees
- Other Residential Social Landlords with experience of managing pitches and pitch fees
- Department of Work and Pensions.

**3. What information/evidence do you have on stakeholders? e.g. views, needs, service usage etc. Please include all the evidence you consider relevant.**

Information and view collected evidence that some households moving onto pitches will be in receipt of/need to claim housing benefit or Universal Credit to cover the cost of pitch fees and service charges.




In order for the fee to be assessed as a social rent, the fee must be below market rent and pitches allocated to those in need.



**4. Equalities and Welsh language impact**

Protected characteristic	Impact:			Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the section below. Does it: 1. Promote equal opportunity 2. Promote community cohesion 3. Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation?
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incoming residents could be in receipt of housing benefit or universal credit, depending upon their age. By ensuring fees are affordable and classified as social rent, households should be eligible to claim financial support (benefits) to cover costs.
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure rents are affordable for all incoming residents
Gender reassignment/ transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No impact identified
Marriage or civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No impact identified
Pregnancy or maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No impact identified
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gypsy Roma Travellers are recognised as a distinct ethnic group. Ensuring that their housing needs are met and that provision is affordable will have a positive impact.
Religion or Belief or non-belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No impact identified
Sex/ Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Protected characteristic	Impact:			Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the section below. Does it: 1. Promote equal opportunity 2. Promote community cohesion 3. Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation?
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No impact identified
Welsh Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

## 5 How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable development principle in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? Describe how.
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term needs</p>	<p>Provision of a permanent GRT site ensures the needs of the GRT communities are met.</p> <p>The site currently has three pitches, which capacity for future expansion.</p>
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together to deliver objectives</p>	<p>The maintenance of the site will be managed by Newport Norse, tenancy management will be procured from an external provider with relevant experience and tenancy support for the GRT community in Newport is procured from Travelling Ahead.</p>
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Consultation has been limited to organisations and partners with expertise in rent and pitch fee setting and benefit eligibility, to ensure proposals are affordable and households will not be financially unable to manage associated costs.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? Describe how.
 <p data-bbox="231 470 335 504"><b>Prevention</b></p> <p data-bbox="143 504 422 649">Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p data-bbox="459 302 1404 414">Responding to demand for GRT needs is a statutory responsibility, with commitments contained within Newport's Local Development Plan.</p> <p data-bbox="459 448 1396 560">Work is underway finalising the updated Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment, to ensure that future levels of need are clearly understood.</p> <p data-bbox="459 593 1284 660">Connected Communities team are currently reviewing the approach take dealing with unauthorised encampments.</p>
 <p data-bbox="247 1019 343 1052"><b>Integration</b></p> <p data-bbox="143 1064 422 1209">Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p data-bbox="459 672 1396 750">Affordable GRT pitch provision has a positive impact on the Well-being goals.</p> <p data-bbox="459 784 1404 996">Provision of secure, affordable accommodation with good facilities and amenities will enable a good quality of life for residents. It will positively impact on health and wellbeing, and tackle health inequalities facing these communities. The GRT face issues with social exclusion, and provision of accommodation helps tackle that exclusion.</p> <p data-bbox="459 1041 1189 1075">This provision contributes to the following priorities:</p> <ul data-bbox="502 1075 1268 1198" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long &amp; health life for all</li> <li>• People have access to a stable home in a sustainable supportive community</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="459 1220 1380 1288">In turn these priorities contribute to most of the well-being goals, but particularly:</p> <ul data-bbox="502 1288 821 1377" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A more equal Wales</li> </ul>

**6 Will the proposal/policy have a disproportionate impact on a specific geographical area of Newport?**

**7 How does the proposal/policy relate to the parameters of debate about Fairness identified by the Newport Fairness Commission**

**8 Taking this assessment as a whole, what could be done to mitigate any negative impacts of your policy and better contribute to positive impacts?**

## 9 Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing

## 10 Involvement

This FEIA will form part of the Cabinet Member report which will be published by the Council.

## 11 Summary of Impact (for inclusion in any report)

### **Equality Act 2010 AND Welsh Language**

The proposal will have a positive impact on some protected characteristics and no negative impacts are noted.

There is no Welsh Language impact.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The proposed Scheme will support a number of the Well-being goals set out in the Act.