

## Record of Equality and Rights Impact Assessment

### Part 1: Background and Information

(a) **Background Details** - Please list ERIA background details:

ERIA Title and Summary Description	Biodiversity Duty Report 2015-2017		
Service Area	Division	Head of Service	Service Area Reference No.
Place	Place Management	Michael Thain	2017P135

(b) **What is being impact assessed?** Describe the different policies or services (i.e. decisions, projects, programmes, policies, services, reviews, plans, functions or practices that relate to the Corporate ERIA Title):

The 2017 report to Scottish Government on how City of Edinburgh Council is meeting its statutory duty to biodiversity.

Policies and Services	Date ERIA commenced
1 Biodiversity Duty Report 2015-2017	October 2017
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

(c) **ERIA Team** - Please list all ERIA Team Members:

Name	Organisation / Service Area
1. Susan Falconer	CEC/Place
2. Caroline Peacock	CEC/Place
3.	
4.	

### Part 2: Evidence and Impact Assessment

**(a) Evidence Base** – Please record the evidence used to support the ERIA. Any identified evidence gaps can be recorded at part 3(i). Please allocate an abbreviation for each piece of evidence.

Evidence	Abbreviation
1. Consultation	C
2. Officer Knowledge	OK
3.	
4.	
5.	

**(b) Rights Impact Assessment – Summary** - Please describe all the identified enhancements and infringements of rights against the following ten areas of rights. Please also consider issues of poverty and health inequality within each area of rights:

Life	Health	Physical Security	Legal Security	Education and Learning	Standard of Living	Productive and Valued Activities	Individual, Family and Social Life	Identity, Expression and Respect	Participation, Influence and Voice
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Please indicate alongside each identified enhancement or infringement the relevant policy or service (see Section 1b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2a).

**Summary of Enhancements of Rights**

The aim of the Biodiversity Duty Report is to detail the activities across the Council to support and conserve biodiversity and demonstrate the variety and range of work being carried out. Access to greenspace is known to enhance physical and mental wellbeing and thus contribute to health. Projects also enhance education and learning opportunities both formally and informally.

**Summary of Infringement of Rights. Can these infringements be justified? Are they proportional?**

There are no identified infringements against rights as a result of this review.

**(c) Equality Impact Assessment – Summary** - Please consider all the protected characteristics when answering questions 1, 2 and 3 below. Please also consider the issues of poverty and health inequality within each protected characteristic:

Age	Disability	Gender Identity	Marriage / Civil partnership	Pregnancy Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
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1. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation. Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2a).

<b>Positive Impacts</b>
The report does not relate to issues which would have an impact on discrimination, harassment or victimisation.
<b>Negative Impacts</b>
No negative impacts on the duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation have been identified.

2. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity (i.e. by removing or minimising disadvantage, meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others and encouraging participation in public life)? Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1 b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2 a).

<b>Positive Impacts</b>
The Biodiversity Duty Report demonstrates the continuation of positive activity associated with minimizing disadvantage e.g. example of work with schools in areas of multiple deprivation to support learning in local greenspace
<b>Negative Impacts</b>
No negative impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity have been identified.

3. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to foster good relations (i.e. by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding)? Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1 b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2 a).

<b>Positive Impacts</b>
The Biodiversity Duty Report outlines a number of projects that aim to promote understanding and good relations across various groups e.g. nature conservation interests and the local community in caring for a site. An example of this would be the support for the 54 Friends of Parks groups which represent a variety of communities across the city.
<b>Negative Impacts</b>
No negative impacts on the duty to foster good relations have been identified.

### Part 3: Evidence Gaps, Recommendations, Justifications and Sign Off

**(i) Evidence Gaps** - Please list all relevant evidence gaps and action to address identified gaps.

Evidence Gaps	Action to address gaps
1. None	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

**(ii) Recommendations** - Please record SMART recommendations to (i) eliminate unlawful practice or infringements of absolute rights, (ii) justify identified infringements of rights or (iii) mitigate identified negative equality impacts.

Recommendation	Responsibility of (name required)	Timescale
1. None.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

**(iii) Sign Off** - I, the undersigned, am content that: (i) the ERIA record represents a thorough and proportionate ERIA analysis based on a sound evidence base, (ii) the ERIA analysis gives no indication of unlawful practice or violation of absolute rights, (iii) the ERIA recommendations are proportionate and will be delivered, (iv) the results of the ERIA process have informed officer or member decision making, (v) that the record of ERIA has been published on the Council’s website / intranet or (vi) that the ERIA record has been reviewed and re-published.

Date	Sign Off (print name and position)	Reason for Sign Off (please indicate which reason/s from list (i) to (vi) above)
11/10/2017	Susan Falconer, Biodiversity Officer	(i) (ii) (iv)
9/11/17	Michael Thain, Head of Place Development	I, II, III