

Bristol City Council Equality Impact Relevance Check



Reviewed again in March 20201

This tool will identify the equalities relevance of a proposal, and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment will be required. Please read the guidance prior to completing this relevance check.

What is the proposal?	
Name of proposal	Chocolate Path Stabilisation Works
<i>Please outline the proposal.</i>	<p>Emergency stabilisation works to a section of the Chocolate Path pedestrian and cycle route adjacent to Cumberland Road.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake additional topographic, bathymetric, ground investigation, drainage and structural surveys, to inform failure mechanism and inform final design solutions 2. Stabilise retaining wall and path movement with either emergency short-term measures or long-term solution, depending on costs 3. Repair retaining walls and path 4. Remove current 860m Chocolate Path closure and re-open route to pedestrians and cyclists 5. Remove current temporary diversion route, which is also closed, on Cumberland Road heritage railway line, to allow railway line to commence operations
<i>What savings will this proposal achieve?</i>	None
<i>Name of Lead Officer</i>	Chris Dooley - Highways Structures Manager

Could your proposal impact citizens with protected characteristics? (This includes service users and the wider community)
<i>Please outline where there may be significant opportunities or positive impacts, and for whom.</i>
<p>The proposal will allow the existing Cumberland Road off-road pedestrian and cycle route (commonly known as The Chocolate Path) to re-open. An initial 70m local route diversion was provided in December 2016, following movement of the river retaining wall and path. The diversion was then closed in November 2017, due to further failure of the surrounding ground, required an 860m length of path to be closed. Reopening will let pedestrians and cyclists use the path again, thereby avoiding the need to use Cumberland Road. At the moment, pedestrians have to use the Cumberland Road north-side footway, whilst cyclists have to travel on the carriageway with general</p>

motorised vehicles. The Chocolate Path is a section of the National Cycle Network Route 33, commonly known as Festival Way.

Undertaking the works and re-opening the path will also allow the heritage railway line to re-open, which has been closed since December 2016.

Please outline where there may be significant negative impacts, and for whom.

No significant negative impacts have been identified by the proposal.

Could your proposal impact staff with protected characteristics?

(i.e. reduction in posts, changes to working hours or locations, changes in pay)

Please outline where there may be significant opportunities or positive impacts, and for whom.

Anyone walking or cycling along this work will benefit from being able to use the off-road path once again. The Chocolate Path is probably more attractive to the majority of pedestrians, including many with mobility impairments, rather than the Cumberland Road footways. The Chocolate Path is probably more attractive to cyclists than using Cumberland Road, with the majority of cyclists likely to consider the off-road path safer than using the Cumberland Road carriageway.

This scheme will have no impact on Bristol City Council staff.

Please outline where there may be negative impacts, and for whom.

Some pedestrians including those with mobility and sensory impairments have reported difficulties when sharing paths with cyclists. However this proposal is to re-open an existing facility, and any such affected pedestrians can continue to use the Cumberland Road footway if preferred.

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required?

Does the proposal have the potential to impact on people with protected characteristics in the following ways:

- *access to or participation in a service,*
- *levels of representation in our workforce, or*
- *reducing quality of life (i.e. health, education, standard of living)?*

Please indicate yes or no. If the answer is yes then a full impact assessment must be carried out. If the answer is no, please provide a justification.

No. Reopening the Chocolate Path should not have any significant negative impacts upon citizens or staff, in terms of their access to services, their workforce representation or a reduction in their quality of life.

Service Director sign-off and date:

Equalities Officer sign-off and date:

Originally reviewed by Equalities and Community Cohesion Team 31/7/2019 and reviewed again in 1st March 2020.

