

Bristol City Council Equality Impact Relevance Check



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	Access Fund
Please outline the proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2011 the West of England (WoE) authorities have delivered a series of projects aimed at promoting sustainable transport and supporting economic growth. These projects have largely focused on 'soft' transport measures such as behaviour change initiatives (i.e. personalised travel planning), targeted marketing campaigns (i.e. 'get around the road works') and support services (i.e. family cycle training and match-funded grants for businesses). These schemes are funded through competitively won Department for Transport (DfT) grants, the Access Fund competition is the latest round of this funding and looks to build on the success of its predecessors; Key Component (2011-2012) The Local Sustainable Transport Fund (2012-2015); LSTF extension (2015-16); Sustainable Travel Transition Year (2016-17). • The predecessor to the Access Fund (the Sustainable Travel Transition Year) currently supports 8 FTEs who are engaged in promoting sustainable transport in Bristol. The Access Fund would secure funds to cover the ongoing costs of these staff for the next 3 years. • The core objectives of the fund is to support the local economy by improving access to new and existing employment, education and training and to promote increased levels of physical activity through greater uptake of walking and cycling. • Bristol City Council has led the way nationally over the last fifteen years in the delivery of smarter travel initiatives - interventions that prompt us to think about how and why we make transport choices, challenging us to consider the impact our travel decisions have on others and on ourselves. Daily travel behaviours, in particular mode of choice, are seen as a habitual. • The funding will deliver a wide range of schemes including community, schools and business engagement activity. Some specific examples include support for family cycle training; school travel plans and match-funded grants for businesses to install onsite sustainable transport facilities. • The funding is also critical in maintaining levels of marketing/communications support for projects such as MetroBus, MetroWest and Cycling Ambition Fund 2. An element of this funding will be used to launch the MetroBus operation in the West of England in 2017, and to provide good quality information at MetroBus stops.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not securing funding would be a significant blow at a time when the city is seeing unprecedented levels of capital investment to improve the transport network – the Access Fund seeks to link with this investment to break non-essential, car dominated travel patterns.
What savings will this proposal achieve?	The proposal will not result in any savings, it's focus being to secure funding for staff posts and supporting resources for the next 3 years.
Name of Lead Officer	Colin Rees

Could your proposal impact citizens with protected characteristics?

(This includes service users and the wider community)

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

The Access West Equality and Diversity Action Plan will prioritise specific actions which need to be addressed to ensure people with protected characteristics benefit from the sustainable travel projects. In respect of equality and diversity, central principles relating to the Access West project are:

- Ensuring accessible sustainable travel modes are in place;
- Encouraging more cycling and walking by those who are already more likely to use these methods (e.g. Males);
- Encouraging those who are less likely to use these methods to participate (e.g. Females).

The action plan prioritises

- Women and older people will benefit from improved cycling infrastructure through bicycle paths and lanes that provide a high degree of separation from motor traffic. Design principles and good management can address conflicts that can occur within shared spaces (e.g. cyclists and pedestrians). This is important information in respect of promotion for disabled people and both younger and older people.
- Children and young people will benefit from cycle training, which is valuable in terms of cycling safety skills, and promoting cycling to school
- Older people will benefit from age-targeted cycling skills courses, encouragement for Bicycle User Groups to reach out to older people, widespread availability of cycling maps, advertising the multiple benefits of cycling and continued improvement to cycle paths.
- Disabled people will benefit from promoting facilities and options which are suitable for a wide range of impairment types, these include hand cycles, trikes, wheelchair friendly cycles, side-by-side cycles, one up one down cycles, recumbents, tandems and steer from rear tandems

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

There are no projected negative impacts for citizens with protected characteristics

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.

This project will not have a negative impact in terms of a reduction in posts, changes to working hours or changes in pay. Indeed the Access Fund would provide continued funding for 8 FTE staff over 3 years,

allowing them to continue to promote sustainable travel to business and community groups.

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

There are no projected negative impacts for staff with protected characteristics

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. The project seeks to maintain funding for staff posts and will have no impact on existing posts, working hours or changes in pay. The project will continue to progress positive action projects recognising that people with different protected characteristics need specific initiatives to ensure the funding has an equal impact across all groups. More work is needed to review how effective is the current Equality and Diversity Action Plan and whether it needs revision before it is rolled out for the next three years

Service Director sign-off and date:

Equalities Officer sign-off and date:
Anne James – Equality and Community Cohesion