



Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.12]

Title: Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund (LEVI) Bid	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: Economy of Place	Lead Officer name: Jacob Pryor
Service Area: City Transport	Lead Officer role: Policy, Bidding and Strategic Projects Team Manager

Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment is to assist decision makers in understanding the impact of proposals as part of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed guidance to support completion can be found here [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the Equality and Inclusion Team early for advice and feedback.

1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

- As outlined in the One City Climate Strategy Bristol's ambition is to be carbon neutral and climate resilient by 2030.
- Transport accounts for about 34% of the average Bristol resident's carbon footprint with driving being the largest sub-category of this at 17%.
- A headline objective of the strategy is that by 2030 "all of Bristol's cars primarily consist of ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEVs) and 90% of other vehicles to be ULEV".
- Nationally ULEVs accounted for 2.1% of the entire fleet in 2022, but for the West of England that number was 1.4% and for Bristol it was 1.2% - about 2,364 vehicles.
- There are multiple factors that are preventing more rapid uptake of EV vehicles from high upfront costs, to perceived 'range anxiety' and a lack of reliable charge points.
- The UK government's 'Taking charge: the electric vehicle infrastructure strategy' (2022) notes that the pace of delivery of public on-street charge points is a key challenge for the sector as this can be an area where the commercial case for charge point operators can be weaker.
- Recognising that on-street charge points require additional investment the government invited councils to apply for grants from the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund in February 2023. The fund has two main objectives:
 - "Deliver a step-change in the deployment of local, primarily low power, on-street charging infrastructure across England."

- “Accelerate the commercialisation of, and investment in, the local charging infrastructure sector.”
- Bristol’s approach to applying for a grant from the LEVI fund will be to choose the ‘right charger for the right location’ which will include on-street chargers, chargers in community hubs and car parks and rapid chargers.
- Bristol is in an advantageous position in terms of meeting both objectives of the fund given its recently launched partnership with Ameresco under Bristol City Leap (BCL)
- Bristol City Council will seek to use BCL to accelerate the rollout of charge points under LEVI and bring in additional investment to match the government’s capital grant.
- The LEVI funding bid has 3 stages of submission.
- Stage 1 was an Expression of Interest which was submitted by the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) and West of England (WoE) Local Authorities on the 26th of May 2023.
- Stage 2 required WECA and WOE authorities to submit a draft tender document for review. This was submitted on the 30th of November 2023.
- Should this Stage 2 application be successful WECA (and in turn Bristol) will receive 90% of its share of the WECA funding allocation upfront with the remaining 10% held back until Stage 3 submission.
- Stage 3 submission is required in September 2024 and will require Bristol to finalise a draft contract with a commercial partner for review by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles. If OZEV approve the contract the remaining funding 10% of funding will be released and the project will progress to delivery.
- The indicative funding allocation for the WECA area is £6,644,000 and Bristol may reasonably expect to receive **up to** £4m of funding, noting that the exact figure may be less than this.
- The projected investment through LEVI will complement the council’s other efforts in the field of electric vehicle infrastructure delivery including up to £2.46m of ‘Green Recovery Fund’ (see Feb 24 cabinet report) which will see a further expansion of the public charge point network.

1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments:		

1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If ‘No’ explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by Equality and Inclusion Team.

If ‘Yes’ complete the rest of this assessment, or if you plan to complete the assessment at a later stage please state this clearly here and request review by the Equality and Inclusion Team.


<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	[please select]
------------------------------	--	-----------------

- Inclusive access: expanded EV charging infrastructure promotes equality by ensuring that more citizens, including those living in residential areas currently underserved, have access to EV charging facilities.
- Accessible and usable EV charge points: the new charge point installations will have an increased focus on improved accessibility and usability.
- Economic Opportunities: development of new charging sites can offer economic opportunities and jobs evenly across different regions of the city, helping to reduce economic disparities.
- Reduced Emissions: the initiative promotes the use of electric vehicles, which do not emit tailpipe pollutants, thereby contributing to cleaner air and potentially reducing respiratory and other health issues linked to air pollution.
- Quality of Life: The initiative, encourages cleaner transportation options, aims to enhance the quality of life for all citizens, fostering a healthier and more pleasant urban environment.

This EqIA is regarding accepting the funding. A further EqIA will be written if the funding is accepted which will make considerations for the works involved with implementing the charging points.

Step 5: Review

The Equality and Inclusion Team need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your EqIA. EqIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) before requesting sign off from your Director¹.

<p>Equality and Inclusion Team Review: <i>Reviewed by Equality and Inclusion Team</i></p>	<p>Director Sign-Off:</p>  <p>John Smith</p>
<p>Date: 8/2/2024</p>	<p>Date: 13.2.24</p>

¹ Review by the Equality and Inclusion Team confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely equality impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.