

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – INITIAL SCREENING TEMPLATE (IST)

Initial screening needs to take place for all new/revised Council policies. The word ‘policy’, in this context, includes the different things that the Council does. It includes any policy, procedure or practice - both in employment and service delivery. It also includes proposals for restructuring, redundancies and changes to service provision. This stage must be completed at the earliest opportunity to determine whether it is necessary to undertake an EIA for this activity.

Name of Policy:	Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy 2023
Lead Officer (responsible for assessment):	Senior Environmental Health Officer
Department:	Environmental Services
Others Involved in the Assessment (i.e. peer review, external challenge):	Environmental Services Manager
Date Initial Screening Completed:	9 th August 2023

(a) **What is the policy trying to achieve?** i.e. What is the aim/purpose of the policy? Is it affected by external drivers for change? What outcomes do we want to achieve from the policy? How will the policy be put into practice?

East Cambridgeshire District Council authorises officers to carry out statutory functions for the regulation of various environmental crime offences. Officers enforce legislation under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Environment Act 1995, the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003, the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014, the Clean Air Act 1993 and all associated regulations under these Acts.

The Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy supports good practice and clearly sets out the Council’s approach to enforcement to provide consistency and transparency. It is designed to deal effectively with aspects of poor environmental practice that has a detrimental impact on the District and on persons living and working here, and to target the more serious problems in order to improve the natural environment for everyone.

The updated Policy is being submitted to the Operational Services Committee on 18th September 2023.

(b) **Who are its main beneficiaries?** i.e. who will be affected by the policy?

Businesses, residents and visitors.

(c) **Is this assessment informed by any information or background data?** i.e. consultations, complaints, applications received, allocations/take-up, satisfaction rates, performance indicators, access audits, census data, benchmarking, workforce profile etc.

The Council must conform to statutory functions.

A recent audit of all enforcement functions of the council identified the requirement to ensure policies remained up to date. The previous environmental crime enforcement policy was dated 2018.

