

# **Equality Impact Assessment**

<b>Lead Officer:-</b>	Ashley Taylor – Planning Policy and Projects Manager.
<b>Decision Maker(s):-</b>	Cabinet and Full Council.
<b>Name and Type of decision:-</b>  e.g. Policy, contract, service delivery change.	Adoption of the Archaeology of Dover Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).
<b>Date of decision</b>  When will the final decision be taken?	Adoption is planned for early 2026.
<b>Aims of the decision</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objectives</li> <li>Intended outcomes</li> <li>Key actions</li> <li>Who and how many will be affected</li> </ul>	<p>The SPD sets out how archaeology should be considered early in the planning process and throughout the development process so that heritage assets of archaeological interest, including their settings, are protected in proportion to their significance. The SPD takes applicants through the process of complying with national legislation and national and local policies relating to archaeology as part of a development scheme or other works.</p> <p>Supplementary planning documents (SPDs) build upon and provide more detailed advice or guidance on policies in an adopted local plan. As they do not form part of the development plan, they cannot introduce new planning policies. Residents in the district would not be affected by the adoption of the additional advice and guidance set out in the SPD.</p> <p>This SPD will instead support implementation of Adopted Local Plan Policies SP15: Protecting the District's Historic Environment and HE3 - Archaeology and will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications upon its adoption.</p>
<b>Information and Research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summarise research and information that you used to prepare your proposals / preferred options</li> <li>What data did you use to research your proposals</li> <li>List anything you found that will affect people with protected characteristics.</li> </ul>	<p>Throughout the preparation of the Local Plan consideration has been given to the potential for positive or negative impacts on people with protected characteristics. Research comprised the review of published information relevant to the archaeology of Dover town, archaeological supplementary planning documents adopted by other local authorities and guidance published by Historic England.</p> <p>National Planning Policy in relation to archaeology has also been considered.</p> <p>No impacts were identified that would affect people with protected characteristics.</p>

<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has there been any specific consultation done?</li> <li>What were the consultation results?</li> <li>Did the consultation analysis show any difference for people with protected characteristics?</li> <li>What conclusions did you draw from the consultation?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During the initial preparation stage, there was a 5-week stakeholder engagement between 10 July to 14 August seeking comments on the proposed scope, structure and contents of the SPD. A public consultation was also undertaken for 28 days between the 5<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025.</li> <li>Five responses were received to initial stakeholder engagement, which were very supportive of the proposed approach to the SPD. Specific comments sought clarification regarding areas of the district where engagement with the KCC Heritage Team was required and the basis for decisions regarding the type of investigations necessary to support planning applications. Comments were also received regarding the importance and benefits of engaging people with heritage and archaeology and the need for greater access to the results of developer-led archaeology.</li> <li>Twelve responses were received to the public consultation, excluding one duplicate submission. Four respondents advised the council that they had no comments to make on the SPD. The other 8 respondents sought additional clarity and changes of emphasis to specific sections of the SPD or referred to archaeological information, policy and guidance that the respondent thought would improve the content of the document. One of the 8 respondents suggested that a simplified document for the general public would be beneficial.</li> <li>The primary purpose of the SPD is to provide guidance to planning applicants and consultants regarding the complex nature of archaeology, particularly in Dover town. The SPD emphasises the need for development proposals to be informed by specialist advisors. Analysis of the comments received did not show any difference for people with protected characteristics.</li> <li>In conclusion, no negative impacts were identified.</li> </ul>
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Assessing if the decision is likely to be relevant to the three aims of Equality Duty.	
Aim	Relevance Yes / No
Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation	No
Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.	No
Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.	No

If you have decided that this decision is relevant to the three aims of the Equality Duty, use the section below to show how relevant it is and what the impact will be.		
Protected Characteristic	Relevance High/Medium/Low	Impact of the decision Positive / Negative
Age	No information	N/A
Disability	No information	N/A
Gender reassignment	No information	N/A
Gender	No information	N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No Information	N/A
Pregnancy and Maternity	No Information	N/A
Race	No Information	N/A
Religion, Belief or Lack of Belief	No Information	N/A
Sexual Orientation	No Information	N/A

If you have found negative impact, outline the measures you intend to take to mitigate it.	No negative impact was identified.	
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This Equality Impact Assessment must be attached to any report throughout the decision-making process, to allow the final decision makers to have Due Regard.