

## EQIA Submission – ID Number

### Section A

**EQIA Title**

EQIA Submission - Folkestone Station Access

**Responsible Officer**

KCC - GT TRA

### Type of Activity

**Service Change**

No

**Service Redesign**

No

**Project/Programme**

Project/Programme

**Commissioning/Procurement**

Commissioning/Procurement

**Strategy/Policy**

No

**Details of other Service Activity**

No

### Accountability and Responsibility

**Directorate**

Growth Environment and Transport

**Responsible Service**

Major Capital Programme Team

**Responsible Head of Service**

KCC - GT TRA

**Responsible Director**

Haroona Chughtai - GT TRA

### Aims and Objectives

The 'Folkestone: A Brighter Future' (FABF) Improvement scheme aims to rejuvenate Folkestone through a number of different schemes. The schemes focus on improving the public realm and access to Folkestone through reconfiguring the road layout, improved pedestrian and cycle facilities and providing artistic interventions throughout.

Outcome of EQIA analysis: Continue

### Section B – Evidence

**Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?**

Yes

**It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?**

Yes

**Is there national evidence/data that you can use?**

Yes

**Have you consulted with stakeholders?**

Yes

**Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?**

We Made That (a consultant employed by FHDC) ran a package of engagement activities to gain input.

These included:

- 19 Workshops and Public Events

- 170 Detailed Conversations
- 168 Survey and Email Responses
- 361 Attended Public Events
- 645 Contacts Complied

**Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?**

Yes

**Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?**

Yes

**Section C – Impact**

**Who may be impacted by the activity?**

**Service Users/clients**

Service users/clients

**Staff**

Staff/Volunteers

**Residents/Communities/Citizens**

Residents/communities/citizens

**Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?**

Yes

**Details of Positive Impacts**

In addition to the positive impacts identified for all residents and users of the scheme, specific positive impacts have been identified for the following protected characteristics:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Pregnancy and Maternity

**Age:**

Walking routes are used frequently by older people and young people (particularly to and from school) and improvements to access and facilities will increase confidence in both walking and cycling and therefore, increase its use for learning, education, leisure, and health.

The scheme will improve the public realm around Folkestone Central train station meaning that those with decreased mobility will be able to travel more directly and easily. Improvements in infrastructure such as improved pedestrian crossings will significantly improve the user experience, leading to increased use, improved traffic safety, reduced fear of crime and increased confidence to make independent journeys for school, social, recreation and travel to essential services. Clear, signed routes help avoid confusion in new areas often experienced by young or older people.

**Disability:**

The design will incorporate facilities accessible to disabled people. The scheme will improve connections between the train station and town centre meaning that those with decreased mobility will be able to travel more directly and easily. This will increase access to the train service and subsequently increase independence.

Improvements in infrastructure such as improved pedestrian crossings will significantly improve the user experience, leading to increased use, improved traffic safety, reduced fear of crime and increased confidence to make independent journeys for school, social, recreation and travel to essential services.

Clear, signed routes help avoid uncertainty in new areas often experienced by some disabled people.

Sex, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Race and Religion:

Public realm improvements and a more welcoming approach could improve feeling of safety for women, transgender and non-binary individuals, ethnic minorities and people of different faiths who could be subject to hate crimes.

Pregnancy and Maternity:

Public realm improvements and improved crossing facilities should improve safety for pedestrians particularly pregnant women and parents with young children/pushchairs.

## Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

### 19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

#### Are there negative impacts for age?

Yes

#### Details of negative impacts for Age

Construction will result in temporary closures of footpaths for users, this may result in uneven footway surfaces which could affect young and older pedestrians and increase risk of tripping. Pedestrians and road users may have to find alternative and more lengthy routes to access services (such as hospital, schools, public transport etc.). Noise disruption from the construction works could cause anxiety and confusion for some people. If access to services and access to transport is disrupted it could disproportionately impact elderly people's health and wellbeing as they may stop attending social groups, being active or attending health appointments

#### Mitigating Actions for Age

A safety audit will be completed at the design and construction stage. NMU audits will be undertaken to ensure due consideration is given to all road users.  
Access to services kept clear with ramps where required  
The design will meet all statutory requirements including the Equality Act 2010, with all good practices in mind.  
Public engagement, via letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure they can access and use the footway safely during the construction works.  
Construction sites and diversion routes to follow health and safety regulations

#### Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

KCC

### 20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

#### Are there negative impacts for Disability?

Yes

#### Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Construction will result in temporary closures of footpaths, for road users including pedestrians & cyclists. This may temporarily disrupt access to essential services for disability groups meaning alternative routes may be required. Construction works can cause major obstructions on key walking routes and unexpected changes to the 'landscape' for visually impaired people. Road works could lead to uneven surfaces increasing risk of tripping.  
Construction works can be sprawling and noisy – causing confusion and anxiety for some people with disabilities.

<b>Mitigating actions for Disability</b>
<p>A safety audit will be completed at the design and construction stage. NMU audits will be undertaken to ensure due consideration is given to all road users.</p> <p>The design will meet all statutory requirements including the Equality Act 2010, with all good practices in mind.</p> <p>Ensure designs are carried out in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), which gives guidance based on current legislation for non-motorised users (NMU) and those with disabilities.</p> <p>The design will meet recommended guidance from the Department for Transport on inclusive mobility, the Kent Design Guide and associated standard details.</p> <p>The need for the scheme has been identified assessment by KCC in partnership with local District development and transport strategies.</p> <p>Risk assessment to be completed for affected groups prior to construction.</p> <p>Public engagement, notices at the train station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure they can access and use the train station safely during the construction works.</p> <p>Construction sites and diversion routes to follow health and safety regulations with access to services kept clear with ramps where required.</p>
<b>Responsible Officer for Disability</b>
KCC
<b>21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sex</b>
Yes
<b>Details of negative impacts for Sex</b>
During construction, women may feel unsafe using diversions away from usual walking or cycling routes or waiting in temporary structures or adjacent to construction sites due to fear of crime.
<b>Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
<p>Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to</p> <p>ensure residents can access and use the station safely during the construction works.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate, lit diversion routes are chosen and well signed during the construction works.</p>
<b>Responsible Officer for Sex</b>
KCC
<b>22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
During construction, individuals that identify as women may feel unsafe using diversions away from usual walking or cycling routes or waiting in temporary structures or adjacent to construction sites due to fear of crime.
<b>Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
<p>Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to</p> <p>ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure residents can access and use the walkway safely during the construction works.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate, lit diversion routes are chosen and well signed during the construction works.</p>

<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
KCC
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Race</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Race</b>
During construction, communication barriers could cause confusion and anxiety for some ethnic groups in relation to the construction works due to the potential for a language barrier. Ethnic minority individuals may feel unsafe using diversions away from usual walking or cycling routes or waiting in temporary structures or adjacent to construction sites due to fear of crime.
<b>Mitigating actions for Race</b>
Public engagement materials during construction to be available in alternative languages on request. Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure residents can access and use the walkway safely during the construction works. Ensure appropriate, lit diversion routes are chosen and well signed during the construction works.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race</b>
KCC
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Individuals of different faiths may feel unsafe using diversions away from usual walking or cycling routes or waiting in temporary structures or adjacent to construction sites due to fear of crime.
<b>Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure residents can access and use the walkway safely during the construction works. Ensure appropriate, lit diversion routes are chosen and well signed during the construction works.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief</b>
KCC
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
Diversions away from usual walking or cycling routes or waiting in temporary structures or adjacent to construction sites may users feel uncomfortable due to the fear of crime.
<b>Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure residents can access and use the walkway safely during the construction works. Ensure appropriate, lit diversion routes are chosen and well signed during the construction works.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
KCC

<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
There is a possible increased risk of falls during work if pregnant women are walking unfamiliar routes. Unfamiliar routes could prove difficult for individuals travelling with young children or pushchairs.
<b>Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Construction sites and diversion routes to follow health and safety regulations. Diversion routes to be lit and well signed with ramped access to services as required.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
KCC
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Diversion and major construction works may impact on travel plans if works are not known about in advance. Construction works and changes to the site area could affect planning for independent travel with client groups.
<b>Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Public engagement, via notices at the station, letter drops, websites, social media, and public meetings where appropriate, to ensure all users are aware of construction works/programme and any temporary access arrangements to ensure they can access and use the footway safely during the construction works.
<b>Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities</b>
KCC