



EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Covent Garden Multi Storey Car Park Closure and Demolition

Plan being assessed: Covent Garden Multi Storey Car Park Closure and Demolition

Business Unit/Service Area:

Is this a new or existing plan?

New

EIA Review team – list of members:

Chris Elliott, Heather Johnson, Neil Bridges

Do any other Service Areas need to be included?

No

Date of assessment: 13 January 2023

Are any of the outcomes from this assessment likely to result in complaints from existing services users, members of the public and/or employees?

It is possible that members of the public may have concerns, but the displacement parking plan should mitigate concerns.

DETAILS OF PLAN

Scoping and Defining

1. What are the aims, objectives and outcomes of the plan?

The plan is to close the multi storey car park at Covent Garden due to increased anti social behaviour on the site, which is now a danger to the public. There have also been structural issues and car park is in decline, so to close it now and then demolish as soon as practicable will remove the health and safety risk of the site for all members of the public.

2. Who are the customers?

Permit holders and members of the public that use the long stay multi storey car park at Covent Garden.

3. How has equality been considered in the development or review so far?

The car park needs to be closed to protect all members of the public – both in terms of anti social behaviour issues, and also in terms of structural issues as the multi storey car park has been in decline for some time, and has been reported on previously.

There are car parking spaces nearby for all carpark users, including disabled drivers and passengers, and these are set out in the Displacement Plan, together with distances. There is a Shop Mobility Scheme in the Royal Priors Shopping centre nearby. All blue badged customer parking is free in WDC off-street car parks.

Closing the car park means losing 36 parent and child bays. Our other MSCP, St Peters MSCP has 6 mobility/parent and child spaces on the external ground floor level at the rear. Our surface off-street car parks do not generally have these, and usually we allocate a proportion of mobility bays with wider bays. Going forwards there will be opportunity to design any new parking facilities at the Wellbeing Hub to cater for needs in that location.

4. What is the reason for the change/development?

Protecting the public, and removing health and safety risks for all members of the public.

5. How does it fit with Warwickshire County Council’s wider objectives?

The multi storey car park is being closed in response to high levels of anti social behaviour that are causing danger to the public, and also in response to structural issues. The car park will be demolished to remove the risk, as soon as practicable and this also fits with WDC’s plans for the site to become a wellbeing hub, bringing services together for the community.

6. Why might it be important to consider equality and the protected characteristics?

It is important to understand how closing the car park and demolishing it might impact on different people.

Information Gathering

7. What sources of data have you used?

Structural surveys of the multi storey car park
Engagement with internal teams and members of the public

Engagement and Consultation

We have engaged with Leamington BID, Councillors, town centre businesses. There will be further engagement through the Ranger team in some of our main car parks, and a stall at Covent Garden market will enable further engagement with members of the community who use the MSCP.

Monitor and Evaluate

8. Analysis of impact and potential actions:

Protected characteristics from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know? Summary of data about/feedback from your service-users and/or staff	What does this mean?		What can you do? All potential actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate discrimination/mitigate negative impact • Advance equality of opportunity • Foster good relations
		Positive impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	Negative impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	
Age	We have no reason to believe that closure of	n/a	n/a	The surface car park at Covent Garden remains open for short stay customers, and is more accessible,

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		Positive impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	Negative impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	
	the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on age			together with other long stay options for parking in the town centre
Disability				<p>The surface car park at Covent Garden remains open for short stay customers, and it is more accessible, together with other long stay options for parking in the town centre.</p> <p>Shop Mobility Scheme in the Royal Priors Shopping centre nearby</p> <p>There is opportunity to design new parking facilities at the Wellbeing Hub to cater for needs in that location and this will be considered through the design phase.</p>
Sex	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on sex	n/a	n/a	n/a
Race	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Protected characteristics from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know? Summary of data about/feedback from your service-users and/or staff	What does this mean?		What can you do? All potential actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate discrimination/mitigate negative impact • Advance equality of opportunity • Foster good relations
		Positive impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	Negative impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	
	detrimental effect on people based on race			
Religion or belief	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on religion or belief	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gender Re-assignment	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on gender reassignment	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy and Maternity	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on pregnancy and maternity	n/a	n/a	The surface car park at Covent Garden remains open for short stay customers, and is more accessible, together with other long stay options for parking in the town centre
Sexual orientation	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on	n/a	n/a	n/a

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		Positive impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	Negative impacts identified (<i>actual and potential</i>)	
	people based on sexual orientation			
Marriage and Civil Partnership <i>(Note: only in relation to due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination)</i>	We have no reason to believe that closure of the MSCP will have a detrimental effect on people based on marriage and civil partnership	n/a	n/a	n/a

9. Outcomes of Equality Impact Assessment

Action	Timescale	Responsibility

DRAFT

Date of next review: ?

Name and signature of Officer completing the EIA:

Heather Johnson

Name and signature of Head of Service:

Chris Elliott

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