

Screening Assessment Template

Annex B

You should refer to the general and specific equality duties contained in the legislative framework (Annex A) when completing the screening assessment.

Proposed Policy: Proposed charge on single use carrier bags

Tick appropriate box

Date: 03.07.09 Review date: 3 years after the regulations are introduced estimated July 2013

Equality Strand	Evidence Identified	Weighting			Relevance			Issues raised by evidence	
		Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Strong	No apparent relevance	Low	Medium		High
Disability (Mandatory)	Experiences and expectations of disabled people: http://www.officefordisability.gov.uk/research/research-reports.php		X		X				Around 30% disabled respondents received help with shopping. We would need to make sure that their support and carers were aware of the charge and considered reusing bags.
Race (Mandatory)	Black and Minority Ethnic Retailers 2006	X			X				

	http://www.retailresearch.org/downloads/word/BMEretailersATM%20report.doc							
Gender (including transgender)	Public attitudes to the environment http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/pubatt/index.htm		x			X		Women were slightly more likely (66%) than men (55%) to claim they that they reused bags. Meaning that men might be slightly more affected by a potential charge.
Age	Public attitudes to the environment. http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/pubatt/index.htm http://www.bmrb.co.uk/news/article/72-of-adults-prepared-to-pay-for-re-usable-carrier-bags/ http://www.ipsos-mori.com/content/news/consumers-oppose-nanny-state-on-plastic-bags.ashx WRAP research on a “Choose to reuse trial” In the autumn of 2005, WRAP (the Waste & Resources Action Programme) and a number of major supermarket retailers ran a trial to see whether consumers could be persuaded to use			X		X		In a representative survey of English citizens which looked at whether people took their own shopping bags. The strongest differences were by age. Those aged 65+ 59% always or often took their own shopping bag only 20% did not. Whilst amongst 16-29 year olds the numbers were nearly reversed. This means that a charge is probably most likely to affect younger people. However another survey found that re-use of carrier bags is highest among the 16-24 age group (67%)

	fewer free carrier bags on their shopping trips, by encouraging them to reuse bags instead.								dropping to 56% among the over- 50s. However, 32% of over-50s use paid-for re-usable bags, compared with 23% of all adults. It was noted that stores experiencing increases in reuse had a higher proportion of shoppers from older age groups (55+) who were more likely to be undertaking a medium sized shopping trip, i.e. from 2-5 bags of shopping
Religion/Belief/Non-belief	None identified				X				
Sexual Orientation	None identified				X				
Human Rights: if applicable (see Annex D for more information)	None identified				X				