

Harris Academy

1.1	Details of the Policy, Strategy, Function, Project or Activity
	<p>Title of EqIA: __ Harris Academy__</p> <p>Date of EqIA: __ April 2009__</p> <p>State whether EqIA is on a Policy, Strategy, Function, Project or Activity (NB. Your EQIA may be a combination of these, in which case please state what it is exactly e.g. Policy/Strategy): __Function__</p> <p>Indicate whether it is a 'new' or an 'existing' Policy, Strategy, Function, Project or Activity (Mark with a 'X'): New [X] Existing []</p>
1.2	Details of the person completing the EqIA
	<p>Full Name: __ Chris Twigg__</p> <p>Position: __ Interim BSF Programme Manager __</p> <p>Directorate: __ Transforming Croydon's Schools__</p> <p>Department: __ Resources and Customer Services__</p> <p>Full Contact Details: __ chris.twigg@croydon.gov.uk__</p>
1.3	What is the aim and objective of the Policy, Strategy, Function, Project or Activity?
	<p>The purpose of this Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is to identify equalities implications of the proposal to close Haling Manor High School (Foundation) on 31st August 2009 and replace the existing provision with an Academy, sponsored by Harris Federation on 1st September 2009.</p> <p>The Harris Academy would be one new school, building on the strengths of the predecessor school to offer the highest quality education provision to local students their families and the wider community. The Academy would be part of, and work collaboratively with, the local family of Croydon schools and also with the Harris Federation of Academies, two of which are in Croydon.</p> <p>The proposed new building programme, to follow the opening of the Academy, will give physical expression to Croydon's wish to develop wider provision within its local communities with schools being community hubs providing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity of learning supporting improved standards • Enhanced opportunities through connection with the wider Harris network of schools, and collaboration with local schools • Facilitation of use of schools as community hubs • Support for adult learning services • Efficient use of resources; • Greater opportunities and capability to enrich the whole school community; • Increased opportunities for staff to develop and broaden their careers within the Academy • Improved accommodation and development of site

The proposals relate to the Local Authority's Transforming Croydon Schools strategy across the borough, which aims that:

- All schools in Croydon should be high-performing schools
 - Best practice will be brought from successful schools into Croydon schools
 - A complementary range of academic and vocational provision is to be developed to meet the curriculum needs and pathways of all learners
 - Learners will be given equivalent access to choice of provision in their local areas.
- This geographical distribution is to include two academies being located in each of the three planning areas of the Council.
- Choice and diversity be provided for all post 16 learners by providing sixth form centres in every school.

The proposal would contribute to a step-change improvement in the local education provision at all phases.

Croydon Council plans to invest more than £350m in education across the borough over the next three years as part of the Transforming Croydon Schools programme. A key element of these plans is the creation of two new Academies, one sponsored by Oasis Community Learning replacing the three Ashburton schools and a second to replace Haling Manor High School by a new academy Harris Academy Purley run by the Harris Federation. The funding for the new Academy will come via the PfS framework and will be additional to and separate from the £350m the Council plans to invest

The specific proposal is for an 11-18 Academy with 6 forms of entry on the site of the existing Haling Manor High School (Foundation) which is a non-selective 11-16 school located in the London Borough of Croydon. The Academy would operate strong post sixteen provision for students of all abilities as part of the Croydon/Merton Harris Federation Post 16 with a single examinations centre for Post 16. The Academy would collaborate with Croydon schools and with other Harris Academies to contribute to the development of shared 14-19 pathways. This will bring significant opportunity and enhanced provision for the local community.

The Academy would have places for 900 students and eventually contribute Post 16 provision of 250 places. Post 16 provision would offer a strong vocational offer supplemented by A Level and BTEC courses at other local Harris Academies.

The proposed new building programme, to follow the opening of the Academy, would give physical expression to Croydon's wish to develop wider provision within its local communities with schools being community hubs.

Following Croydon Cabinet's decision 28th April to close Haling Manor High School, Statutory Notices were issued 15th May. Following the issue of the notices, a further period of consultation commenced during which representations could be made. This period comes to an end on 3rd July. Cabinet will consider any representations made during this period at a Cabinet Meeting on 14th July and make a final decision on closure. Should the decision of the Cabinet be to close the school, the opening of the Academy will be subject to the signing of a Funding Agreement between the DCSF and the Sponsor.

