

## Equality duty screening

<b>Name of the function, policy or strategy:</b> <b>DTC – GVTS STRATEGY.</b> <b>RELOCATION OF Grantham DTC to Grantham GVTS</b>							<b>Current or proposed:</b> <b>CURRENT</b>	
<b>Person completing the assessment:</b> <b>NICOLA STOKOE</b>							<b>Date of assessment:</b> <b>15 SEPT 2014</b>	
<b>Purpose of the function, policy or strategy:</b> <b>EFFECTIVE UTILISATION OF DVSA ESTATE following the merger of the DSA and VOSA</b>								
<b>Questions:</b> indicate yes / no / not known for each group	<b>Age</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Disability</b>	<b>Gender re-assignment</b>	<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Religion or belief</b>	<b>Sexual orientation</b>
Is there any indication or evidence that different groups have different needs, experiences, issues or priorities in relation to the particular function, policy or strategy?	NO	NO	YES	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	YES	NOT KNOWN
Is there potential for or evidence that, this function, policy or strategy may adversely affect equality of opportunity for all and may harm good relations between different groups?	NO	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN
Is there any potential for or evidence that, any part of the proposed function, policy or strategy could discriminate, directly or indirectly?	NO	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN
Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or better community relations by altering the policy/service or function or working with other government departments or the wider community?	NO	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN
Is there any evidence or indication of higher or lower uptake by different groups?	YES	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN
Are there any physical or social barriers to participation/access (e.g. language, format, physical access/proximity)?	NO	NO	YES	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN	NO	NO	NOT KNOWN

## Equality duty screening

**Comments** – if you have answered ‘yes’ to any of the boxes above please detail what the equality issues are and what actions are being taken.

### Disability

DVSA does not universally capture details of the candidate disability so the impact on the PCG is not fully known however it is reasonable to say that customers and staff within this PCG will have differing needs relating to access to the test centre’s facilities.

It is possible for candidates to notify DVSA of their disability prior to attending test. This enables those customers to still receive the service at locations where fully compliant access was not reasonably practical to achieve. This practice will continue unchanged.

Both the current Grantham Driving Test Centre and Grantham GVTS provide customers with an accessible toilet and ramped access into the waiting room area. Grantham GVTS provides better facilities in that it has an automated access door for customers and, although not required by the staff that will work there, a wheelchair accessible staff toilet. These are currently not provided at the driving test centre.

There is no reason or evidence to suggest that the location or journey to the new test centre location will prove to be any more/less problematic for persons with a disability.

### Religion and Belief

As with the previous section, DVSA do not capture details of this protected characteristic when booking or taking a test. As a result, it is difficult to assess the impact on this PCG although we can draw some conclusions using the data available from the 2011 census (Annex A).

According to the 2011 census the percentage of Muslims within the Lincolnshire council area of South Kesteven (of which Grantham is part) is 0.27% which is very low compared to other areas of the country. There are other religions and beliefs but none of which are considered to require special accommodations on test or at the test centre.

Although there is no statutory requirement to provide prayer facilities for staff or customers, where staff or customers are representative of a religion or belief that results in a regular requirement to pray, DVSA seeks to accommodate this through the use of a designated room or area in the test centre, where possible. In the case of the new centre at Grimsby GVTS there are no examiners who require this facility, however there is the possibility of other rooms being made available for this purpose should the need arise in the future.

DVSA's RACE group has commented on the lack of prayer facilities for customers at new sites. Due to the comparatively low percentage of Muslim customers in this locality, there is not considered to be a requirement or justification for such a facility in this centre. However, should

## Equality duty screening

such a facility for prayers be requested by customers in the future, DVSA will seek to accommodate such requests on a local level, where possible.

There is no reason or evidence to suggest that the location or journey to the new test centre location will prove to be problematic for any particular religion or belief group.

### Age

From those statistics captured from 2013, the ages of the customers attending Grantham test centre ranged from 16 – 61+. Almost 80% of these customers were aged between 17 and 23 years old with approximately 0.3% aged over 60 years old (**Appendix B**).

Despite the skew towards younger customers this is the market that DVSA serves and is largely representative of the customer base nationally. The fact that there will be no change in the customer base means that there will be no impact on this PCG. It is also worth noting that all customers, irrespective of age, must have access to an appropriate vehicle for test purposes and therefore there is no reason or evidence to suggest that one particular age group would be less able to comply with a requirement to take a test from the new location.