



Appendix A

West Lancashire Borough Council

EIA process for means testing for Public Sector Disabled Adaptations

Question 1

Using information that you have gathered from service monitoring, surveys, consultation, and other sources such as anecdotal information fed back by members of staff, in your opinion, could your service/policy/strategy/decision (including decisions to cut or change a service or policy) disadvantage, or have a potentially disproportionately negative effect on, any of the following groups of people:

- People with a disability

The introduction of means testing for public sector (Council Tenants) disabled adaptations would have an impact on people with a disability who currently do not pay a contribution but where the means test would mean that this would have to be paid in the future. Whilst this disadvantage is a small percentage of tenants with a disability, it also benefits other tenants who are eligible for assistance as the budget will be stretched to provide additional support.

Question 2

What sources of information have you used to come to this decision?

Answer 2

Informal discussions have taken place with colleagues who undertake means testing arrangements for Private Sector Housing.



Question 3

How have you tried to involve people/groups in developing your service/policy/strategy or in making your decision (including decisions to cut or change a service or policy)?

Answer 3

Initial soundings have been taken through the Service Evaluation Group and the Landlord Services Committee on Tenant views. These will be reported to Cabinet verbally. However, it is felt that wider consultation should take place, particularly with groups that represent disabled people.

Question 4

Could your service/policy/strategy or decision (including decisions to cut or change a service or policy) help or hamper our ability to meet our duties under the Equality Act 2010? Duties are to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity (removing or minimising disadvantage, meeting the needs of people)
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it

Answer 4

By introducing means testing for all applicants provides equality between Public and Private Sector Housing.

Question 5

What actions will you take to address any issues raised in your answers above?

Answer 5

A formal consultation process will be undertaken if Cabinet approve the principle of means testing Council Tenants.
