

Appendix A: Equality Impact Assessment - process for services, policies, projects and strategies

1.	<p>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:</p> <p><i>People of different ages – including young and older people</i> <i>People with a disability;</i> <i>People of different races/ethnicities/ nationalities;</i> <i>Men; Women;</i> <i>People of different religions/beliefs;</i> <i>People of different sexual orientations;</i> <i>People who are or have identified as transgender;</i> <i>People who are married or in a civil partnership;</i> <i>Women who are pregnant or on maternity leave or men whose partners are pregnant or on maternity leave;</i> <i>People living in areas of deprivation or who are financially disadvantaged.</i></p>	<p>No - The housing strategy is intended to assist in meeting the housing needs of our local communities.</p> <p>In developing the housing strategy it takes account of a range of data sources and housing needs surveys to help determine what housing issues exist in the area and from this information, key delivery objectives have been identified.</p> <p>The Housing Strategy Vision is to: <i>“The provision of good quality housing, that is affordable, which meets people’s changing needs and is located within pleasant, safe and sustainable communities”</i></p> <p>The Housing Strategy aims to increase housing supply and that existing housing is used effectively to best meet housing need. This will have a positive impact across all the EIA groups who are regarded as being in housing need in line with recognised national guidance, legislation and policy.</p>
2.	<p>What sources of information have you used to come to this decision?</p>	<p>The Council holds a range of information in the form of surveys and other data types that helps the Council understand the Borough housing situation and the housing issues faced by our residents. Such information includes stock condition survey, the Council housing register and Housing Need Survey 2010. We are also able to access other data that that helps in our understanding of our housing markets and if there are any specific issues faced by vulnerable housing client groups.</p> <p>This information helped the Council to identify local housing issues. Consultation then took place with our partners, stakeholders and members of the public which led to the shaping of the housing delivery objectives now included in the housing strategy.</p>
3.	<p>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)?</p>	<p>Consultation has taken place with our partners, stakeholders and members of the public to shape the housing delivery objectives contained in the housing strategy.</p> <p>It is now intended to share the housing strategy, through an eight week consultation exercise, to allow a further opportunity to ensure that this strategy has captured the housing issues that need to be considered in the Borough.</p>
4.	<p>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:-</p> <p><i>Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;</i> <i>Advance equality of opportunity (removing or minimising disadvantage, meeting the needs of people);</i> <i>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it.</i></p>	<p>It will not alter our continued duty on Equality.</p> <p>The housing strategy will assist in the Council meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010.</p>
5.	<p>What actions will you take to address any issues raised in your answers above</p>	<p>N/A</p>