

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: Transformation, Housing & Resources	Service: Housing Strategy
Completed by: Jonathan Mitchell	Date: 21 November 2023
Subject Title: Housing Strategy	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cut back:	No
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No
Is a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	Seeking: a) Seeking approval for the publication of the Housing Strategy 2024-2029 and Action Plan
<p><i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i></p> <p><i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i></p>	
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	N/A
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	N/A
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>	N/A

3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION	
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is / are the stakeholder(s)?	Council Departments, partner organisations, current and future users of Council Services, residents of the borough and those interested in moving to West Lancashire.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	<p>The housing strategy aims to deliver interventions that support the housing strategy vision of, "The provision of environmentally sustainable and high-quality housing, in locations which support our economic, regeneration and health priorities, meets people's changing housing needs and is situated within pleasant, safe, and sustainable communities."</p> <p>In that regard, any interventions are aimed at having a positive impact across all EIA groups who are regarded as being in housing need in line with national guidance, legislation and policy.</p>
<p>Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?</p> <p>Age Gender Disability Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity</p>	<p>All protected characteristics might be relevant as the housing strategy aims to tackle housing needs throughout the entire borough.</p> <p>Housing is a basic need for all people and therefore the Housing Strategy has potential to impact all current and future residents in West Lancashire.</p> <p>The Housing Strategy is focussed on creating a positive impact on residents, housing availability, current housing stock conditions, quality of new build homes and housing related support and other services provided by the Council and others, helping to lever in funding to do so.</p>
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service / function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Current and future users of Councils Services and those households looking to secure housing /move to or within the borough.
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage / the stakeholders?	The strategy aims to have a positive impact by working towards achieving the housing strategy vision of, "The provision of environmentally sustainable and high-quality housing, in locations which support our economic, regeneration and health priorities, meets people's changing housing needs and is situated within pleasant, safe, and sustainable communities."
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if	The Housing Strategy does not relate to any one single service area. It aims to shape local policy and intervention across a range of service areas

so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	and wider partnerships in the private sector, voluntary and statutory sectors to try and improve housing circumstances in West Lancashire in a manner that helps with housing need whilst also providing health and wellbeing benefits and broader economic benefits.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users / stakeholders with protected characteristics?	By regularly reviewing our achievements to date we can measure success when measured against the housing strategy vision and five delivery priorities. The Housing Strategy and its action plan will be subject to 12 weeks consultation where the Boroughs residents and stakeholders will be able to share their views in order to ensure the vision and delivery priorities are relevant.
If any further data / consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	The Housing Strategy will assist in the Council meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	We do not envisage any negative impact associated with the introduction of the Housing Strategy for 2024-2029 and action plan.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	N/A
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	If concerns related to the EIA are raised during the mentioned consultation, a review of the EIA will occur to address these concerns. However, after the final publication of the Housing Strategy, there are no plans to conduct further reviews of this EIA. It's important to highlight that certain actions outlined in the action plan might be more complex or project-oriented, potentially warranting individual EIA development based on specific needs as these projects arise.