

# Equality Impact Assessment Form



<b>Directorate: Transformation, Housing and Resources</b>	<b>Service: Corporate and Customer Services</b>
<b>Completed by: S Lewis</b>	<b>Date: January 2024</b>
<b>Subject Title: Pay Policy Statement 2023/24</b>	
<b>1. DESCRIPTION</b>	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>
	Yes
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	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:	<p>The Localism Act refers to 'Pay Accountability' and sets out the requirements for Councils and fire and rescue authorities to determine and publish annual pay policy statements. The full Council must approve the pay policy statement in advance of the financial year to which it relates. It must set out the Council's policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Chief Officer remuneration (at recruitment, salary, bonus/performance related pay, charges/fees/allowances, benefits in kind, enhancement to pension, at termination),</li> <li>•Remuneration of its lowest paid employees (elements as above), the definition used for this group and the reason for adopting that definition,</li> <li>•The relationship between Chief Officer remuneration and that of other staff.</li> </ul> <p>The Council needs to agree a Pay Policy Statement and is recommended to adopt the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 as detailed in the report.</p>

If you answered **Yes** to any of the above, **go straight to Section 3**  
 If you answered **No** to all the above, **please complete Section 2**

## 2. RELEVANCE

Does the work be carried out impact on service users, staff, or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes <span style="float: right;"><i>*delete as appropriate</i></span>
If <b>yes</b> , provide details of how these impacts on service users, staff, or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>	This report has an impact on the workforce.
If you answered <b>No</b> 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>	

## 3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	The Policy has an impact on the entire Council workforce and as such has an impact on all protected characteristics, as the Council's workforce comprises of all the protected characteristics.  A knowledge of the existing workforce profile and equality policies within the Council that are applied to the workforce, including the Recruitment and Selection Policy, Equality in Employment Policy and all other related employment policies, including a recent Equal Pay Audit have been used to assess the impact of the Pay Policy Statement on the workforce.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any group affected more than others)?	See Above.
Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	<span style="float: right;"><i>*delete as appropriate</i></span>
Age	Yes
Gender	Yes
Disability	Yes
Race and Culture	Yes
Sexual Orientation	Yes
Religion or Belief	Yes
Gender Reassignment	Yes
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Yes
Pregnancy and Maternity	Yes

## 4. DATA ANALYSIS

<p>In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?</p>	<p>The Policy has an impact on the entire Council workforce and as such has an impact on all protected characteristics.</p>
<p>What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?</p>	<p>The Pay Policy Statement is a statement of the Council's current policies in relation to the pay of senior managers and the various ratios between higher and lower paid staff. This is a statement of current practice and does not present any practice changes or policy revision. Consequently, there are no altered impacts envisaged on any stakeholder or protected group of stakeholders.</p>
<p>What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so, what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?</p>	<p>The Council is part of a national collective bargaining process for all levels of remuneration throughout the Council. The Council itself, however, have determined the grade structure. This main management structure was last amended in April 2022 with an intermin amendment made in April 2023. Any changes achieved at that time were subject to Trade Union and individual officer consultation and were agreed. Although minor change occurs on a service level basis periodically throughout the year. Any actual salary amounts changes since that time have been subject to the national negotiating machinery, which also provides for Trade Union contributions to pay award settlements. This is not an area that can be affected locally, other than in the determination of individual grades. Actual grades are arrived at via a joint Trade Union and management agreed Job Evaluation process. The next National Pay award implemented is due in April 2024, but it is not anticipated to affect the grade structure but will affect the actual salary assigned to each spinal column point.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Census Data  Profile information available on the Council's website  Workforce Profile  Equality Policies within the Council  Equal Pay Audit  Gender Pay Gap analysis</p>
<p>If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<b>5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS</b>	
In what way will the changes impact on people with protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	The decision is to agree the existing status is reflected in the Pay Policy Statement. It identifies different ratios between groups of staff based on pay levels. As there is no proposed change to actual practice, but rather, a reflection of the impact of the pay award on these ratios, it is envisaged that there will be no impact, negative or positive, upon any group with protected characteristics.
<b>6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT</b>	
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.).	See above in 5.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No further actions on equality impact need to be taken.
<b>7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING</b>	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	The Pay Policy Statement is reviewed annually prior to 31 March each year. At that stage, the EIA will also be reviewed to ensure there has been no change to the assessed impact on any protected characteristic group.