

**Initial Equality Impact Assessment – Policy Change.**

The initial equality impact assessment is a quick and easy screening process.

It will help you to identify those changes to policies which require a full EIA by looking at:

- negative, positive or no impact on any of the equality groups
- opportunity to promote equality for the equality groups

Any questions at anytime please call Clare O'Connor on ext 7816.

PLEASE NOTE THE BOXES CAN BE EXPANDED TO ALLOW FOR MORE INFORMATION TO BE ADDED.

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Department	Housing
Policy	People with a Physical Disability, Chronic Illness or Sensory Impairment Housing Policy Statement
People involved	Policy and Performance Officer and Strategy and Development Team

**1. What are the aims of the policy and what changes are being proposed?**

The aim of the housing policy statement is to ensure that the department address the housing needs of people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment to promote independence, dignity and well being. The main aim of the policy remains unchanged.

The policy statement updates and builds on the previous statement to provide information on what has been delivered over the life of the previous action plan.

An EIA was completed for the first People with a Physical Disability, Chronic Illness or Sensory Impairment Housing Policy Statement in 2007.

**2. What is the rationale behind these changes?**

There is no change being made to the main aim of the policy statement.

The previous policy statement was published in 2007. The updated policy statement takes into account changes in government policy or legislation over the last three years including 'Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: A National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society', 'Equality Strategy: Building a Fairer Britain', the 'UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People', 'The Equality Act 2010', 'Individual budgets', the 'Housing and Regeneration Act 2008', 'The regulatory framework for social housing in England from April 2010', 'The London Housing Strategy' and 'The London Plan'.

The key objectives of the policy have been rationalised to focus on the over arching themes of independent living, access to services, dignity and wellbeing.

**3. What information do you have on the policy and the potential impact of your policy change in relation to the following?**

	<p><b>List information you have. Do not put what the information shows you</b></p> <p>Information includes number of people supported by the policy, customer satisfaction, feedback on service, results of consultation</p>
Race	Policy Update
Gender	Policy Update
Disability	Policy Update
Age	Policy Update
Faith	Policy Update
Sexual Orientation	Policy Update

**4. Thinking about each group below please list the impact that the policy change will have.**

	<u>Positive</u> impacts of policy change	Possible <u>negative</u> impacts of policy change
Race	<p>Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment.</p> <p>The monitoring of ethnicity for those applying for adaptations will enable the council to address the needs of all people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment.</p>	n/a
Gender	<p>Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment.</p> <p>The Physical Disability Queue Report is used to record all those applying for adapted housing where their current home can not be adapted.</p>	n/a
Disability	<p>Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment.</p> <p>The Council will continue to review demand for adaptations and use resources available to address demand with the aim of promoting independence, well being and dignity. The position in relation to performance, spend and demand will regularly be reported.</p> <p>The housing department's commitment to participate in forums and groups with cross departmental representatives, voluntary organisations and residents groups will promote independence, well being and dignity ensuring that the views of people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment are considered and expressed.</p>	n/a
Age	<p>Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment.</p> <p>The Physical Disability Queue Report is used to record all those applying for adapted housing where their current home can not be adapted.</p>	n/a
Faith	<p>Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic</p>	n/a

	illness or sensory impairment. The Physical Disability Queue Report is used to record all those applying for adapted housing where their current home can not be adapted.	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	Will ensure that all residents are aware of housing department stance in relation to people with a physical disability, chronic illness or sensory impairment. The Physical Disability Queue Report is used to record all those applying for adapted housing where their current home can not be adapted.	n/a

**5. Is a full EIA required?** No full EIA required as this is an update to the previous policy statement to reflect changes in legislation.

The following questions should help you decide if a full EIA is required. As a guide if you are a frontline service where the impact is unclear or negative you will need to conduct a full EIA. You are unsure call Clare O'Connor on ext 7816.

- Does the policy support a frontline service? Yes.
- Is it clear what impact the policy change will have on all the equality groups? Yes.
- Overall will the change have a negative impact on any of the equality groups? No.

**Comments - Please give the rationale here for not undertaking a full EIA**

No full EIA required as this is an update to the previous policy statement to reflect policy, regulatory and legislative changes.

**6. Through the initial EIA have you identified any actions that needed to be implemented to improve access or monitoring of the policy? (please list)**

No

Signed

Date

Approved by:

(all initial EIAs to be approved by Clare O'Connor)

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