London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Cabinet

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

9 January 2012

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Equality Impact Assessment Initial Screening Tool with Guidance

This document has been produced to help you assess the likelihood of impacts on equality groups – including where people are represented in more than one strand – with regard to your new or proposed policy, strategy, function, project or activity. It has been designed to complement the e-learning tool for Equalities Impact Assessments and to help with your business planning process, as well as to ensure that your policy/project does not incur a delay due to lack of equalities consideration.

Initial Screening Equality Impact Assessment Tool

Section 01	Details of Initial Equalities Impact Screening Assessment				
Financial Year and	2011/12, quarter 3				
Quarter					
Name of policy,	Existing ann	Existing annual process			
strategy, function,	Report for S	etting of	of Coun	cil Tax Base & Collection Rate for 2012/13	
project, activity, or					
programme					
Q1	Approval of	counci	l tax bas	se for the purpose of setting 2012/13 council tax	
What are you looking to					
achieve?					
Q2	Residents of	f the bo	orough		
Who in the main will					
benefit?	Race	N/A	L	This report will not have an impact on Race, Disability, Gender, Age,	
				Sexual Orientation or Religion/Belief	
	Disability	N/A	L		
	Gender	N/A	L		
	Age	N/A	L		
	Sexual	N/A	L		
	Orientatio				
	n				
	Religion/b elief	N/A	L		

(including
non-
belief)
Will it affect Human Rights, as defined by the Human Rights Act 1998? (Note: Human Rights will not be
relevant in every case but must be considered. If unsure, seek advice from the Opportunities Manager)
N/A
N/A
No



Equality Impact Analysis Initial Screening Tool with Guidance

Overview

This Tool has been produced to help you analyse the likelihood of impacts on the protected characteristics – including where people are represented in more than one— with regard to your new or proposed policy, strategy, function, project or activity. It has been updated to reflect the new public sector equality duty and should be used for decisions from 5th April 2011 onwards. It is designed to help you determine whether you may need to do a Full EIA. If you already know that your decision is likely to be of high relevance to equality, and/or be of high public interest, you should contact the Opportunities Manager, as s/he may recommend moving directly to a Full EIA.

General points

- 1. 'Due regard' means the regard that is appropriate in all the circumstances. In the case of controversial matters such as service closures or reductions, considerable thought will need to be given the equalities aspects.
- 2. Wherever appropriate, and in all cases likely to be controversial, the outcome of the EIA needs to be summarised in the Cabinet/Cabinet Member report and equalities issues dealt with and cross referenced as appropriate within the report.
- 3. Equalities duties are fertile ground for litigation and a failure to deal with them properly can result in considerable delay, expense and reputational damage.
- 4. Where dealing with obvious equalities issues e.g. changing services to disabled people/children, take care not to lose sight of other less obvious issues for other protected groups.

Timing, and sources of help

Case law has established that having due regard means analysing the impact, and using this to inform decisions, thus demonstrating a conscious approach and state of mind ([2008] EWHC 3158 (Admin), here). It has also established that due regard cannot be demonstrated after the decision has been taken. Your EIA should be considered at the outset and throughout the development of your proposal, through to the recommendation for decision. It should demonstrably inform, and be made available when the decision that is recommended. This tool contains guidance, and you can also access guidance from the EHRC here. If you are analysing the impact of a budgetary decision, you can find EHRC guidance here. Advice and guidance can be accessed from the Opportunities Manager: PEIA@Ibhf.gov.uk or ext 3430.

Initial Screening Equality Impact Analysis Tool

Section 01	Details of Initial Equality Impact Screening Analysis
Financial Year and Quarter	February 2012 – January 2017 (5 Year Contract with break clauses in Years 3 and 4)
Name of policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme	This concerns the award of a contract for Procurement Services & Savings <u>and</u> Enhanced Revenue/Debt Collection/Recovery to Agilisys for five years. The services will be provided on a 'gain share' basis, with the successful organisation(s) primarily receiving payment only by way of a proportion of the savings identified or additional debt recovered on behalf of the Council. This is not a traditional consultancy service type contract with the risk for delivery placed firmly with the successful bidder and not the council. This is the first time the council has used this model which ensures payment is only made when there is a delivered outcome to the council
Q1 What are you looking to achieve?	Both contracts are predicated on (i) securing additional savings from the Council's procurement activities and (ii) improving the Council's recovery of outstanding/ongoing debt. The provider will, as part of these contracts: a) conduct a thorough and detailed analysis of the Council's arrangements in order to b) develop strategies/proposals for improvement in those areas c) commence to realise the identified savings d) improve commercial skills and procurement practice across the Council to ensure these skills are sustainable within council officers going forward A minimum savings requirement of £2.5 million over the first 3 years is built into the Lot 1 contract. These savings, as well as any additional savings, will significantly contribute to the Council's Medium Term Financial strategy (MTFS) savings plans. In addition, the tender submission from the recommended provider for Lot 1 has offered guaranteed savings of £2 million payable up front to the Council which is a one off non-refundable payment provided entirely at the provider's risk.

The overall intention of the Council is to use savings to protect frontline services and reduce costs for the local tax payer. Therefore a wide range of customers, service users and ultimately tax payers will benefit.

As part of the development of the contract, prospective tenders were scored on their ability to deliver services in such a way that takes into account the diversity of the borough. Agilisys are committed to complying with the Council's requirements to promote a Borough of opportunity and will be required to conduct equality impact assessments as required by the Council throughout the term of the contract. With regards to debt recovery, given the vulnerability of some of the groups and clients concerned, the impact of proposals will be assessed and monitored carefully as part of the contract. As such, consideration of giving due regard at point of decision about, and delivery of, debt recovery (for example) has been built into the contract, and as those decisions have not yet been made, it is not possible to be more specific at this time.

Human Rights and Children's Rights

Will it affect Human Rights, as defined by the Human Rights Act 1998?

Will it affect Children's Rights, as defined by the UNCRC (1992)? No

Does the policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme make a positive contribution to equalities?

Yes

The contract refers not only to achieving savings but to delivering the Council's wider objectives including equalities.

Does the policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme actually or potentially contribute to or hinder equality of opportunity, and/or adversely impact human rights?

No

The award of the contract does not directly impact on equalities or human rights. Individual initiatives to deliver savings will be the subject of a business case signed off by the Council beforehand and at that time, the Council will want to ensure an equality impact assessment is undertaken before proceeding. The Contract will be subject to continual monitoring through the contract term and in particular the impact on any vulnerable groups and individuals.

Ī	Section 01	Details of Initial Equalities Impact Screening Analysis
	Name of policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme	A Policy refers to an approved decision, principle plan or a set of procedures by Cabinet, or a Cabinet Member under delegated powers that affects the way that the Council conducts its business both internally and externally. A policy can include: strategies, guides, manuals and common practice.
		A Strategy refers to a systematic short term or a long term plan of action that is designed to achieve a specific business benefit or goal(s).
		A Function refers to any actions and/or activities designed to achieve a specific business benefit or goal.
		A Project defines how a temporary structure or scheme can achieve a specific business benefit or goal(s). A project can be implemented by setting up aims and objectives, resources, communication, budget needs and timelines.
Page		An Activity is a specific task (or a groups of tasks) which can also form as part of a 'function'.
9 6		A Programme is a portfolio of activities and projects that are co-ordinated and managed as a unit such that they realise common outcomes and benefits.
	Q1 What are you looking to achieve?	For example this might help to implement outcomes identified in policies such as the <u>Single Equality Scheme</u> , <u>Disability Equality Scheme</u> , <u>other EIAs</u> in your service department, or in another department that your service/service users also interact with and draw down services from, <u>Corporate Plan</u> , <u>LAA Targets</u> , CAA Aims, <u>UDP</u> , or <u>JSNA</u> .
	Q2 Who in the main will benefit?	Hereafter, 'policy' means policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme Disability Service providers also have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people. These two duties frequently overlap and it is sensible to consider them together. For example, can you: Provide accessible communications? Change how you collate and use data? Revise how you involve service users?

Analyse the impact of the policy on the <u>protected characteristics</u> with due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Use your reasoning in order to determine whether the policy will be of high, medium or low relevance to the protected characteristics. What do we mean by these terms?:

High

- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is relevant to all or most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is substantial or a fair amount of evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by
- There is substantial or a fair amount of public concern about it

Medium

- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is relevant to most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is some evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by it
- There is some public concern about it

Low

- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is not generally relevant to most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is little evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by it
- There is little public concern about it

Use your reasoning to determine whether the impact will be positive, neutral, or negative. There are three possible outcomes:

- Positive: The EIA shows the policy is not likely to result in adverse impact for any protected characteristic and does advance equality of opportunity, and/or fulfils PSED in another way
- Neutral: The EIA shows the policy, strategy, function, project or activity is not likely to result in adverse impact for any protected characteristic and does not advance equality of opportunity, and/or fulfils PSED in another way
- Negative: The EIA shows the policy, strategy, function, project or activity is likely to have an adverse impact on a particular protected characteristic(s) and potentially does not fulfil PSED, or the negative impact will be mitigated through another means.

Should your policy not be applicable, you must note this and state why.

Human Rights, Children's Rights

Additionally, demonstrate here that the impact on **Human and/or Children's Rights** arising from the policy has been considered.

Human Rights

Public authorities have an obligation to act in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights. These are:

- Article 2: Right to life
- Article 3: Freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment
- Article 4: Right to liberty and security
- Article 5: Freedom from slavery and forced labour
- Article 6: Right to a fair trial
- Article 7: No punishment without law
- Article 8: Respect for your private and family life, home and correspondence
- Article 9: Freedom of thought, belief and religion
- Article 10: Freedom of expression
- Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association
- Article 12: Right to marry and start a family
- Article 14: Protection from discrimination in respect of these these rights and freedoms
- Article 1 of Protocol 1: Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property
- Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education
- Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to participate in free elections

(Article 1 of Protocol 13 is: Abolition of the death penalty)

Each of the above links takes you to explanations and examples provided by the EHRC. Further, the <u>EHRC</u> and the <u>Ministry of Justice</u> both provide guides for public authorities.

Children's Rights (UNCRC)

All children and young people up to the age of 18 years have all the rights in the Convention. Some groups of children and young people - for example those living away from home, and young disabled people - have additional rights to make sure they are treated fairly and their needs are met.

human rights?



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General points

- 1. 'Due regard' means the regard that is appropriate in all the circumstances. In the case of controversial matters such as service closures or reductions, considerable thought will need to be given the equalities aspects.
- 2. Wherever appropriate, and in all cases likely to be controversial, the outcome of the EIA needs to be summarised in the Cabinet/Cabinet Member report and equalities issues dealt with and cross referenced as appropriate within the report.
- 3. Equalities duties are fertile ground for litigation and a failure to deal with them properly can result in considerable delay, expense and reputational damage.
- 4. Where dealing with obvious equalities issues e.g. changing services to disabled people/children, take care not to lose sight of other less obvious issues for other protected groups.

Timing, and sources of help

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- needs of other people; and
- Encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low

The Act states that meeting different needs involves taking steps to take account of disabled people's disabilities. It describes fostering good relations as tackling prejudice and promoting understanding between people from different groups. It states that compliance with the duty may involve treating some people more favourably than others.

Age	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents of different ages should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+
Disability	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents with disabilities should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+
Gender reassignment	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on trans or transitioning residents should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+
Marriage and Civil Partnership	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on married residents or residents in civil partnership should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+
Pregnancy and maternity	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on pregnant women residents and those women in the period of 26 weeks after giving birth should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+

		Race	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents of different race groups should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+	
		Religion/belief (including non-belief)	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents of different religions should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+	
		Sex	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents of different sex should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+	
Page 13		Sexual Orientation	By varying the contract to one which is based on risk and reward the impact on residents of different sexual orientation should be positive as the contractor will improves their performance leading to cleaner streets in the borough.	L	+	
9 13		Human Rights and Children's Rights Will it affect Human Rights, as defined by the Human Rights Act 1998? No				
	Q3 Does the policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme make a positive contribution to equalities?	No. The variation of the contract should lead to cleaner streets in the borough, improving well being and quality of life. This should have positive impact on all residents in the borough, but wouldn't specifically make a positive contribution to equalities.				
	Q4 Does the policy, strategy,	No				

function, project, activity,
or programme actually or
potentially contribute to
or hinder equality of
opportunity, and/or
adversely impact human
rights?

Initial Screening Equality Impact Analysis Guidance

Section 01	Details of Initial Equalities Impact Screening Analysis
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Q1 What are you looking to achieve?	For example this might help to implement outcomes identified in policies such as the <u>Single Equality Scheme</u> , <u>Disability Equality Scheme</u> , <u>other ElAs</u> in your service department, or in another department that your service/service users also interact with and draw down services from, <u>Corporate Plan</u> , <u>LAA Targets</u> , CAA Aims, <u>UDP</u> , or <u>JSNA</u> .
Q2 Who in the main will	Hereafter, 'policy' means policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme

Tool and Guidance updated for new PSED from 05.04.2011

benefit?

Disability

Service providers also have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people. These two duties frequently overlap and it is sensible to consider them together. For example, can you:

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- Change how you collate and use data?
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Analyse the impact of the policy on the <u>protected characteristics</u> with due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Use your reasoning in order to determine whether the policy will be of high, medium or low relevance to the protected characteristics. What do we mean by these terms?:

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- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is relevant to all or most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is substantial or a fair amount of evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by it
- There is substantial or a fair amount of public concern about it

Medium

- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is relevant to most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is some evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by it
- There is some public concern about it

Low

- The policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme is not generally relevant to most parts of the general duty, and/or to human rights
- There is little evidence that some groups are (or could be) differently affected by it
- There is little public concern about it

Use your reasoning to determine whether the impact will be positive, neutral, or negative. There are three possible outcomes:

Positive: The EIA shows the policy is not likely to result in adverse impact for any protected characteristic

- and does advance equality of opportunity, and/or fulfils PSED in another way
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- Article 14: Protection from discrimination in respect of these these rights and freedoms
- Article 1 of Protocol 1: Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property
- Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education
- Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to participate in free elections

(Article 1 of Protocol 13 is: Abolition of the death penalty)

consider a Full Equality Impact Analysis if your decision is likely to be of high relevance to equality, and/or be of

project, activity, or

programme actually or potentially contribute to or hinder equality of opportunity and/or human rights?

high public interest.