# London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

# **Cabinet**

## **6 January 2014**

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

<u>Item</u>		<u>Pages</u>
9.	EXTENSION OF "STEP UP TO SOCIAL WORK" CONTRACT WITH HERTFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY	1 - 5
12.	HOUSING ESTATE INVESTMENT PLAN (HEIP) UPDATE	6 - 20



# **Initial Screening Equality Impact Analysis Tool**

Section 01	Details of Initia	al Equality Impact Screening Analysis		
Financial Year and	2011 / 13			
Quarter				
Name of policy, strategy,	strategy, Step Up to Social Work Programme			
function, project, activity, or programme	Second roll-out	of programme		
Q1	The programme	e is part of a national initiative, led by the CWDC (Children's Workforce Develop	ment Co	uncil),
What are you looking to	to widen the int	ake of applicants onto social work qualification training and provide an employe	r commis	ssioned
achieve?		The course is an employer-led, 18 month fast track Social Work Master's degree	ee which	will be
	validated by the	e General Social Care Council and awarded by the University		
Q2	Potential applic	ants who would apply for a social work degree.		
Who in the main will				
benefit?	Age	Applicants of any age over 18 will be suitable provided they hold a 2:1 degree in any field which is a national programme requirement	L	+
	Disability	When assessing candidate suitability for the programme the commissioned HEI will consider disability in accordance with the relevant employment sections of the Equality Act 2010, and as such it is difficult to determine an overall relevance and potential impact, as this will be dealt with on a case by case basis. However, there is duty to provide reasonable	L	+

℧
а
Q
Œ
N

	adjustments for candidates, which could be positive but again, this is on a case by case basis. Given the factors this depends on, it would be of low relevance to disabled people as a group, albeit the relevance could be higher for individuals on a case by case basis.  Reasonable adjustments for disabled people coming to the assessment centres in November 2011 for example ramps and access to appropriate materials for sight or hearing impairments. Applicants with dyslexia and student support plans from other universities will be given extra time to complete the written tasks at the assessment centre. If an applicant is successful the university will conduct an occupational health assessment and student support plans will be developed to meet individual student needs whilst on the programme	Н	+
Gender	Gender reassignment will not affect an applicant's suitability for or progression within the programme. As such, this is of low relevance and would be positive for this protected characteristic.	L	+
Marriage a Civil Partnership	for or progression within the programme. As such, this is of low relevance	L	+
Pregnancy and materi	This is an intensive 18 month Masters programme with limited slippage time for which a 100% attendance is a General Social Care Council requirement. This could potentially have a negative impact on pregnancy and maternity as they are likely to have time off for reasons of pregnancy and maternity. Applicants will be given information about the programme and the academic and placement expectations in order to make their own decision about accepting a place on the programme. To mitigate any potential negative impact, applicants will be able to apply for mitigating	Н	-

Race	circumstances with the university if extensions are needed for course work and placements in line with the university's regulations and policies on extensions which is determined on a case by case basis. The University of Hertfordshire's regulations can be found on: <a href="http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr azlist info.htm">http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr azlist info.htm</a> The first programme had lower numbers of BME groups nationally, and so		+
Nace	advertising has been extended to local authority jobs pages to attract more BME applicants.	L	<b>T</b>
Religion/belief (including non-belief)	Religion will not affect an applicant's suitability for or progression within the programme.	L	+
Sex	The current social work workforce is predominantly female. In the current programme there are 5 men of the 32 students on the course. Although it is not an explicitly stated aim, the Step Up programme does provide the opportunity to attract more male applicants into the social work profession. Applicants from the previous course were predominantly white female and advertising for this programme has targeted local authority intranets and job pages in an attempt to attract more men. The CWDC has also launched a national advertising campaign.	Н	+
Sexual Orientation	Sexual orientation will not affect an applicant's suitability for or progression within the programme. As such, this is of low relevance and would be positive for this protected characteristic.	L	+

## **Human Rights and Children's Rights**

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

No. This will not affect a student's right to education because if a student is deemed unsuitable for the programme, the commissioned university will counsel them on other routes into social work or other degrees

that may be more suitable Will it affect Children's Rights, as defined by the UNCRC (1992)? Not directly, although the aim of the programme is to get people into social work so that they can work with children and young people, and as such the end result in the form of a qualified social worker is intended to have a positive effect on Children's Rights. Q3 Yes Does the policy, strategy, The proposal will have a positive impact on the groups as noted above, although there may be cases where function, project, activity, some individuals would not be able to participate. or programme make a positive contribution to This programme will be delivering a second course and provides an opportunity to promote equality. It is being equalities? developed with the Children's Workforce Development Council and a lead HEI will be commissioned to assess suitability for the social work qualification and who will take care to ensure equality of access. The programme will produce well trained social work staff who will work within the local area. As part of their work they will seek to impact positively upon the well-being of local children in need. Services users from the West London boroughs have been consulted in relation to the design of the programme, and will be continue to be involved in the recruitment and selection of the candidates and the delivery of the programme. The aim is for the Step Up Social Workers to have a positive impact on outcomes for children in west London. The programme is designed specifically to meet the demands of the local population. Referring Para 3.58 of the Council's Single Equality Scheme, Step Up aims to recruit local people, from local communities, to work in the west London local authorities. During the application process, candidates must specify which region they would like to work in, and currently there is considerable interest from potential students to work in west London. The idea of recruiting and retaining local people is critical, as recruitment and retention of child protection social workers in particularly severe in west London. No 04 Does the policy, strategy, It is not expected to have a negative differential impact upon any group. All applicants including those who are function, project, activity, pregnant and those breastfeeding will be given information about the nature of this 18 month programme as

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

other Masters courses are 2 years long so that they can make informed decisions about their work-life commitments and suitability for this programme. The commissioned HEI will also assess student suitability on this 18 month Masters programme taking into account its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 for all protected characteristics and more so for disabilities and this will be looked at on a case by case basis. In these cases and in those where applicants opt out due to work-life issues, pregnancy and for those breastfeeding, applicants will be advised on other routes to qualification and other fields of study that they may be better suited to. Applicants who are deemed suitable but have maternity issues will be advised to apply for mitigating circumstances with the university directly.

The course will also provide financial assistance to all students as it has been recognised by the government that there may be very suitable candidates who wish to change to a career in social work, who would be unable to undertake the training due to financial difficulties.

In terms of Student Support, the Step Up candidates would be able to access the full range of support services, for example counselling, financial hardship, childcare issues, disabled student allowance – and other services aimed at widening participation in higher education. The universities are committed to principles of widening participation and have a strong equalities statement and commitment to their students.



## **LBHF Equality Impact Analysis Tool**

## **Conducting an Equality Impact Analysis**

An EqIA is an improvement process which helps to determine whether our policies, practices, or new proposals will impact on, or affect different groups or communities. It enables officers to assess whether the impacts are positive, negative or unlikely to have a significant impact on each of the protected characteristic groups.

The tool has been updated to reflect the new public sector equality duty (PSED). The Duty highlights three areas in which public bodies must show compliance. It states that a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- 1. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under this Act;
- 2. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- 3. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Whilst working on your Equality Impact Assessment, you must analyse your proposal against the three tenets of the Equality Duty.

LBHF EqIA Tool - Proposed Housing Estates Improvement Programme (HEIP) for Emlyn Gardens, Sulivan Court, and Becklow Gardens

## **General points**

- 1. In the case of matters such as service closures or reductions, considerable thought will need to be given to any potential equality impacts. Case law has 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, it should demonstrably inform the decision, and be made available when the decision is recommended.
- 2. Wherever appropriate, the outcome of the EIA should 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.
- 5. 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 Equality Officer for support.
- 6. Further advice and guidance can be accessed from the separate guidance document (link), as well as from the Opportunities Manager: PEIA@lbhf.gov.uk or ext 3430

Overall Information	Details of Full Equality Impact Analysis
Financial Year and	2014/15 Quarter 1
Quarter	
Name and details of	Title of EIA: Proposed Housing Estates Improvement Programme (HEIP) for Emlyn Gardens, Sulivan Court,
policy, strategy,	and Becklow Gardens
function, project,	
activity, or programme	This is an investment project for three housing estates in the borough which, if approved by Cabinet, will be delivered in the 2014/15 financial year. The proposed works to each estate relate to hard and soft landscaping and improvements to existing facilities. The aim of the proposed HEIP works is to harmonise the estates more successfully with the surrounding area and to improve security and allow better access to estate amenities.
	The policy framework for the Housing Estates Investment Programme was agreed by Cabinet on 18 April 2011. It was agreed that officers should consult with residents on the basis of this policy framework. The proposed works to the three estates represents the second phase of the HEIP.
D D D D D	Below is a list of the proposed works for each estate:
	Emlyn Gardens
	Reinstating 'kick about' play area
	Relocating and refurbishing existing play equipment
	Refurbishments to boundary wall
	Tree surgery and pruning
	Replacing estate lighting columns
	New landscaping
	Replacing gallow gates
	Refurbishing railing to ground floor flats
	Repainting white and yellow parking lines
	Installing recycling bin stores
	Sulivan Court
	Renewing the younger children's play area.
	Removing a ball court
	New landscaping

Page 9		Improvements to front and rear of shops Tree surgery and pruning Reinstating benches Removal of bollards in parking area Improving and renewing lighting Replacing gallow gates Repainting existing bin stores, fascia to garages and sheds where necessary Resurfacing of car parking areas where bollards have been removed and where pot holes need to be filled. Installing recycling bin screening  Becklow Gardens Tree surgery and pruning Replacing estate lighting columns New landscaping Replacing gallow gates Replacing gallow gates Replacing fencing to lawned area Repainting white and yellow parking lines Installing recycling bin stores Repainting perimeter railing Refurbishing railing to ground floor flats Repainting bin store and shed doors Repainting bin store and shed doors Repainting CCTV camera posts  Note: If your proposed strategy will require you to assess impact on staff, please consult your HR Relationship Manager, NOT APPLICABLE
	Lead Officer	Manager. NOT APPLICABLE  Name: Mark Brayford
		Position: Head of Client Management Email: mark.brayford@lbhf.gov.uk Telephone No: 0208 753 4159
	Date of completion of final EIA	05/11/2013

Section 02	Scoping of Full E	EIA		
Plan for completion		on the Housing Estate Improvement Plan (HEIP) for the three estates is set out ated to be granted by Cabinet on 6 January 2014.	t below.	Approval to
	Lead Officer: Ma	rk Brayford		
Analyse the impact of the policy, strategy, function, project, activity, or programme	appear in more to have a positive, in this HEIP is designated from the proposed work support the council HEIP for these estimates of the separate consider	chan one protected characteristic). You should use this to determine whe neutral or negative impact on equality, giving due regard to relevance and gned to improve the physical environment of Emlyn Gardens, Sulivan Court and rks will improve the quality, safety and sustainability of these housing estates a sil's aims of integrating council housing estates with the neighbouring streets and tates is based on consultation with local residents and key stakeholders.  Specified, the comments against each protected characteristic refer to all three ration of impact on protected characteristics is necessary this is clearly titled.	ther the proportion of the pro	e policy will rtionality. w Gardens. e same time unities. The Where
	from the 2011 Cer		nallest o	uipui area
	Age	Many children and young people as well as elderly residents live on Council estates and would therefore be expected to directly benefit from the proposed changes.  Medium impact positive benefits can be expected for all residents. Public realm improvements such as paving and lighting will improve their local environment, increase natural surveillance and reduce the fear of crime. This may be particularly applicable to Becklow Gardens where 10.5% of the residents on the estate are over the age of 65 and who rely more on local facilities. This is a slightly higher proportion of the local population in comparison to the borough average of 9%.	Н	+

		Emlyn Gardens 25.3% of the residents on the Emlyn Gardens estate are under the age of 16. This is a high proportion of the local population when compared to the borough average of 16.2%. Improvements to play equipment and facilities for young people would provide opportunities for more positive engagement.		
		Sulivan Court  19.3% of the residents on the Sulivan Court estate are under the age of 16. This is a higher proportion of the local population in comparison to the borough average of 16.2%. Improvements to play equipment and facilities for young people would provide opportunities for more positive engagement. The removal of the ball court may discourage ASB and also enable the provision of play facilities that younger children could benefit from		
P		Becklow Gardens As above		
Page 11	Disability	People with disabilities and physical or mental ill health are disproportionately represented in Council housing in comparison to the rest of the borough. 14.6% of the population of Emlyn Gardens are registered with some form of disability, 16.2% on Sulivan Court, and 20.5% on Becklow Gardens. These compare to a borough average of 12.6%.	М	+
		Disabled residents can be expected to benefit directly from the investment plan through improved public realm such as improved accessibility and improved security through natural surveillance. Improvements to estate lighting can also be expected to benefit vulnerable residents who live on the estate by providing a safer neighbourhood.		
		Emlyn Gardens The HEIP proposal for this estate includes the repainting of white lines on estate roads. This could help to reinforce disabled parking provision on the estate, therefore benefiting car owners who have a registered physical disability. Consideration for children with disabilities has been undertaken.		

LBHF EqIA Tool - Proposed Housing Estates Improvement Programme (HEIP) for Emlyn Gardens, Sulivan Court, and Becklow Gardens

	Access to play areas will be DDA compliant for wheel chair users. Supplementary Planning Guidance requirements will be followed and additional equipment for disabled play will be identified.  Sulivan Court Improvements to play equipment and facilities for young people would provide opportunities for more positive engagement. Consideration for children with disabilities has been undertaken. Access to play areas will be DDA compliant for wheel chair users. Supplementary Planning Guidance requirements will be followed and additional equipment for disabled play will be identified.  Becklow Gardens The HEIP proposal for this estate includes the repainting of white lines on estate roads. This could help to reinforce disabled parking provision on the estate, therefore benefiting car owners who have a registered physical disability.		
Gender reassignment	There is limited data in relation to Council tenants or members of their household who have undergone gender re-assignment. That said, the effects of the HEIP are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral /
Marriage and Civil Partnership	There is limited data in relation to the marital status of Council tenants or members of their households. That said, the effects of the HEIP are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral /+
Pregnancy and maternity	There is limited data in relation to the number of Council tenants or members of their households who are either pregnant or on maternity leave. That said, the effects of the HEIP are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral / +
Race	The effects of the HEIP are, however, expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral /+

Religion/belief (including non-belief)	The effects of the HEIP are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral / +
Gender	The effects of the HEIP are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral / +
Sexual Orientation	The Council has limited data on the breakdown of its tenants and their household members by sexual orientation. That said, the effects of this Investment Plan are expected to be neutral in terms of this characteristic.	L	Neutral / +

## **Human Rights or Children's Rights**

If your decision has the potential to affect Human Rights or Children's Rights, please contact your Borough Lead for advice

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

Yes. Article 6: Right to a fair trial (to have your views heard), Article 8 (Right to respect for your family, home and correspondence), article 14 (Right to freedom from discrimination in respect of these rights and freedoms), Article 1 of Protocol 1 (Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property). It is considered that these would be positively impacted by the proposed policy.

### Will it affect Children's Rights, as defined by the UNCRC (1992)?

Yes. The right to life, survival, and development, and the right to have their views respected and to have their best interests considered at all times. It is considered that these would be positively impacted by the HEIP.

be summarised as overgrown trees, problems with parking demarcation and gates, a lack of community space for meetings, the play area for smaller children is in need of improvement, the sunken garden needs improvement, there is currently unsatisfactory recycling provision, the future of the currently locked play area, the run down appearance of shops on the estate. A brief was given to Aecom, the landscape architects, who then developed a series of design options.

<u>Stage 2</u> – An exhibition of design options took place on 7 October 2013 where all residents from the estate were invited to view the proposals and provide further feedback for consideration. Residents were invited by post and by displaying posters around the estate in advance of the event. Feedback forms from the event were analysed after the event and further developments to the plans took place. As part of this process the resident association for the area was also asked to confirm what their priorities for the area were.

#### **Becklow Gardens**

A two stage consultation process took place on the Becklow Gardens estate.

<u>Stage 1</u> - A drop-in session then took place on 14 August at the Victoria Community Centre which all residents of the Becklow Gardens estate were invited to attend. Invitations to this consultation session were sent out by post. A list of priority areas was developed based on the feedback that was received. The main issues that were identified from consultation can be summarised as overgrown hedges and trees causing a nuisance to residents and hampering CCTV recording, block paviors that are in need of some repairs and a deep clean, and an isolated garden in the middle of the estate that currently looks uninviting. A brief was given to Aecom, the landscape architects, who then developed a series of design options.

<u>Stage 2</u> – An exhibition of design options took place on 25 September 2013 where all residents from the estate were invited to view the proposals and provide further feedback for consideration. Residents were invited by post and by displaying posters around the estate in advance of the event. Feedback forms from the event were analysed after the event and further developments to the plans took place. As part of this process the resident association for the area was also asked to confirm what their priorities for the area were.

Key Council departments responsible for parking, housing development, planning, environment, safety and highways were also involved in developing the draft investment proposals.

## **Summary of Consultation Responses**

The consultation confirmed that the proposed HEIP would help to address the key physical and social issues affecting the residents for the three estates.

## **Emlyn Gardens**

9 residents attended the consultation meeting on 24 September and, in terms of play area options, residents were either neutral or in favour of the proposed option. Residents were broadly positive about improvements to lawned areas, tree surgery and, addressing the unsightly bins.

#### **Sulivan Court**

12 residents completed feedback forms at the consultation meeting on 7 October 2013 and residents were positive about all proposals, with the majority of those attending in favour of closing the ball court, including the chair of the Resident Association. Facilities in the bin/recycling store was a high priority and improvements to the shops was a popular part of the proposal.

#### **Becklow Gardens**

29 residents attended the consultation meeting and were generally in favour of the environmental proposals, especially the pruning of trees to aid safety and facilitate the CCTV.

Section 05	Analysis of impact and outcomes
Analysis	What has your consultation (if undertaken) and analysis of data shown? You will need to make an informed assessment about the actual or likely impact that the policy, proposal or service will have on each of the protected characteristic groups by using the information you have gathered. The weight given to each protected characteristic should be proportionate to the relevant policy (see guidance).
	This has been covered in both the analysis of consultation results and in the nine protected characteristics. The analysis that has been undertaken does not indicate lawful or unlawful discrimination.

Section 06	Reducing any adverse impacts and recommendations
Outcome of Analysis	Include any specific actions you have identified that will remove or mitigate the risk of adverse impacts and / or unlawful discrimination. This should provide the outcome for LBHF, and the overall outcome.
	No actions have been identified as a result of this EIA

	Section 07	Action Plan						
	Action Plan	Note: You will only need to use this section if you have identified actions as a result of your analysis						
		No actions have been identified as a result of this EIA						
Page 19		Issue identified	Action (s) to be taken	When	Lead officer and borough	Expected outcome	Date added to business/service plan	

Section 08	Agreement, publication and monitoring		
Chief Officers' sign-off			
	JoRalady		
	Name: Jo Rowlands Position: Director Housing Services		

LBHF EqIA Tool - Proposed Housing Estates Improvement Programme (HEIP) for Emlyn Gardens, Sulivan Court, and Becklow Gardens

	Email: jo.rowlands @lbhf.gov.uk Telephone No: 0208 753 1313
Key Decision Report (if relevant)	Date of report to Cabinet/Cabinet Member: 06/01/2014 Key equalities issues have been included: Yes/No
Opportunities Manager (where involved)	Name: Carly Fry Position: Opportunities Manager Date advice / guidance given: 24/10/12 & 16/11/12 Email: carly.fry@lbhg.gov.uk Telephone No: 0208 753 3430