

Due Regard Record

Name of policy or activity: Epping Forest ReUse

What this record is for: By law the Council must, in the course of its service delivery and decision making, think about and see if it can eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations. This active consideration is known as, ‘paying due regard’, and it must be recorded as evidence. We pay due regard by undertaking equality analysis and using what we learn through this analysis in our service delivery and decision making. The purpose of this form is as a log of evidence of due regard.

When do I use this record? Every time you complete equality analysis on a policy or activity this record must be updated. Due regard must be paid, and therefore equality analysis undertaken, at ‘formative stages’ of policies and activities including proposed changes to or withdrawal of services. This record must be included as an appendix to any report to decision making bodies. Agenda Planning Groups will not accept any report which does not include evidence of due regard being paid via completion of an Equality Analysis Report.

How do I use this record: When you next undertake equality analysis open a Due Regard Record. Use it to record a summary of your analysis, including the reason for the analysis, the evidence considered, what the evidence told you about the protected groups, and the key findings from the analysis. This will be key information from Steps 1-7 of the Equality Analysis process set out in the Toolkit, and your Equality Analysis Report. This Due Regard Record is Step 8 of that process.

Date / Name	Summary of equality analysis
January 2014 Michael Warr	<p>This report is a request for repeat funding for the Epping Forest ReUse furniture exchange scheme. At the time of completion of the original funding application to Cabinet (considered on 5 Feb 2009 and subsequently 11 June 2012) no potentially adverse equality implications were identified.</p> <p>It is possible to identify a number of positive impacts that continued support of the scheme would bring. In particular, people who are on low, fixed incomes such as those of pensionable age receiving benefits or those receiving disability benefits. The scheme’s business plan identifies that:</p> <p>“Access to low cost, quality furniture and household goods by way of a caring, supportive and professional service, delivered without prejudice or discrimination, can provide those on low incomes or who are marginalised as a result of hardship, poverty, social exclusion disability or mental distress, with a means of building a home for themselves and their family and improving their quality of life without resort to doorstep / payday lenders or expensive credit agreements.”</p> <p>The furniture collection and delivery service also affords those confined to home with</p>

	<p>restricted mobility the opportunity to have furniture delivered and old furniture taken away.</p> <p>Additionally, the scheme has well developed links with relevant support agencies and partners in the district and county which enables the focused raising of awareness of the services they offer to those in need.</p>
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