

Equality Impact Assessment

1. Under s.149 of the Equality Act 2010, when making decisions, Epping District Council must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, ie have due regard to:
 - eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
 - advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
 - fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
2. The characteristics protected by the Equality Act are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage/civil partnership
 - pregnancy/maternity
 - race
 - religion/belief
 - sexual orientation.
3. In addition to the above protected characteristics you should consider the cross-cutting elements of the proposed policy, namely the social, economic and environmental impact (including rurality) as part of this assessment. These cross-cutting elements are not a characteristic protected by law but are regarded as good practice to include.
4. The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) document should be used as a tool to test and analyse the nature and impact of either what we do or are planning to do in the future. It can be used flexibly for reviewing existing arrangements but in particular should enable identification where further consultation, engagement and data is required.
5. Use the questions in this document to record your findings. This should include the nature and extent of the impact on those likely to be affected by the proposed policy or change.
6. Where this EqIA relates to a continuing project, it must be reviewed and updated at each stage of the decision.
7. All **Cabinet, Council, and Portfolio Holder reports must be accompanied by an EqIA**. An EqIA should also be completed/reviewed at key stages of projects.
8. To assist you in completing this report, please ensure you read the guidance notes in the Equality Analysis Toolkit and refer to the following Factsheets:
 - Factsheet 1: Equality Profile of the Epping Forest District
 - Factsheet 2: Sources of information about equality protected characteristics
 - Factsheet 3: Glossary of equality related terms
 - Factsheet 4: Common misunderstandings about the Equality Duty
 - Factsheet 5: Frequently asked questions
 - Factsheet 6: Reporting equality analysis to a committee or other decision making body

Section 1: Identifying details

Your function, service area and team: Housing Property and Maintenance, Housing Assets

If you are submitting this EqIA on behalf of another function, service area or team, specify the originating function, service area or team:

Title of policy or decision: Acceptance of Tenders - Planned Gas and Electric Heating Installations and Associated Electrical Work 2019-24 to Council-owned properties.

Officer completing the EqIA: Tel: Haydn Thorpe X4162 Email: hthorpe@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Date of completing the assessment: 28th October 2019

Section 2: Policy to be analysed

2.1	<p>Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?</p> <p>This new policy is required for the acceptance of tenders for undertaking planned gas, renewable energy and electrical heating installations and associated electrical work to Council owned properties.</p>
2.2	<p>Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):</p> <p>The main aim is for the Council to enter into a Framework Agreement with a contractor for the provision of undertaking planned gas, renewable energy and electrical heating installations and associated electrical work to Council owned properties in line with the Council's Procurement Rules.</p> <p>What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve (ie decommissioning or commissioning a service)?</p> <p>For the successful contractor to be able to undertake planned gas, renewable energy and electrical heating installations and electrical upgrades in Council-owned properties. It should be noted that it is a requirement under the Decent Homes Standard Criteria 'd' that the dwelling has efficient programmable heating and these works ensure the Council meets this statutory requirement.</p>
2.3	<p>Does or will the policy or decision affect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• service users• employees• the wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities? <p>Yes – it will provide thermally efficient and safe homes for Council tenants.</p> <p>Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?</p> <p>No</p>

**Initialed as original copy by
Portfolio Holder:**

2.4	<p>Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?</p> <p>No</p>
2.5	<p>Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies and how, if applicable, does the proposed policy support corporate outcomes?</p> <p>The Council's Procurement Rules dictate the procedures the Council needs to follow concerning the award of contracts.</p> <p>The Council has to undertake planned gas, renewable energy and electrical heating installations and electrical upgrades to maintain properties to the Decent Home Standard and these works are essential to maintain the property and ensure they;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the HHSRS minimum safety standards for housing • Be in a reasonable state of repair • Have reasonably modern facilities and services • Have efficient heating and effective insulation. <p>If the property does not meet all four of the criteria it will fail the Decent Home Standard.</p> <p>Well maintained Council housing is essential to meet legislative requirements that are imposed on all landlords. Effective and efficient heating and electrical systems are essential to ensure safe and secure housing for all Council tenants.</p>

Section 3: Evidence/data about the user population and consultation¹

As a minimum you must consider what is known about the population likely to be affected which will support your understanding of the impact of the policy, eg service uptake/usage, customer satisfaction surveys, staffing data, performance data, research information (national, regional and local data sources).

3.1	<p>What does the information tell you about those groups identified?</p> <p>The works are undertaken on individual Council properties and will not affect groups of the population.</p>
3.2	<p>Have you consulted or involved those groups that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision you want to implement? If so, what were their views and how have their views influenced your decision?</p> <p>Not required.</p>
3.3	<p>If you have not consulted or engaged with communities that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision, give details about when you intend to carry out consultation or provide reasons for why you feel this is not necessary:</p> <p>Community engagement is not required as the work is undertaken on individual Council owned properties.</p>

Section 4: Impact of policy or decision

Use this section to assess any potential impact on equality groups based on what you now know.

Description of impact	Nature of impact Positive, neutral, adverse (explain why)	Extent of impact Low, medium, high (use L, M or H)
Age	Positive; The work will have a positive effect on all of the identified equality groups as both the tenants and visitors to the property will benefit from a safe, efficient and effective heating system.	M
Disability		M
Gender		M
Gender reassignment		M
Marriage/civil partnership		M
Pregnancy/maternity		M
Race		M
Religion/belief		M
Sexual orientation		M

Section 5: Conclusion

		Tick Yes/No as appropriate	
5.1	Does the EqlA in Section 4 indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If ' YES ', use the action plan at Section 6 to describe the adverse impacts and what mitigating actions you could put in place.

