

## Equality Impact Assessment Screening Tool

Equality Impact Assessments help the Council to comply with its public sector duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to equality implications. EIAs also help services to be customer focussed, leading to improved service delivery and customer satisfaction.

The Council understands that whilst its equalities duty applies to all services, it is going to be more relevant to some decisions than others. We need to ensure that the detail of Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are proportionate to the impact of decisions on the equality duty, and that in some cases a full EIA is not necessary.

This tool assists services in determining whether plans and decisions will require a full EIA. It should be used on all new policies, projects, functions, staff restructuring, major development or planning applications, or when revising them.

Full guidance on the Council's duties and EIAs and the full EIA template is available at [Equality Impact Assessments](#).

<b>Proposal/Project/Policy Title</b>	Provision of Community Equipment
<b>Service Area</b>	Commissioning, Adults Care & Support
<b>Officer completing the EIA Screening Tool</b>	Lewis Sheldrake, Lead Commissioner – Innovation and Personalisation
<b>Head of Service</b>	Louise Hider-Davies, Head of Commissioning
<b>Date</b>	04/01/2023
<b>Brief Summary of the Proposal/Project/Policy</b> Include main aims, proposed outcomes, recommendations/decisions sought.	<p>Local Authorities in England have a statutory duty to plan for the provision of certain home-based services, including the provision of disability aids, minor adaptations and “community equipment”, to meet the assessed eligible needs of residents in their area.</p> <p>In addition to being a statutory duty for local authorities, the provision of community equipment is key to achieving local and health authority strategic objectives, efficiency and cost-effectiveness. For example, provision of the appropriate community equipment can;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) promote independence, safety, social inclusion, quality of life and improved end of life care</li> <li>ii) reduce unscheduled hospital admissions and Accident and Emergency attendance</li> </ul>

	<p>iii) facilitate hospital discharges, reducing the length of stay in hospitals</p> <p>iv) reduce care costs by avoiding or delaying admissions to residential care and the need for paid carers</p> <p>v) play a key role in the delivery of early intervention and prevention strategies.</p> <p>Having considered the options available, a Direct Award to Medequip via Framework Agreement Y21006 let by KCS Procurement Services is considered the most appropriate course of action. This will ensure the council can meet its legal duties under the Care Act 2014, meet local needs, deliver value for money and ensure regulatory and legislative compliance.</p> <p>The Cabinet is recommended to:</p> <p>(i) Agree that the Council proceeds with the procurement of a contract for a new Community Equipment service in accordance with the strategy set out in this report;</p> <p>(ii) Authorise the Strategic Director Children and Adults in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Integration and the Cabinet Member for Children’s Social Care &amp; Disabilities, the Director of Law and Governance and the Chief Operating Officer, to award and enter into the contract and all other necessary or ancillary agreements with the chosen supplier, in accordance with the strategy set out in the report.</p>	
<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Age</b>	Positive impact (L)	<p>The service will support residents of all ages to live independently and delay the need for long-term care. There is no age range, and the service will apply to any resident, adult or child and eligibility will be subject to their disability.</p> <p>The borough has a population of 214,107 and all residents in the borough with a disability may be able to access the service.</p>
<b>Disability</b>	Positive impact (L)	<p>The service will allow the Council to support disabled residents to live more safely and independently in their own home.</p>

		<p>Community Equipment helps to restore independence, confidence and dignity to households with a disabled person.</p> <p>The processing team also record customer feedback via a 2-tier feedback process; one based on the assessment and the other based on the outcome of that assessment.</p>
<b>Gender re-assignment</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	There is lack of available data around gender-reassignment in LBBD, but there are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic.
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	There are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	<p>There are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic.</p> <p>A resident's pregnancy is not considered unless it is contributing to their disability.</p>
<b>Race</b>	Positive impact (L)	There are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic. The borough has a diverse population. The team delivering the service offers a language translation service by the language shop at the point of assessment.
<b>Religion</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	There are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic
<b>Sex</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	<p>There are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic.</p> <p>Data is no longer recorded on sex as grants are based solely on a resident's disability and, dependent on the grant, their income and capital.</p>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	Not applicable (N/A)	There is lack of available data around sexual orientation in LBBD, but there are no perceived negative impacts on this protected characteristic.
<b>Socio-Economic Disadvantage<sup>1</sup></b>	Positive impact (L)	The service provided is not means-tested, which means a person's income and savings are not considered when determining their eligibility.
<b>How visible is this service/policy/project/proposal to the general public?</b>		Low visibility to the general public (L)

<sup>1</sup> Socio-Economic Disadvantage is not a protected characteristic under the Equality Act. London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has chosen to include Socio-Economic Disadvantage as best practice.

<p><b>What is the potential risk to the Council's reputation?</b></p> <p>Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc</p>	<p>Medium risk to reputation (M)</p>
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If your answers are mostly H and/or M = **Full EIA to be completed**

If after completing the EIA screening process you determine that a full EIA is not relevant for this service/function/policy/project you must provide explanation and evidence below.

As a result of this screening tool, no negative or high risks have been identified. It has therefore been concluded that a full EIA is not relevant for this policy.

There is a higher risk to the Council if service is not implemented which could exclude a population of disabled residents from receiving the support they may require.

The Service will support residents of all ages. There is no age range, and the policy will apply to any resident, adult or child.

Eligibility will be subject to the resident's disability and needs. The focus of the policy is on residents' disabilities and to enable residents to continue living independently at home.

There are no perceived negative impacts, only positive impacts, to the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010 and to the socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Feedback will be sought from residents to ensure continuous service improvement. This will be done via a 2-tier referral process, the first being feedback of the assessment itself and the second being comprehensive feedback of the outcome from the assessment.

The policy will be reviewed to ensure it is working well. Data will be stored regarding applications and the ages, tenure and ethnicity of applicants. This data can then be used to review the success of the policy and review who are benefiting from it the most and to ensure service equity.

Please submit the form to [CE-strategy@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:CE-strategy@lbbd.gov.uk) and include the above explanation as part of the equalities comments on any subsequent related report.