

# Equality Impact Assessment Form

A copy of this form is available on the Intranet.

## Screening

Name of strategy, project or policy:

Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy 2007 - 2012

Officer completing assessment:

Steve Jackson

Telephone:

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1. What is the main purpose of the strategy, project or policy?

To provide a five year plan for developing supported housing for vulnerable people

2. List the main activities of the project, policy (for strategies list the main policy areas)

1. Maintaining existing supply of supported housing

2. Developing more supported housing to meet need

3. Facilitating multi agency working

4. Monitoring progress against targets and updating the strategy as necessary

3. Who will be the main beneficiaries of the strategy, project or policy?

Vulnerable people who need support to maintain independent living or move on from supported housing

4. Use the table below to tick:

- (a) Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality groups i.e. it could disadvantage them.
- (b) Where you think that the strategy, project, policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relations within equality target groups.

		<b>Positive Impact – it could benefit</b>	<b>Negative Impact – it could disadvantage</b>	<b>Reason</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Women	√		The supported housing strategy will contain a specific action to prevent women becoming homeless due to domestic violence and a recommendation to support proposals to provide places of safety for those women forced to leave their accommodation due to domestic violence
	Men			No particular impact
<b>Race</b>	Asian or Asian British people	√		The strategy will contain reference to BME needs for supported housing
	Black or black British people			No particular impact
	People of mixed race			No particular impact
	Irish people			No particular impact
	White people			No particular impact
	Chinese people and other minority ethnic communities not listed above			No particular impact for Chinese people  The supported housing review took into account the findings of the <i>east Lancashire Gypsy and Traveler Accommodation Strategy 2007</i> , which concluded that there was no unmet need for this group in Rossendale
<b>Disability</b>				The supported housing strategy will address the longer term needs of this group

<b>Sexuality</b>	Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals			The supported housing strategy will consider any unmet needs
<b>Gender Identity</b>	Transgender people			See above
<b>Age</b>	Older people (60+)	√		The supported housing strategy will address the longer term needs of this group
<b>Age</b>	Younger people (17-25), and children	√		The supported housing strategy will consider the long term needs of this group
<b>Belief</b>	Faith groups *			No particular impact
<b>Equal opportunities and/or improved relations E.G. Rural</b>				No particular impact

**Notes:**

\* Faith groups cover a wide range of groupings, the most common of which are Muslims, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, Sikhs, and Hindus. Consider faith categories individually and collectively when considering positive and negative impacts.

5 If you have indicated there is a negative impact on any group, is that impact:

Legal? YES (assumedly)

(I.e. it is not discriminatory under anti-discriminatory legislation)

Intended NO

Level of impact LOW (assumed)

If the negative impact is possibly discriminatory and not intended and/or of high impact you must complete section two of this form. If not, complete the rest of section one below and consider if completing section two would be helpful in making a thorough assessment.

6 a) Could you minimise or remove any negative impact that is of low significance? YES

Explain how:

By conducting research into the unmet housing needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people.

- a) Could you improve the strategy, project or policy's positive impact?

See above

Explain how:

By carrying out an audit of unmet housing need amongst Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people

*You may wish to use the action sheet at the end of Section two.*

- 7 If there is no evidence that the strategy, policy or project promotes equality, equal opportunities or improved relations – could it be adapted so that it does?

How?

Please sign and date this form, keep one copy and send one copy to the Head of Human Resources.

Signed: Steve Jackson.....

Date: ...20<sup>th</sup> February 2008.....

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Section Two – Full Assessment**

Name of strategy, project or policy:

Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy

Date: 20/02/2008

Part a

- 1. Looking back at section one of the EQIA, in what areas are there concerns that the strategy, policy or project could have a negative impact?

- Gender
- Race
- Disability
- Sexuality/Transgender
- Age

Faith



2. Summarise the likely negative impacts.

It is possible that the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people have been overlooked in the Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy. Supported housing caused or exacerbated due to sexuality may be a hidden problem in Rossendale

3. What previous or planned consultation on this topic/policy area/project has taken place/will take place with groups/individuals from equality target groups?

If there has already been consultation what does it indicate about negative impact of this strategy, project or policy?

Equality target groups	Summary of consultation carried out or planned
Women	Consultation with: Rossendale Star Centre Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers Lancashire Supporting People Team
Black and minority ethnic communities	Consultation with: Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers
Disabled people	Consultation with: Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers
Lesbians, gay men, bisexuals or trans people	Consultation with: Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers Support groups
Older people	Consultation with: Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers
Young people/children	Consultation with: Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Social housing providers Rossendale Project (hostel) Rossendale M3 Project (supported lodgings) Service users East Lancashire Leaving Care Coordinator Family Mediation Service
Faith groups	

4. What consultation has taken place/or is planned with Council staff – including staff that have, or will have, direct experience of implementing the strategy/ policy/ working on the project?

Housing Research and Policy Officer

5. Check that research /studies/reports concerning the equality target groups and the likely impact have been used to plan the project and guide it or indicate what research you intend to carry out.

Equality target groups	Title/type/details of report/research
Women	Lancashire Domestic Violence Strategy Rossendale Community Safety Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy 2005
Black and minority ethnic communities	Government Supported housing Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy 2005
Disabled people	Lancashire Supporting People Strategy 2005 Lancashire Supporting People Strategy 2005
Lesbians, gay men, bisexuals or transsexual people	
Older people	Lancashire Supporting People Strategy 2005
Young people/children	Government Supported housing Strategy Youth justice Board Delivery Plan Lancashire Supporting People Strategy Lancashire Area Agreement
Faith groups	

6. If there are gaps in your previous or planned consultation and research, are there any experts/relevant groups that can be contacted to get further views or evidence on the issues.

YES  (Please list them and explain how you will obtain their views)

Local BME community groups could be consulted with concerning their perceptions of supported housing issues amongst the various minority ethnic communities

NO

### Part b

#### Complete this section when consultation and research has been carried out

7. a) As a result of this assessment and available evidence collected, including consultation, state whether there will need to be any changes made/planned to the policy, strategy or project.

None envisaged in the near future

- b) As a result of this assessment and available evidence is it important that the Council commissions specific research on this issue or carry out monitoring/ data collection?

(You may wish to put this information directly onto the action sheet at the end of this form)

See 6 above

8. Will the changes planned ensure that negative impact is:

Legal? N/A  
(Not discriminatory, under anti-discriminatory legislation)

Intended? N/A

Low impact? N/A

No negative impact

9. a) Have you set up a monitoring/evaluation/ review process to check the successful implementation of the strategy, project or policy?

YES  NO

b) How will this monitoring/evaluation further assess the impact on the equality target groups/ensure the strategy/project/policy is non-discriminatory?

Details:

Regular updates of the strategy action plan will be carried out to ensure that targets are met
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**Please complete the action form below, sign the EQIA, retain a copy and send a copy of the full EQIA, including the Action Plan, to the Head of Human Resources.**

Signed Steve Jackson

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008

### Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan

Please list below any recommendations for action that you plan to take as a result of this impact assessment.

Issue	Action required	Lead officer	Timescale	Resource implications	Comments
Not all ethic	Undertake consultation	TBC	TBC	Staff time	The supported housing

minority and faith groups have been consulted on supported housing					review/strategy and the supported housing strategy will cover the needs of the main groups Research may be undertaken into the needs of the smaller minority groups but this would be most cost effective if part of sub regional exercise
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