

**INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>Name of Policy, Decision, Strategy, Service or Function, Other: (please indicate)</b>	<b>Accommodation Rationalisation: The Relocation of the One Stop Shop (services: Council Tax and Housing Benefit &amp; business rates services CAB, GVH, Housing Options )</b>	
	<b>Do nothing.</b>	
<b>Lead Officer Name(s):</b>	Fiona Meechan and Phil Seddon	
<b>Job Title:</b>	Director of Customers and Communities and Head of Finance and Property Services	
<b>Department/Service Area:</b>	Place Directorate – Service Assurance Resources Directorate – Finance and Property Services	
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<b>Date Assessment:</b>	<b>Commenced:</b> June 2012	<b>Completed:</b> November 2012

**We carry out Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) to analyse the effects of our decisions, policies or practices. The EIA should be undertaken/started at the beginning of the policy development process – before any decisions are made.**

**1. Overview**

<b>The main aims/objectives of this policy<sup>1</sup> are:</b>
As part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Accommodation Strategy aims, this policy decision is concerned exploring the options for the Council to rationalise its accommodation assets – specifically in this case, the review of the Council's One Stop Shop services.
This impact assessment has been carried out with the information available and considers the impact on protected equality groups should the option to 'do nothing' in relation to the possible relocation of the One Stop Shop services (Council Tax and Housing Benefit & business rates services) be pursued.

(Refer to **EIA Guidance** for details)

Is the policy or decision under review (please tick)

New/proposed

Modified/adapted

Existing

Date of Review<sup>2</sup>: As required.

<sup>1</sup> Policy refers to any policy, strategy, project, procedure, function, decision or delivery of service.

<sup>2</sup> This date will be set on an annual basis as default for review unless otherwise specified by you.

<b>Responsible Section/Team</b>	SAT & Finance	<b>Version</b>	1.01
<b>Responsible Author</b>	Director of Customers and Communities Head of Finance & Property Services	<b>Due for review</b>	As required.
<b>Date last amended</b>	15.11.12	<b>Page 1 of 3</b>	

## 2. Equality Impact

Equality		Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts or reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
<b>Age</b>	Older people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No impact on any protected equality groups has been identified as there would be no change to the current service or location of access to this service for users.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Younger people and children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Disability</b>	Physical/learning/mental health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Transsexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Race (Ethnicity or Nationality)</b>	Asian or Asian British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Black or black British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Irish people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	White British	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Chinese people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gypsies & Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other minority communities not listed above (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Belief or Religion</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gender</b>	Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Lesbian women, gay men and bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Contribution to equality of opportunity</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Relocation would also enable greater opportunity for access for those in the east of the Borough. However, it is recognised that on balance this would also mean a potential decrease in opportunity for access to those in the west of the borough – who currently have greater access to the One Stop Shop.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Equality	Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
Contribution to fostering good relations between different groups (people getting on well together – valuing one another, respect and understanding)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights <a href="http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251">http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any Council decisions will be undertaken in line with the Human Right Act 1998.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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