

**Equality Impact Assessment
Level One Assessment Form**

Service Area...TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION. STRATEGIC HOUSING.....

1. What is the name of the proposed policy, procedure, project etc to be assessed.

Provision of temporary accommodation to applicants that the Council has a statutory duty towards within the terms of the Housing Act 1996, Part V11, as amended by the Housing Act 2002.

2. What are the aims or intended outcomes of the policy to be assessed.

To ensure that homeless households accommodated in temporary accommodation who are often in a vulnerable position receive the appropriate level of support during there stay to enable them to maintain their accommodation, until such time permanent accommodation options can be secured.

3. Is there any potential public or staff concern that this function, policy or proposal may have a discriminatory impact

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| <p>PUBLIC Applicants that are not eligible within the terms of the homelessness legislation that are homeless could perceive the legislation as discriminatory as we would be unable to provide them with temporary accommodation.</p> | <p>STAFF None Identified</p> |
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4. Is there any other evidence (results of consultations, monitoring data etc) to suggest that the proposals could have an adverse/differential impact on the grounds of

a. Race. Low take up of temporary accommodation by BME population, however information is in English and no information regarding the unit is in community languages.

- b. Religion. Different religious groups may require specific needs, such as food preparation, and bathroom facilities. Could present issues, as unit has share kitchen and bathroom facilities with other residents.

- c. Gender. Unit has shared facilities for both male and female residents.

- d. Disability. No disables access or facilities at the unit.

- e. Sexual Orientation. No issues identified.

- f. Age. Levels of support needs between elderly and young households may be higher and that needs are correctly assessed.

5. If there is no evidence are there any experts/ relevant groups who you can approach to explore their views on the issues

6. How will the views of these groups be obtained

Consultation with different groups and stakeholders took place during the recent update of the homelessness strategy

7. Please detail the outcomes of these consultations

The homelessness strategy has an objective that there is to be a review of the current emergency accommodation provision. An options appraisal of the unit is to take place with a target date of April 2009. Capital funding has been approved to enable the unit to be compliant with DDA. Funding has also been awarded to enable a proportion of the units to be self contained.

8. What are the risks (if any) associated with the policy in relation to the adverse/differential impact on the ETG's

See question 4.

9. Considering the evidence above what priority would you give this policy in relation to the Equality Target Groups. Please provide a rationale for your conclusions

| | High | Medium | Low |
|---------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| Disability | X | | |
| Race | | | X |
| Gender | | | X |
| Sexual Orientation | | | X |
| Age | | | X |
| Religion or Belief | | | X |

If a wheel chair user needed the provision of temporary accommodation at the unit, it would be extremely difficult to

accommodate then due to access and facilities available.

10. If in your judgment the proposed service/policy etc does have an adverse impact? Can that impact be justified?

The provision of temporary accommodation can impact on certain groups identified, ineligible applicants which can be justified through legislation

11. What steps will you take to address any unjustified impact

Unit has been identified for the need to be DDA compliant and funding has been agreed. The need has also been identified to make a proportion of the units self contained. Homeless strategy has identified the need to review current accommodation available. In this process consult with the target groups to ascertain if there are any specific requirements that may need to be taken into account. Further research to ascertain if information needs to be translated into community languages.

12. Are there any additional resource implications for the

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| steps that need to be taken, both in terms of time and finances | |
| The above will be subject to limited staff time and resources. | |
| 13. How will you monitor the effect of this function, policy etc on the equality target groups | |
| Monitoring to take place through the Hyndburn Homeless Forum and through action plan and updates to homelessness strategy. | |
| 14. (HR Policies Only) Is the Policy consistent with employment Codes of Practice on Race, Gender and Disability? If not what else needs to be included | |
| | |
| 15. Does this Policy need to be fully impact assessed? Please give reasons | |
| Not at this time. Consultation has taken place and it has been identified that a review of current provision of Temporary accommodation at the unit needs to be reviewed, with a target date of April 2009. | |

Name Denis Aldridge

Signed

Dated

Service

Service Manager Signature

Approved by Corporate Equalities Planning and Scrutiny Group

Signed

Date