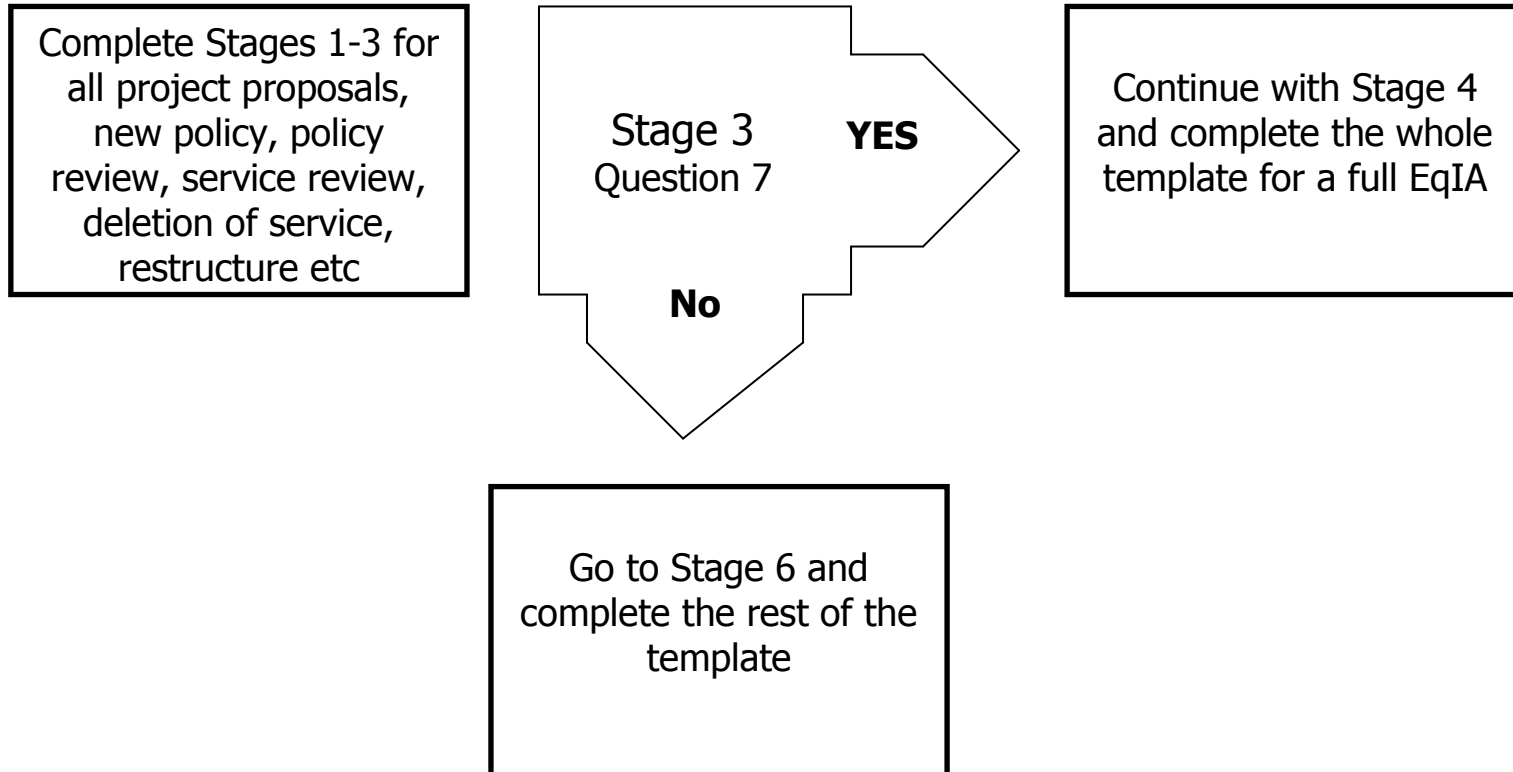


Equality Impact Assessment Template

The Council has revised and simplified its Equality Impact Assessment process. There is now just one Template. Project Managers will need to complete **Stages 1-3** to determine whether a full EqIA is required and the need to complete the whole template.



Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Template

In order to carry out this assessment, it is important that you have completed the EqIA E-learning Module and read the Corporate Guidelines on EqIAs. Please refer to these to assist you in completing this assessment.

It will also help you to look at the EqIA Template with Guidance Notes to assist you in completing the EqIA.

Type of Project / Proposal:	Tick ✓	Type of Decision:	Tick ✓
Transformation		Cabinet	✓
Capital		Portfolio Holder	
Service Plan	✓	Corporate Strategic Board	
Other		Other	
Title of Project:		Penalty Charge for Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms, as well as the Landlord Redress Scheme	
Directorate / Service responsible:		Environment and Enterprise / Public Protection	
Name and job title of lead officer:		Richard Le-Brun, Environmental Services Manager (Public Protection)	
Name & contact details of the other persons involved in the assessment:			
Date of assessment:		1 st October 2015	

Stage 1: Overview

<p>1. What are you trying to do?</p> <p>(Explain proposals e.g. introduction of a new service or policy, policy review, changing criteria, reduction / removal of service, restructure, deletion of posts etc)</p>	<p>Legislation requires landlords to install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms as prescribed to ensure the safety of their premises. The landlord is able to determine the type of alarm, but must ensure they are working at the start of any tenancy</p> <p>Legislation also requires any letting agent or property manager to join a Redress Scheme (of which 3 are in place) which allows any dispute with landlord or tenant to be addressed, and lead to more sustainable tenancies.</p> <p>With both requirements, the Authority can issue a penalty charge of up to £5,000 for non-compliance. The fee must be seen to be reasonable, and can be challenged through Internal Council review and also at a Residential Property</p>
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	Tribunal					
2. Who are the main people / Protected Characteristics that may be affected by your proposals? (✓ all that apply)	Residents / Service Users	✓	Partners	✓	Stakeholders	✓
	Staff	✓	Age		Disability	
	Gender Reassignment		Marriage and Civil Partnership		Pregnancy and Maternity	
	Race	✓	Religion or Belief		Sex	
	Sexual Orientation		Other			
3. Is the responsibility shared with another directorate, authority or organisation? If so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are the partners? Who has the overall responsibility? How have they been involved in the assessment? 						
Stage 2: Evidence / Data Collation						
4. What evidence / data have you reviewed to assess the potential impact of your proposals? Include the actual data, statistics reviewed in the section below. This can include census data, borough profile, profile of service users, workforce profiles, results from consultations and the involvement tracker, customer satisfaction surveys, focus groups, research interviews, staff surveys; complaints etc. Where possible include data on the nine Protected Characteristics. (Where you have gaps (data is not available/being collated), you may need to include this as an action to address in your Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7)						
Age (including carers of young/older people)	<p>The setting of a penalty charge is a statutory requirement, but must be sufficient to encourage compliance but not excessive to lead to successful challenge and therefore delay in putting in place the requirements. In line with the West London Group, a £2,500 fee has been set.</p> <p>The introduction of the legislation, with the above penalty being in place, ample encouragement will be in place to ensure the private rented sector, and therefore a person of any characteristic, is better protected from the risk of fire or carbon monoxide.</p> <p>Additionally, the introduction of the Redress System ensures that any complaints are taken on its merit rather than any aspect of a persons characteristic. It provides an independent assessment and service, which better protects all persons regardless of characteristic.</p> <p>Therefore the aspect of protected characteristic does not have an impact, nor are any of them adversely impacted, by this</p>					

	statutory requirement. The very nature of the principles of enforcement will also ensure that all persons have the opportunity to comply prior to any action, and Officers will ensure that consideration of needs is taken into account.
Disability (including carers of disabled people)	As Above
Gender Reassignment	As Above
Marriage / Civil Partnership	As Above
Pregnancy and Maternity	As Above
Race	As Above
Religion and Belief	As Above
Sex / Gender	As Above
Sexual Orientation	As Above
Socio Economic	As Above

5. What consultation have you undertaken on your proposals?

Who was consulted?	What consultation methods were used?	What do the results show about the impact on different groups / Protected Characteristics?	What actions have you taken to address the findings of the consultation? (This may include further consultation with the affected groups, revising your proposals).
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. What other (local, regional, national research, reports, Harrow is part of the West London Housing Group, consisting of Kensington &

<p>media) data sources that you have used to inform this assessment?</p> <p>List the Title of reports / documents and websites here.</p>	<p>Chelsea, Hackney, Hounslow and Hillingdon. This group have produced a consistent standard across the Authorities. Ultimately, the requirements are statutory and the means to avoid a penalty charge are simple, limited cost and non-bureaucratic</p>
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Stage 3: Assessing Potential Disproportionate Impact

7. Based on the evidence you have considered so far, is there a risk that your proposals could potentially have a disproportionate adverse impact on any of the Protected Characteristics?

	Age (including carers)	Disability (including carers)	Gender Reassignment	Marriage and Civil Partnership	Pregnancy and Maternity	Race	Religion and Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
Yes									
No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

YES - If there is a risk of disproportionate adverse Impact on any **ONE** of the Protected Characteristics, continue with the rest of the template.

- Best Practice:** You may want to consider setting up a Working Group (including colleagues, partners, stakeholders, voluntary community sector organisations, service users and Unions) to develop the rest of the EqIA
- It will be useful to also collate further evidence (additional data, consultation with the relevant communities, stakeholder groups and service users directly affected by your proposals) to further assess the potential disproportionate impact identified and how this can be mitigated.

NO - If you have ticked 'No' to all of the above, then go to **Stage 6**

- Although the assessment may not have identified potential disproportionate impact, you may have identified actions which can be taken to advance equality of opportunity to make your proposals more inclusive. These actions should form your Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7

Stage 4: Collating Additional data / Evidence

<p>8. What additional data / evidence have you considered in relation to your proposals as a result of the analysis at Stage 3?</p> <p>(include this evidence, including any data, statistics, titles of documents and website links here)</p>	
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9. What further consultation have you undertaken on your proposals as a result of your analysis at Stage 3?			
Who was consulted?	What consultation methods were used?	What do the results show about the impact on different groups / Protected Characteristics?	What actions have you taken to address the findings of the consultation? (This may include further consultation with the affected groups, revising your proposals).

Stage 5: Assessing Impact and Analysis

10. What does your evidence tell you about the impact on different groups? Consider whether the evidence shows potential for differential impact, if so state whether this is an adverse or positive impact? How likely is this to happen? How you will mitigate/remove any adverse impact?

Protected Characteristic	Adverse ✓	Positive ✓	Explain what this impact is, how likely it is to happen and the extent of impact if it was to occur. Note – Positive impact can also be used to demonstrate how your proposals meet the aims of the PSED Stage 9	What measures can you take to mitigate the impact or advance equality of opportunity? E.g. further consultation, research, implement equality monitoring etc (Also Include these in the Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7)
Age (including carers of young/older people)				
Disability (including carers of				

disabled people)				
Gender Reassignment				
Marriage and Civil Partnership				
Pregnancy and Maternity				
Race				
Religion or Belief				
Sex				
Sexual orientation				
11. Cumulative Impact – Considering what else is happening within the			Yes	No

Council and Harrow as a whole, could your proposals have a cumulative impact on a particular Protected Characteristic?									
If yes, which Protected Characteristics could be affected and what is the potential impact?									
11a. Any Other Impact – Considering what else is happening within the Council and Harrow as a whole (for example national/local policy, austerity, welfare reform, unemployment levels, community tensions, levels of crime) could your proposals have an impact on individuals/service users socio economic, health or an impact on community cohesion?									
If yes, what is the potential impact and how likely is to happen?									
12. Is there any evidence or concern that the potential adverse impact identified may result in a Protected Characteristic being disadvantaged? (Please refer to the Corporate Guidelines for guidance on the definitions of discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other prohibited conduct under the Equality Act) available on Harrow HUB/Equalities and Diversity/Policies and Legislation									
	Age (including carers)	Disability (including carers)	Gender Reassignment	Marriage and Civil Partnership	Pregnancy and Maternity	Race	Religion and Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
Yes									
No									
If you have answered "yes" to any of the above, set out what justification there may be for this in Q12a below - link this to the aims of the proposal and whether the disadvantage is proportionate to the need to meet these aims. (You are encouraged to seek legal advice, if you are concerned that the proposal may breach the equality legislation or you are unsure whether there is objective justification for the proposal)									
If the analysis shows the potential for serious adverse impact or disadvantage (or potential discrimination) but you have identified a potential justification for this, this information must be presented to the decision maker for a final decision to be made on whether the disadvantage is proportionate to achieve the aims of the proposal.									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should not proceed with the proposal. (select outcome 4) ▪ If the analysis shows unlawful conduct under the equalities legislation, you should not proceed with the proposal. (select outcome 4) 									
Stage 6: Decision									
13. Please indicate which of the following statements best describes the outcome of your EqIA (✓ tick one box only)									
Outcome 1 – No change required: the EqIA has not identified any potential for unlawful conduct or disproportionate impact and									✓

all opportunities to advance equality are being addressed.	
Outcome 2 – Minor adjustments to remove / mitigate adverse impact or advance equality have been identified by the EqIA. <i>List the actions you propose to take to address this in the Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7</i>	
Outcome 3 – Continue with proposals despite having identified potential for adverse impact or missed opportunities to advance equality. In this case, the justification needs to be included in the EqIA and should be in line with the PSED to have 'due regard'. In some cases, compelling reasons will be needed. You should also consider whether there are sufficient plans to reduce the adverse impact and/or plans to monitor the impact. (Explain this in 13a below)	
Outcome 4 – Stop and rethink: when there is potential for serious adverse impact or disadvantage to one or more protected groups. (You are encouraged to seek Legal Advice about the potential for unlawful conduct under equalities legislation)	
13a. If your EqIA is assessed as outcome 3 or you have ticked 'yes' in Q12 , explain your justification with full reasoning to continue with your proposals.	

Stage 7: Improvement Action Plan					
14. List below any actions you plan to take as a result of this Impact Assessment. This should include any actions identified throughout the EqIA.					
Area of potential adverse impact e.g. Race, Disability	Action required to mitigate	How will you know this is achieved? E.g. Performance Measure / Target	Target Date	Lead Officer	Date Action included in Service / Team Plan
All	Clear promotion of the requirements as well as any scheme in place to assist those in meeting them	Increased compliance	On going	R Le-Brun	Integral to cabinet report
All	Working with Property Insurance Companies to promote the benefits of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and improve education	Increased compliance	1/12/15	On going	R Le-Brun

Stage 8 - Monitoring

The full impact of the proposals may only be known after they have been implemented. It is therefore important to ensure effective monitoring measures are in place to assess the impact.

<p>15. How will you monitor the impact of the proposals once they have been implemented? What monitoring measures need to be introduced to ensure effective monitoring of your proposals? How often will you do this? <i>(Also Include in Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7)</i></p>	<p>With a charging scheme, there will be more reporting of details (as part of the justification of charges) allowing more detailed breakdown of who have been affected</p>
<p>16. How will the results of any monitoring be analysed, reported and publicised? <i>(Also Include in Improvement Action Plan at Stage 7)</i></p>	<p>Annual review as part of service plan, policy and procedure review</p>
<p>17. Have you received any complaints or compliments about the proposals being assessed? If so, provide details.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Stage 9: Public Sector Equality Duty

18. How do your proposals contribute towards the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which requires the Council to have due regard to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups.

(Include all the positive actions of your proposals, for example literature will be available in large print, Braille and community languages, flexible working hours for parents/carers, IT equipment will be DDA compliant etc)

Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010	Advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups	Foster good relations between people from different groups
Clear enforcement policies and procedures in line with Statutory requirements, including a Statement of Principles	Consistent standard of approach leading to increased confidence from all parties involved in the private sector. Set standard of fire safety across the private rented sector that helps protect vulnerable	The use of a Redress scheme will foster good relations

Stage 10 - Organisational sign Off (to be completed by Chair of Departmental Equalities Task Group)

The completed EqIA needs to be sent to the chair of your Departmental Equalities Task Group (DETG) to be signed off.

19. Which group or committee considered, reviewed and agreed the EqIA and the Improvement Action Plan?			
Signed: (Lead officer completing EqIA)	R Le-Brun	Signed: (Chair of DETG)	Hanif Islam
Date:	01/10/15	Date:	2 November 2015
Date EqIA presented at the EqIA Quality Assurance Group		Signature of ETG Chair	