



**East Staffordshire Borough Council
Equality and Health Impact Assessment (EHIA)**

This EHIA documents how you have taken into account health impacts and the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty in the decision making process for this function, policy or service.

1	Title of function, policy or service to be assessed: The Housing Strategy 2021 - 2015
2	Date: 30 October 2020
3	Name of EHIA author: Brett Atkinson
4	EHIA team: Brett Atkinson
5	Head of Service: Sal Khan
6	Is the policy, function or service existing, new or being reviewed? Reviewed.
7	State the aims, objectives and purpose of the function, policy or service and provide a summary of the service provided: The Housing Strategy provides the Council's vision for housing in its area. It is a high level document that brings together all the activities in the Council that contribute to the housing agenda.
8	Are there any other functions, policies or services which might be linked with this one for the purpose of this EHIA? The Housing Strategy draws on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Allocations Policy 2018 • Council Tax Reduction Scheme • The Homelessness Strategy 2018 -2023 • The Local Plan 2012 – 2031 • Selective Licensing Policy • Strategic Housing Market Assessment

9	<p>Who is it intended to affect or benefit (the target population)? People in housing need.</p>																																
10	<p>Equality impacts The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. • Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. <p>Within this table, state whether the policy, function or service will have a positive or negative impact across the following protected characteristics and provide any comments.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Positive Impact</th> <th>Negative Impact</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Age</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>There is a commitment to developing older people's housing.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disability</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>The needs of disabled people for adaptations is addressed in the Strategy.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sex / gender reassignment / pregnancy or maternity</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>No impact identified.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Race</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>No impact identified.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion or belief</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>No impact identified.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sexual orientation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td>No impact identified..</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments	Age	Y	N	There is a commitment to developing older people's housing.	Disability	Y	N	The needs of disabled people for adaptations is addressed in the Strategy.	Sex / gender reassignment / pregnancy or maternity	N	N	No impact identified.	Race	N	N	No impact identified.	Religion or belief	N	N	No impact identified.	Sexual orientation	N	N	No impact identified..	Other	N	N	
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11.	<p>What evidence do you have for the statements made in question 10?</p> <p>The 4th priority in the Strategy is to 'Secure suitable housing for people with vulnerabilities'; this includes adaptations and Disabled Facilities Grants, access to older persons accommodation and supported housing.</p>																																

12	<p>Consultation: Describe what consultation has been undertaken on this function or policy, who was involved and the outcome.</p> <p>Following an intensive internal consultation which resulted in several changes, a wider external consultation was undertaken from 9 October 2020 closing on 28th October 2020 with no responses received.</p>
13	<p>Briefly explain how the policy, function or service contributes to community cohesion by answering the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will it provide equality of access to services, information and employment? • Does it or could it celebrate diversity? • Will it or could it promote good relationships within and between communities? • How will it help to prevent social exclusion? • Will it help to reintegrate those who have become excluded? • How will it provide good quality, inclusive services? <p>There is a specific priority for 'maximising the housing options for households on low incomes' to reduce social exclusion. The aforementioned priority to 'Secure suitable housing for people with vulnerabilities' also serves to prevent social exclusion, and reintegrate those who have become excluded.</p>
14	<p>Health impacts – screening question Will the subject of this EHIA:</p>

	No (provide a brief explanation of your response)	Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? provide a brief explanation of your response)
Have a direct impact on health, mental health and wellbeing?		Positive – includes measures to implement necessary adaptations, and supported accommodation.
Have an impact on social, economic and environmental living conditions that would indirectly affect health?		Positive – includes measures to address fuel poverty, access to Social / Affordable Housing, support for housing costs and improving access to home ownership.
Have an effect on an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?	NA.	NA.
Affect access to, and the quality of, health, mental health or wellbeing services?	NA.	NA.
Please refer to the EHIA guidance document. If you answer yes to any of these questions a health impact assessment is required, please complete section 16.		
15	Head of Service signature: I am satisfied with the results of this EHIA.	

16. HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT¹

To be completed if you have answered yes to any of the health impact screening questions.

A. Describe the health impact(s). Please refer to the screening questions in Q14.	B. Answering yes to these questions indicates an important health impact. Be explicit and include the evidence that has been considered.			C. Are the health impacts significant?
Identify the health impact(s)	Will the health impacts affect the whole population? Will it affect particular groups of people differently?	Will the health impacts be difficult to remedy or have an irreversible impact? Are they likely to cause public concern?	Will the health impacts be medium to long term? Are they likely to create cumulative impacts?	Does this health impact have a significant positive or negative impact? (based on your responses to section B)
Improve the health and wellbeing of disabled and older people.	Service is only available to those requiring specialist housing or adaptations	No concerns identified as impact is positive.	The recipient will receive a long term positive impact as they occupy suitable accommodation (unless their needs change).	Significant Positive Impact.
Impact on social, economic and environmental living conditions in housing.	Eligible households based on a means test in most cases.	No concerns identified as impact is positive.	Support for housing costs is in most cases intended to be short term. The housing interventions are long term.	Significant Positive Impact.

¹ Adapted from 'Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy, a guide to carrying out a Health Impact Assessment of new policy as part of the Impact

17. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN

Please describe the actions, if any, you will take to mitigate against negative health or equality impacts identified in this assessment, or to maximise the benefits of the policy or service. If significant action is required it should be included in Service Plans.

Is it a Health or Equality action?	Issue/impact identified	Recommendation / action required	Lead officer and timescale	Resource allocation

Assessment process.' Department of Health, July 2010 p.13

Version 3. Updated 15.08.13.

