

Appendix 2

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Directorate: **Housing, Asset Management, Environmental Health and Communities.**

Lead officer responsible for EIA: **Suzanne Hickey**

Name of the policy or function to be assessed: **Fit and Proper Person Policy – Private Sector Housing**

Names of the officers undertaking the assessment: **Suzanne Hickey**

Is this a new or an existing policy or function? **New specific policy, existing function.**

1. What are the aims and objectives of the policy or function?

To outline the circumstances and criteria for failing to be a fit and proper person under parts 2 and 3 of the Housing Act 2004 to hold a licence.

2. What outcomes do you want to achieve from the policy or function?

To provide transparency in the criteria applied when determining or revoking a relevant licence

3. Who is intended to benefit from the policy or function?

Occupiers of Private accommodation requiring a licence to be held – Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) and licence holders providing clear criteria.

4. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy or function?

Occupiers of HMO's, HMO licence holders, the Council.

5. What baseline quantitative data do you have about the policy or function relating to the different equality strands?

None.

6. What baseline qualitative data do you have about the policy or function relating to the different equality strands?

Occupiers of rented accommodation may be vulnerable for a variety of factors. Some occupiers have health and financial issues. Whilst some HMO's are occupied by students and professionals only requiring short term accommodation, HMO's are increasingly being used as accommodation for the homeless, those who cannot afford to rent an entire property, asylum seekers and those recently granted settled status and those requiring temporary accommodation.

7. What has stakeholder consultation, if carried out, revealed about the nature of the impact?

None. It is a duty to refuse a licence to someone who is not determined to be fit and proper, so the policy reinforces that requirement and ultimately benefits those using such accommodations.

8. From the evidence available does the policy or function affect or have the potential to affect different equality groups in different ways?

There will be more benefit to those occupying Licensed properties (HMO's) and therefore those vulnerable groups identified above as using this accommodation.

Does the policy or function target or exclude a specific equality group or community?

No this policy benefits anyone who uses this accommodation by

Does it affect some equality groups or communities differently? If yes, can this be justified?

All those benefitting will be affected in the same way.

Is the policy or function likely to be equally accessed by all equality groups or communities? If no, can this be justified?

Yes.

Are there barriers that might make access difficult or stop different equality groups or communities accessing the policy or function?

No it is applicable for all HMO licence applications.

Could the policy or function promote or contribute to equality and good relations between different groups? If so, how?

Not applicable.

What further evidence is needed to understand the impact on equality?

None.

9. On the basis of the analysis above, what actions, if any, will you need to take in respect of each of the equality strands? None – any of those equality strands using licensed HMO accommodation will benefit in the same way.

Age:

Disability:

Gender:

Gender Reassignment:

Marriage and Civil Partnership:

Pregnancy and Maternity:

Race:

Religion and Belief:

Sexual Orientation:

10. Head of Service:

I am satisfied with the results of this EIA. I undertake to review and monitor progress against the actions proposed in response to this impact assessment:

Signature of Head of Service: Suzanne Hickey