

Equality impact screening checklist

Remember that your completed checklist will be available to decision-makers and the public, and is therefore open to challenge. Consider what evidence is in place to support your answers.

| | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Does/will the policy or activity affect the public directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the evidence/data show an existing or likely differential impact for any of the protected characteristics (eg. age, sex, disability, race, religion, pregnancy, etc)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Do/will people who have different protected characteristics have different needs, experiences, issues or priorities in relation to this policy or activity? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Could the policy or activity affect how services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, where and by whom? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Could the policy or activity affect our workforce or our employment practices (eg. software purchase, team restructure or relocation, HR policy)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Have complaints been received from different equality groups about the effect of this policy, proposal or our activities in general (having no complaints does not always mean there is no issue?) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Does the policy involve, or will it have an impact upon, eliminating unlawful discrimination, promoting equality of opportunity, or promoting good relations between different groups? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Is there likely to be an adverse/negative impact or risks to the organisation, for users, equality groups or staff if the policy or activity is implemented in its current format? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Add up the “yes” column:

0

How many answers are “yes”?:

0: **No impact** – the process is complete.

1-3: **Low impact** – an EIA is not required at this point (you can complete a light-touch EIA now or later if you want to – that is never wrong). But you must still indicate within your documentation and decision papers what equality factors you have considered. This is a statutory requirement, and is open to challenge and scrutiny.

4-9: **High impact** - a full EIA is required immediately. The EIA can be reviewed, re-done, or updated at any time as necessary.

Cost centre C06316 Council Tax collection costs:

Expenditure budgets for Council Tax discretionary awards are overspending and need to be increased from £330k to £500k. £126k of this increase is being vired from other budgets within the Central directorate, leaving £43k of increased budget requirement.

Council Tax discretionary award expenditure budget is spent on hardship relief, [Ukraine discounts, care leaver discounts](#) and foster carer discounts. This spend has been increasing over the past 3 years with a forecast of £500k in the current financial year, due in part to the decision to include foster carers who pay Council Tax to other Local Authorities.

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 2023/24 | £309k |
| 2024/25 | £435k |
| 2025/26 | £500k (forecast) |

This EIA covers the requirement to increase the expenditure budget in line with the increased spend in this area. It does not cover the original decisions to award Council Tax reliefs and discounts. Equalities Act impact would have been assessed at the point of decision.

The increase in these budgets does not directly impact service users and is therefore not anticipated to have an Equalities Act impact.