

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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|---|---|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of activity: | Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 - 2024 | Date Completed: | 6th September 2019 | | |
| Directorate / Division responsible for activity: | Strategic Housing | Lead Officer: | Hannah Edwards and Nikki Hargrave | | |
| Existing Activity | <input type="checkbox"/> | Existing service, new / proposed strategy | x | Changing / Updated Activity | <input type="checkbox"/> |

What are the aims / main purposes of the activity?

The purpose of the homelessness service is to prevent and relieve homelessness through the timely provision of advice and support. Where homelessness is unavoidable, to ensure that people receive appropriate advice, care and support, with a clear pathway towards living independently. Therefore the strategy is designed to meet the needs of those who are homeless or facing homelessness, across all groups, client profiles and tenures. Section 1 of the Homelessness Act 2002 requires local authorities to conduct a review of homelessness within their area and to utilise the findings to formulate and publish a strategy outlining how the authority intends to prevent and address homelessness in the future. The Council is legally required to publish a Homelessness Strategy at least every five years. The adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 - 2024 fulfils the Council's statutory obligation. The Action Plan details how we will work towards meeting the priorities identified in the Strategy over the coming five years.

It is the review, strategy and action plan that is the subject of this equalities impact assessment, not the existing service provided by the Council.

What are the main actions and processes involved?

The Strategy and Action Plan provide a framework for the Council's priorities and the work underway to meet those priorities. An annual review will be carried out in January to monitor the council's progress in achieving the work outlined in the Action Plan.

Who is intended to benefit & who are the main stakeholders?

The Strategy and Action Plan relates to people who are experiencing or threatened with homelessness in Crawley. The main stakeholders are staff in the Housing Options and Housing Needs Teams, and our partner agencies and organisations.

Have you already consulted on / researched the activity?

The review of homelessness included the provision of advice and assistance, homeless applications, use of temporary accommodation, the housing register, accessing the private rented sector, the supply of housing, rough sleeping, equality monitoring, local services, and future levels of homelessness. A consultation exercise was carried out as part of the review process to help guide the direction of the Strategy and decide on its priorities (and is fully detailed in section 1.14 of the Review). Further consultation was undertaken upon completion of the draft Strategy and the feedback used to shape the final document.

Impact on people with a protected characteristic

| Protected characteristics / groups | Is there an impact (Yes / No) | If Yes, what is it and identify whether it is positive or negative |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Age | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Disability | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Gender reassignment | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Marriage & civil partnership | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Pregnancy & maternity | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Race | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a |

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| | | statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Religion & belief | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Sex | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Sexual orientation | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Socio economic | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |

| What evidence has been used to assess the likely impacts? | | |
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| The Homelessness Review, in particular the Equalities Monitoring section (1.11). | | |
| What resource implications are there to deliver actions from this EIA? | | |
| None above and beyond what already exists to provide the service. | | |
| Outcome following initial assessment | | |
| Does the activity have a positive impact on any of the protected groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities and improving relations within target groups? | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |

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| Does the activity have a negative impact on any of the protected groups, i.e. disadvantage them in any way. | No | Neutral – The focus of the strategy and action plan is to outline the service provision for all clients, and is not restricted to, or directed at, any particular group of people. As a statutory service, all eligibility criteria are set down by statute, the implementation and comprehension of statute is supported by case law. |
| Decision following initial assessment | | |
| Continue with existing or introduce new / planned activity | Yes | Amend activity based on identified actions |
| | | No |

| Action Plan | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Impact identified | Action required | Lead Officer | Deadline |
| Any changes to service delivery that result from implementing the strategy may themselves need to be assessed separately for their impact on people with protected characteristics | As and when changes are to be introduced, a separate equalities impact assessment may be required | Hannah Edwards and Nikki Hargrave | Before changes are implemented |

| Monitoring & Review | |
|---|--|
| Date of last review or Impact Assessment: | n/a |
| Date of next 12 month review: | n/a – review if changes are made to the strategy |
| Date of next 3 year Impact Assessment (from the date of this EIA): | n/a – review if changes are made to the strategy |
| Signed by Person Completing: | Hannah Edwards |
| Date Sent to HR and Equalities Team: | 27 th August 2019 |
| Approved by Head of Service: | |

Crawley Borough Council Equality Impact Assessment

| Completed Equality Impact Assessment | Key findings | Future actions |
|---|---|----------------|
| <p>Directorate / Division:</p> <p>Function or policy name:</p> <p>Officer completing assessment (Job title):</p> <p>Date of assessment:</p> | <p>Strategic Housing</p> <p>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 – 2024</p> <p>Hannah Edwards - Strategic Housing Performance, Policy and Project Officer</p> <p>6th September 2019</p> | |