

Enfield Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Introduction

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is to help Enfield Council make sure it does not discriminate against service users, residents and staff, and that we promote equality where possible. Completing the assessment is a way to make sure everyone involved in a decision or activity thinks carefully about the likely impact of their work and that we take appropriate action in response to this analysis.

The EqIA provides a way to systematically assess and record the likely equality impact of an activity, policy, strategy, budget change or any other decision.

The assessment helps us to focus on the impact on people who share one of the different nine protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010 as well as on people who are disadvantaged due to socio-economic factors. The assessment involves anticipating the consequences of the activity or decision on different groups of people and making sure that:

- unlawful discrimination is eliminated
- opportunities for advancing equal opportunities are maximised
- opportunities for fostering good relations are maximised.

The EqIA is carried out by completing this form. To complete it you will need to:

- use local or national research which relates to how the activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change or decision being made may impact on different people in different ways based on their protected characteristic or socio-economic status;
- where possible, analyse any equality data we have on the people in Enfield who will be affected eg equality data on service users and/or equality data on the Enfield population;
- refer to the engagement and/ or consultation you have carried out with stakeholders, including the community and/or voluntary and community sector groups you consulted and their views. Consider what this engagement showed us about the likely impact of the activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change or decision on different groups.

The results of the EqIA should be used to inform the proposal/ recommended decision and changes should be made to the proposal/ recommended decision as a result of the assessment where required. Any ongoing/ future mitigating actions required should be set out in the action plan at the end of the assessment.

Section 1 – Equality analysis details

Title of service activity / policy/ strategy/ budget change/ decision that you are assessing	To award a contract for Water Servicing
Team/ Department	Compliance – Council Housing – Housing Regeneration Development
Strategic Director	Joanne Drew
Cabinet Member	Cllr Savva
Author(s) name(s) and contact details	Ayfer Chol - 0207 038 0183, ayfer.chol@enfield.gov.uk
Committee name and date of decision	N/A

Date the EqIA was reviewed by the Corporate Strategy Service	29.09.2023
Name of Head of Service responsible for implementing the EqIA actions (if any)	Ayfer Chol – Head of Compliance
Name of Director who has approved the EqIA	Andrew Cotton

The completed EqIA should be included as an appendix to relevant EMT/ Delegated Authority/ Cabinet/ Council reports regarding the service activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change/ decision. Decision-makers should be confident that a robust EqIA has taken place, that any necessary mitigating action has been taken and that there are robust arrangements in place to ensure any necessary ongoing actions are delivered.

Section 2 – Summary of proposal

Please give a brief summary of the proposed service change / policy/ strategy/ budget change/project plan/ key decision

Please summarise briefly:

What is the proposed decision or change?
What are the reasons for the decision or change?

What outcomes are you hoping to achieve from this change?
Who will be impacted by the project or change - staff, service users, or the wider community?

What is the proposed decision or change?

The proposed decision is to award a service and maintenance contract for water hygiene servicing and maintenance responsibilities detailed below:

- Water Hygiene Risk Assessments (WRA) / Surveys – covering Potable / Domestic Communal Water systems.
- Monitoring - To cover the periodic, planned potable domestic / communal Water Hygiene Monitoring, Water Quality Sampling, Periodic Asset / Plant Inspections and Chemical Water Treatment.

What are the reasons for the decision or change?

This contract inspects the water systems, undertakes required maintenance, and confirms compliance, or identifies remedial actions which are referred to the council. These actions are delivered through the Water Servicing Works contract, and safety is maintained in council housing blocks.

What outcomes are you hoping to achieve from this change?

The programme will improve the quality and safety of existing homes and therefore positively impact on the wellbeing and quality of life for our residents.

Who will be impacted by the project or change - staff, service users, or the wider community?

Service users and the wider community will be impacted by the awarding of the contract.

The works will improve the living conditions of those residents that receive works

Section 3 – Equality analysis

This section asks you to consider the potential differential impact of the proposed decision or change on different protected characteristics, and what mitigating actions should be taken to avoid or counteract any negative impact.

According to the Equality Act 2010, protected characteristics are aspects of a person's identity that make them who they are. The law defines 9 protected characteristics:

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender reassignment.
4. Marriage and civil partnership.
5. Pregnancy and maternity.
6. Race
7. Religion or belief.
8. Sex
9. Sexual orientation.

At Enfield Council, we also consider socio-economic status as an additional characteristic.

“Differential impact” means that people of a particular protected characteristic (eg people of a particular age, people with a disability, people of a particular gender, or people from a particular race and religion) will be significantly more affected by the change than other groups. Please consider both potential positive and negative impacts, and provide evidence to explain why this group might be particularly affected. If there is no differential impact for that group, briefly explain why this is not applicable.

Please consider how the proposed change will affect staff, service users or members of the wider community who share one of the following protected characteristics.

Detailed information and guidance on how to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment is available [here](#). (link to guidance document once approved)

Age

This can refer to people of a specific age e.g. 18-year olds, or age range e.g. 0-18 year olds.

Will the proposed change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact positive** on people of a specific age or age group (e.g. older or younger people)?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the quality/safety of houses this will support the residents of the property, regardless of age and where necessary adaptations will be made.

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident

Disability

A person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-day activities.

This could include: physical impairment, hearing impairment, visual impairment, learning difficulties, long-standing illness or health condition, mental illness, substance abuse or other impairments.

Will the proposed change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact positive** on people with disabilities?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact, these services will improve the quality of the house. People with disabilities, including families with children and young people who have Special Education Needs and Disabilities will be offered flexible appointments if access is required through their property to reach communal areas required under this contract.

Mitigating actions to be taken

People with disabilities, including families with children and young people who

have Special Education Needs and Disabilities will be offered flexible appointments if access is required through their property to reach communal areas required under this contract.

Furthermore, the successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident e.g. vulnerability.

Gender Reassignment

This refers to people who are proposing to undergo, are undergoing, or have undergone a process (or part of a process) to reassign their sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on transgender people?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents, regardless of their gender identity.

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Marriage and civil partnerships are different ways of legally recognising relationships. The formation of a civil partnership must remain secular, where-as a marriage can be conducted through either religious or civil ceremonies. In the U.K

both marriages and civil partnerships can be same sex or mixed sex. Civil partners must be treated the same as married couples on a wide range of legal matters.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people in a marriage or civil partnership?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents regardless of their marital or civil partnership status.

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Pregnancy and maternity

Pregnancy refers to the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on pregnancy and maternity?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents regardless of whether they are pregnant or expecting a baby

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Race

This refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship), ethnic or national origins.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people of a certain race?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents, regardless of their race.

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident e.g. language.

Religion and belief

Religion refers to a person's faith (e.g. Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism). Belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people who follow a religion or belief, including lack of belief?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents, regardless of religious belief.

Mitigating actions to be taken

Sex
Sex refers to whether you are a female or male.
Will this change to service/policy/budget have a differential impact [positive or negative] on females or males?
Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.
No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents, regardless of their sex.
Mitigating actions to be taken
The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.
Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Sexual Orientation
This refers to whether a person is sexually attracted to people of the same sex or a different sex to themselves. Please consider the impact on people who identify as heterosexual, bisexual, gay, lesbian, non-binary or asexual.
Will this change to service/policy/budget have a differential impact [positive or negative] on people with a particular sexual orientation?
Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No anticipated differential impact. By improving the safety of homes, this will support all residents, regardless of their sexual orientation.

Mitigating actions to be taken

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Socio-economic deprivation

This refers to people who are disadvantaged due to socio-economic factors e.g. unemployment, low income, low academic qualifications or living in a deprived area, social housing or unstable housing.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact positively** on people who are socio-economically disadvantaged?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

Improving the safety of council homes is expected to positively impact people who are socio-economically disadvantaged.

Mitigating actions to be taken.

The successful contractor will be required to ensure all operatives will be fully briefed in line with the council's safeguarding policy.

Moreover, engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission which will be adapted according to the profile of the resident.

Section 4 – Monitoring and review

How do you intend to monitor and review the effects of this proposal?

Who will be responsible for assessing the effects of this proposal?

The contract manager within the service will be responsible for managing the contractors and ensuring they undertake their responsibilities as per the contract, including delivering the services as per the specification, including in line with the council's sustainability policy.

Engagement with residents will be undertaken by the Contractor in accordance with their processes for resident engagement and liaison which were evaluated as part of their tender submission.

Section 5 – Action plan for mitigating actions

Any actions that are already completed should be captured in the equality analysis section above. Any actions that will be implemented once the decision has been made should be captured here.

Identified Issue	Action Required	Lead officer	Timescale/By When	Costs	Review Date/Comments
EDI Policy to be provided by the Contractor	The Contractor will be required to submit their Equality Diversity and Inclusion policy to the council	Ayfer Chol	Pre-Contract Meeting	None	TBC