

Equality & Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA)

Document control

Title of activity:	Energy Rebate Discretionary Scheme 2022
Lead officer:	Chris Henry, Head of Council Tax & Benefits
Approved by:	Sarah Bryant, Director of Exchequer & Transactional Services
Date completed:	14/07/2022
Scheduled date for review:	Not applicable as the Scheme is scheduled to end on 30 November 2022

Did you seek advice from the Corporate Policy & Diversity team?	Yes
Did you seek advice from the Public Health team?	Yes
Does the EqHIA contain any confidential or exempt information that would prevent you publishing it on the Council's website?	No

1. Equality & Health Impact Assessment Checklist

About your activity

1	Title of activity	Energy Rebate Discretionary Scheme																														
2	Type of activity	Policy																														
3	Scope of activity	<p>The Discretionary Energy Rebate Scheme has been designed within the remit of central government guidance and funding to provide support to households with the rising costs of energy bills.</p> <p>A Discretionary Energy Rebate payment of up to £150 per low income household in Council Tax Bands E to H. A credit of £17.00 to the Council Tax account of the remaining eligible households in property Bands E to H. A further sum has been set aside for applications from individuals who are not liable for Council Tax and who are responsible for energy bill payments.</p> <p>The table below details the cohorts mentioned above.</p> <table><tr><th>Coun cil Tax Band</th><th>CTS Count</th><th>Disc £150 CTS Value</th><th>SMI/D R Count</th><th>*SMI/ DR** £150 Value</th></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>760</td><td>£114,000</td><td>45</td><td>6,750</td></tr><tr><td>F</td><td>151</td><td>£22,650</td><td>83</td><td>12,450</td></tr><tr><td>G</td><td>43</td><td>£6,450</td><td>50</td><td>7,500</td></tr><tr><td>H</td><td>0</td><td>£0</td><td>17</td><td>2,550</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>954</td><td>£143,100</td><td>195</td><td>£29,250</td></tr></table>	Coun cil Tax Band	CTS Count	Disc £150 CTS Value	SMI/D R Count	*SMI/ DR** £150 Value	E	760	£114,000	45	6,750	F	151	£22,650	83	12,450	G	43	£6,450	50	7,500	H	0	£0	17	2,550		954	£143,100	195	£29,250
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4a	Are you changing, introducing a new, or removing a service, policy, strategy or function?	Yes	If the answer to <u>any</u> of these questions is 'YES', please continue to question 5.	If the answer to <u>all</u> of the questions (4a, 4b & 4c) is 'NO', please go to question 6.																															
4b	Does this activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon people (9 protected characteristics)?	Yes																																	
4c	Does the activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon any factors which determine people's health and wellbeing?	Yes / No																																	
5	If you answered YES:	Please complete the EqHIA in Section 2 of this document. Please see Appendix 1 for Guidance.																																	
6	If you answered NO:																																		

Completed by:	Chris Henry, Head of Council Tax & Benefits
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Date:

12/07/2022

2. The EqHIA – How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on people?

Background/context:

The rising cost of living and high increases in energy bills is a fundamental concern to individuals.

Government has provide financial support of £150 to the majority of Council Tax households in properties banded A to D. This policy is primarily aimed at Council Tax households in property band E to H and those not liable for Council Tax but have responsibility for energy bills.

The Council has a statutory obligation to provide the Energy Rebate Discretionary Scheme and is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all residents including those most vulnerable.

The purpose of this policy is to provide financial support to all households who will be impacted by the rising energy costs.

The financial support provided to vulnerable households in the borough will have a positive impact on residents' health and wellbeing.

**Expand box as required*

Who will be affected by the activity?

In accordance with the proposed Scheme, funding is allocated to 1,327 households who are in receipt of Council Tax Support, disabled reduction, free adult social care, a severe mental impairment exemption class and residing in a property banded E, F, G or H. Each household to receive £150 Council Tax Energy Rebate in accordance with the Discretionary Scheme.

That £17.00 Energy Rebate is made available to the Council Tax accounts of 24,056 Havering households residing in property bands E to H who are not eligible for the discretionary £150 payment.

That the remaining £76,898 is set aside for applications from low-income households in shared accommodation or as a top-up for households who have received the £17 credit to their Council Tax account and require further assistance.

All eligible households will receive a payment or credit based on central and local government policy and guidance based on their income.

Overall, the equality impacts are more likely to benefit low income households in the borough such as pensioners who may be asset rich (as they reside in the higher banded properties E to H) and income poor (receiving benefits or low pensions) and young people and individuals who share a property or reside in a house in multiple occupation.

**Expand box as required*

Protected Characteristic - Age: Consider the full range of age groups

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Positive

☐

Overall impact:

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

Neutral

☒

The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic.

Negative

☐

**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

**Expand box as required*

Protected Characteristic - Disability: Consider the full range of disabilities; including physical mental, sensory and progressive conditions

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Positive

☒

Overall impact:

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

Neutral

☐

Disabled people are historically disadvantaged and face greater barriers when accessing (information about) services and therefore disabled households are considered to be more vulnerable than other households.

Negative

☐

Households with disabled occupants will be eligible to receive the £150 discretionary payment as opposed to £17.00. This will include homes with a disabled band reduction, individuals who are severely mentally

impaired and where free adult social care is provided.

A full range of online services are available and a Text relay service exists: 18001 01708 434343. Customers can contact the council in person at the Public Advice and Service Centre or by telephone to the dedicated service Call Centre. Details of AccessAble are available on the council's website. Customer Services staff are able to advise and assist, as can Havering's Community Learning Disability Team (CLDT) which assists adults with a learning disability and their carers. The Language Shop also exists providing the following services:

Proofing and editing of translated documents;
 Reproduction of print material in large print;
 Reproduction of print material in Braille;
 Audio and transcription services;
 Subtitling;
 Reproduction of information in "Easy Read" (simplifying information using pictures and plain English);
 Certification and authenticity checks of documents
 Other outside organisations such as Peabody, CAB and Age UK are widely promoted to provide assistance customers with disabilities.

Evidence:

Council Tax Band	CTS Count	Disc £150 CTS Value	SMI/DR Count	*SMI/DR** £150 Value	Adult Social Care Count	Adult Social care £150 Value	Remain Count	Remain £17 Value
E	760	£114,000	45	6,750	97	£14,550	14,589	£246,891
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	954	£143,100	195	£29,250	178	£26,700	24,056	£408,952

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

Council Tax database

**Expand box as required*

<p>Protected Characteristic - Sex/gender: Consider both men and women</p>
--

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Overall impact:

Positive

☒

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

Neutral

☒

The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic.

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**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

**Expand box as required*

<p>Protected Characteristic - Ethnicity/race: Consider the impact on different ethnic groups and nationalities</p>

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Overall impact:

Positive

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This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

Neutral

☒

The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic.

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**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

Havering is clearly one of the most ethnically homogenous Boroughs in London, with data to suggest over 83% of its residents are recorded as white British which is a figure significantly greater than that of London (44.9%) and the rest of the country (80.5%). Within the broad white groups category there is the Gypsy/Irish Traveller community who make up to 0.1% of the borough's population.

According to the GLA ethnic group categorisation, Black Africans form the largest minority group, with 3.8% of the total population.

Furthermore, according to the Census 2011, the most commonly spoken languages in the borough after English were; Lithuanian (0.4%), Polish (0.4%), Punjabi (0.3%) Bengalis (0.2%) and Filipino (0.2%).

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

**Expand box as required*

Protected Characteristic - Religion/fait: Consider people from different religions or beliefs including those with no religion or belief

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

Positive

Overall impact:

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

Neutral

✓

The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic.

Negative

**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

Havering is an overwhelmingly Christian borough, with a higher proportion of Christians (66.0%) than both Greater London (48.4%) and the rest of country (59.3%). The next biggest religious denomination was Muslim at (2.0%), however this is still markedly below proportions experienced within both Greater London (12.4%) and the rest of the country (4.8%).

Sources used:

Protected Characteristic - Sexual orientation: Consider people who are heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Positive

Neutral

Negative

Overall impact:

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic.

**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

**Expand box as required*

Protected Characteristic - Gender reassignment: Consider people who are seeking, undergoing or have received gender reassignment surgery, as well as people whose gender identity is different from their gender at birth

Please tick (✓)
the relevant box:

Positive

Neutral

Negative

Overall impact:

**Expand box as required*

Evidence:	
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**Expand box as required*

Sources used:	<i>*Expand box as required</i>
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Protected Characteristic - Marriage/civil partnership: Consider people in a marriage or civil partnership		
<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>	Overall impact:	
Positive		This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022. The proposed scheme would not disproportionately affect this characteristic. <i>*Expand box as required</i>
Neutral	✓	
Negative		
Evidence:		
<i>*Expand box as required</i>		
Sources used:		
<i>*Expand box as required</i>		

Protected Characteristic - Pregnancy, maternity and paternity: Consider those who are pregnant and those who are undertaking maternity or paternity leave		
<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>	Overall impact:	
Positive		<i>*Expand box as required</i>
Neutral		
Negative		

Evidence:

**Expand box as required*

Sources used:

**Expand box as required*

Socio-economic status: Consider those who are from low income or financially excluded backgrounds

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

Positive

✓

Neutral

Negative

Overall impact:

This is a new scheme designed following government guidance that will end on 30 November 2022.

The proposed scheme will positively low income households. Households that cannot afford adult social care, receive welfare benefits and Council Tax Support.

**Expand box as required*

Evidence:

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**Expand box as required*

<p>Sources used:</p> <p>The Council Tax database.</p>
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<p>Health & Wellbeing Impact: Consider both short and long-term impacts of the activity on a person's physical and mental health, particularly for disadvantaged, vulnerable or at-risk groups. Can health and wellbeing be positively promoted through this activity? Please use the Health and Wellbeing Impact Tool in Appendix 2 to help you answer this question.</p>							
<p><i>Please tick (✓) all the relevant boxes that apply:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Positive</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Negative</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>The financial support provided to vulnerable households in the borough will have a positive impact on residents' health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Do you consider that a more in-depth HIA is required as a result of this brief assessment? No</p>
Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>						
<p>Evidence:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*Expand box as required</i></p>							
<p>Sources used:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*Expand box as required</i></p>							

3. Outcome of the Assessment

The EqHIA assessment is intended to be used as an improvement tool to make sure the activity maximises the positive impacts and eliminates or minimises the negative impacts. The possible outcomes of the assessment are listed below and what the next steps to take are:

Please tick (✓) what the overall outcome of your assessment was:

	1. The EqHIA identified <u>no significant concerns</u> OR the identified <u>negative concerns</u> have already been <u>addressed</u>	➔	Proceed with implementation of your activity
	2. The EqHIA identified some <u>negative impact</u> which still needs <u>to be addressed</u>	➔	COMPLETE SECTION 4: Complete action plan and finalise the EqHIA
	3. The EqHIA identified some <u>major concerns</u> and showed that it is <u>impossible to diminish negative impacts</u> from the activity to an acceptable or even lawful level	➔	Stop and remove the activity or revise the activity thoroughly . Complete an EqHIA on the revised proposal.

4. Action Plan

The real value of completing an EqHIA comes from the identifying the actions that can be taken to eliminate/minimise negative impacts and enhance/optimize positive impacts. In this section you should list the specific actions that set out how you will address any negative equality and health & wellbeing impacts you have identified in this assessment. Please ensure that your action plan is: more than just a list of proposals and good intentions; sets ambitious yet achievable outcomes and timescales; and is clear about resource implications.

Protected characteristic / health & wellbeing impact	Identified Negative or Positive impact	Recommended actions to mitigate Negative impact* or further promote Positive impact	Outcomes and monitoring**	Timescale	Lead officer

Add further rows as necessary

* You should include details of any future consultations and any actions to be undertaken to mitigate negative impacts

** Monitoring: You should state how the impact (positive or negative) will be monitored; what outcome measures will be used; the known (or likely) data source for outcome measurements; how regularly it will be monitored; and who will be monitoring it (if this is different from the lead officer).

5. Review

In this section you should identify how frequently the EqHIA will be reviewed; the date for next review; and who will be reviewing it.

Review:

Scheduled date of review:

Lead Officer conducting the review:

**Expand box as required*

Please submit the completed form via e-mail to EqHIA@havering.gov.uk thank you.

Appendix 1. Guidance on Undertaking an EqHIA

This Guidance can be deleted prior to publication.

What is it?

The Equality & Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA) is a tool to ensure that your activity meets the needs of individuals and groups that use your service, whilst at the same time ensuring a person's chance of leading a healthy life is the same wherever they live and whoever they are. We want to ensure that the activities of the Council are 'fit for purpose' and meet the needs of Havering's increasingly diverse communities and employees. This robust and systematic EqHIA process ensures that any potential detrimental effects or discrimination is identified, removed, or mitigated and positive impacts are enhanced.

When to Assess:

An EqHIA should be carried out when you are changing, removing or introducing a new service, policy, strategy or function; for simplicity, these are referred to as an "activity" throughout this document. It is best to conduct the assessment as early as possible in the decision-making process.

Guidance: Equality & Health Impact Assessment Checklist

The Checklist in Section 1 asks the key questions,

4a) Are you changing, introducing a new, or removing a service, policy, strategy or function?

4b) Does this activity (policy/strategy/service/decision) have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon people (9 protected characteristics)?

4c) Does this activity (policy/strategy/service/decision) have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon any factors which determine people's health and wellbeing?

- If the answer to ANY of the questions 4a, 4b or 4c of the Checklist is 'YES' then you must carry out an assessment. e.g. Proposed changes to Contact Centre Opening Hours
'YES' = you need to carry out an EqHIA
- If the answer to ALL of the questions, 4a or 4b of the Checklist is NO, then you do not need to carry out an EqHIA assessment. e.g. Quarterly Performance Report
'NO' = you DO NOT need to carry out an EqHIA. Please provide a clear explanation as to why you consider an EqHIA is not required for your activity.

Using the Checklist

The assessment should take into account all the potential impacts of the proposed activity, be it a major financial decision, or a seemingly simple policy change. Considering and completing this EqHIA will ensure that all Council plans, strategies, policies, procedures, services or other activity comply with relevant statutory obligations and responsibilities. In particular it helps the Council to meet its legal obligation under the [Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty](#) and its public health duties under the [Health and Social Care Act 2012](#).

Having Due Regard

To have due regard means that in making decisions and in its other day-to-day activities, the Council must consciously consider the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity between different groups
- Foster good relations between different groups
- Reduce inequalities in health outcomes

Combining Equality and Health Impact Assessment:

[Equality Impact Assessments \(EIAs\)](#) provide a systematic way of ensuring that legal obligations are met. They assess whether a proposed policy, procedure, service change or plan will affect people different on the basis of their 'protected characteristics' and if it will affect their human rights. Currently there are **nine protected characteristics** (previously known as 'equality groups' or 'equality strands'): age, disability, sex/gender, ethnicity/race, religion/faith, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, and pregnancy/ maternity/paternity.

An activity does not need to impact on all 9 protected characteristics – impacting on just one is sufficient justification to complete an EqHIA.

[Health Impact Assessments \(HIAs\)](#) consider the potential impact of any change or amendment to a policy, service, plan, procedure or programme on the health and wellbeing of the population. HIAs help identify how people may be affected differently on the basis of where they live and potential impacts on health inequalities and health equity by assessing the distribution of potential effects within the population, particularly within vulnerable groups. 'Health' is not restricted to medical conditions, or the provision of health services, but rather encompasses the wide range of influences on people's health and wellbeing. This includes, but is not limited to, experience of discrimination, access to transport, housing, education, employment - known as the 'wider determinants of health'.

This [Equality and Health Impact Assessment \(EqHIA\)](#) brings together both impact assessments into a single tool which will result in a set of recommendations to eliminate discrimination and inequality; enhance potential positive impacts and mitigate where possible for negative impacts. In conducting this EqHIA you will need to assess the impact (positive, neutral or negative) of your activity on individuals and groups with **protected characteristics** (this includes staff delivering your activity), **socio-economic status** and **health & wellbeing**. Guidance on what to include in each section is given on the next pages.

Guidance: What to include in background/context

In this section you will need to add the background/context of your activity, i.e. what is the activity intending to do, and why?

Make sure you include the scope and intended outcomes of the activity being assessed; and highlight any proposed changes. Please include a brief rationale for your activity and any supporting evidence for the proposal. Some questions to consider:

- What is the aim, objectives and intended outcomes?
- How does this activity meet the needs of the local population?
- Has this activity been implemented in another area? What were the outcomes?
- Is this activity being implemented as per best practice guidelines?
- Who were the key stakeholders in this activity?

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Guidance: Who will be affected by the activity?

The people who will be affected may be

Residents: pay particular attention to vulnerable groups in the population who may be affected by this activity

Businesses/ manufacturing / developers / small, medium or large enterprises

Employees: e.g. Council staff for an internal activity, other statutory or voluntary sector employees, local businesses and services

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Guidance: What to include in assessing a Protected Characteristic e.g. AGE

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

Positive

Neutral

Negative

Overall impact: In this section you will need to consider and note what impact your activity will have on individuals and groups (including staff) with protected characteristics based on the data and information you have. You should note whether this is a positive, neutral or negative impact.

It is essential that you note all negative impacts. This will demonstrate that you have paid 'due regard' to the Public Sector Equality Duty if your activity is challenged under the Equality Act.

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Evidence: In this section you will need to document the evidence that you have used to assess the impact of your activity.

When assessing the impact, please consider and note how your activity contributes to the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) as stated in the section above.

It is essential that you note the full impact of your activity, so you can demonstrate that you have fully considered the equality implications and have paid 'due regard' to the PSED should the Council be challenged.

- If you have identified a **positive impact**, please note this.
- If you think there is a **neutral impact** or the impact is not known, please provide a full reason why this is the case.
- If you have identified a **negative impact**, please note what steps you will take to mitigate this impact. If you are unable to take any mitigating steps, please provide a full reason why. All negative impacts that have mitigating actions must be recorded in the **Action Plan**.
- **Please ensure that appropriate consultation with affected parties has been undertaken and evidenced**

Sources used: In this section you should list all sources of the evidence you used to assess the impact of your activity. This can include:

- Service specific data
- Population, demographic and socio-economic data. Suggested sources include:
 - o Service user monitoring data that your service collects
 - o [Havering Data Intelligence Hub](#)
 - o [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

If you do not have any relevant data, please provide the reason why.

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Guidance: What to include in assessing Health & Wellbeing Impact:

Please tick (✓) all the relevant boxes that apply:

Positive

Neutral

Negative

Overall impact: In this section you will need to consider and note whether the proposal could have an overall impact on, or implications for, people's health and wellbeing or any factors which determine people's health.

How will the activity help address inequalities in health?

Include here a brief outline of what could be done to enhance the positive impacts and, where possible, mitigate for the negative impacts.

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Do you consider that a more in-depth HIA is required as a result of this brief assessment? Please tick (✓) the relevant box

Yes ☐ No ☐

Evidence: In this section you will need to outline in more detail how you came to your conclusions above:

- What is the nature of the impact?
- Is the impact **positive** or **negative**? It is possible for an activity to have **both positive and negative impacts**. Consider here whether people will be able to access the service being offered; improve or maintain healthy lifestyles; improve their opportunities for employment/income; whether and how it will affect the environment in which they live (housing, access to parks & green space); what the impact on the family, social support and community networks might be
- What can be done to mitigate the negative impacts and/or enhance the positive impacts?
- If you think there is a **neutral impact**, or the impact is not known, please provide a brief reason why this is the case.
- What is the likelihood of the impact? Will the impact(s) be in weeks, months or years? In some cases the short-term risks to health may be worth the longer term benefits.
- Will the proposal affect different groups of people in different ways? A proposal that is likely to benefit one section of the community may not benefit others and could lead to inequalities in health.

Please use the Health & Wellbeing Impact Tool in Appendix 2 as a guide/checklist to assess the potential wider determinants of health impacts.

This tool will help guide your thinking as to what factors affect people's health and wellbeing, such as social support, their housing conditions, access to transport, employment, education, crime and disorder and environmental factors. It is not an exhaustive list, merely a tool to guide your assessment; there may be other factors specific to your activity.

Some questions you may wish to ask include:

- Will the activity impact on people's ability to socialise, potentially leading to social isolation?
- Will the activity affect a person's income and/or have an effect on their housing status?
- Is the activity likely to cause the recipient of a service more or less stress?
- Will any change in the service take into account different needs, such as those with learning difficulties?
- Will the activity affect the health and wellbeing of persons not directly related to the service/activity, such as carers, family members, other residents living nearby?
- If there is a short-term negative effect, what will be done to minimise the impact as much as possible?

- Are the longer-term impacts positive or negative? What will be done to either promote the positive effects or minimise the negative effects?
- Do the longer term positive outcomes outweigh the short term impacts?

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Sources used: In this section you should list all sources of the evidence you used to assess the impact of your activity. This could include, e.g.:

Information on the population affected

- Routinely collected local statistics (e.g. quality of life, health status, unemployment, crime, air quality, educational attainment, transport etc.)
- Local research/ Surveys of local conditions
- Community profiles

Wider Evidence

- Published Research, including evidence about similar proposals implemented elsewhere (e.g. Case Studies).
- Predictions from local or national models
- Locally commissioned research by statutory/voluntary/private organisations

Expert Opinion

- Views of residents and professionals with local knowledge and insight

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Guidance: Outcome of the Assessment

On reflection, what is your overall assessment of the activity?

The purpose of conducting this assessment is to offer an opportunity to think, reflect and **improve** the proposed activity. It will make sure that the Council can evidence that it has considered its due regard to equality and health & wellbeing to its best ability.

It is not expected that all proposals will be immediately without negative impacts! However, where these arise, what actions can be taken to mitigate against potential negative effects, or further promote the positive impacts?

Please tick one of the 3 boxes in this section to indicate whether you think:

1. all equality and health impacts are adequately addressed in the activity – proceed with your activity pending all other relevant approval processes
2. the assessment identified some negative impacts which could be addressed – please complete the Action Plan in Section 4.
3. If the assessment reveals some significant concerns, this is the time to stop and re-think, making sure that we spend our Council resources wisely and fairly. There is no shame in stopping a proposal.

*Note that the boxes will expand as required

Guidance: Action Plan

For each protected characteristic/health & wellbeing impact where an impact on people or their lives has been identified, complete one row of the action plan. You can add as many further rows as required.

State whether the impact is Positive or Negative

Briefly outline the actions that can be taken to mitigate against the negative impact or further enhance a positive impact. These actions could be to make changes to the activity itself (service, proposal, strategy etc.) or to make contingencies/alterations in the setting/environment where the activity will take place.

For example, might staff need additional training in communicating effectively with people with learning difficulties, if a new service is opened specifically targeting those people? Is access to the service fair and equitable? What will the impact on other service users be? How can we ensure equity of access to the service by all users? Will any signage need changing? Does the building where the service being delivered comply with disability regulations?

Guidance: Review

Changes happen all the time! A service/strategy/policy/activity that is appropriate at one time, may no longer be appropriate as the environment around us changes. This may be changes in our population, growth and makeup, legislative changes, environmental changes or socio-political changes.

Although we can't predict what's going to happen in the future, a review is recommended to ensure that what we are delivering as a Council is still the best use of our limited resources. The timescale for review will be dependent on the scale of the activity.

A major financial investment may require a review every 2-3 years for a large scale regeneration project over 10-15 years.

A small policy change may require a review in 6 months to assess whether there are any unintended outcomes of such a change.

Please indicate here how frequently it is expected to review your activity and a brief justification as to why this timescale is recommended.

Appendix 2. Health & Wellbeing Impact Tool

Will the activity/service/policy/procedure affect any of the following characteristics? Please tick/check the boxes below

The following are a range of considerations that might help you to complete the assessment.

Lifestyle YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Personal circumstances YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Access to services/facilities/amenities YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diet <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise and physical activity <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to passive smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol intake <input type="checkbox"/> Dependency on prescription drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Illicit drug and substance use <input type="checkbox"/> Risky Sexual behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Other health-related behaviours, such as tooth-brushing, bathing, and wound care	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure and cohesion of family unit <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting <input type="checkbox"/> Childhood development <input type="checkbox"/> Life skills <input type="checkbox"/> Personal safety <input type="checkbox"/> Employment status <input type="checkbox"/> Working conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Level of income, including benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Level of disposable income <input type="checkbox"/> Housing tenure <input type="checkbox"/> Housing conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Educational attainment <input type="checkbox"/> Skills levels including literacy and numeracy	<input type="checkbox"/> to Employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> to Workplaces <input type="checkbox"/> to Housing <input type="checkbox"/> to Shops (to supply basic needs) <input type="checkbox"/> to Community facilities <input type="checkbox"/> to Public transport <input type="checkbox"/> to Education <input type="checkbox"/> to Training and skills development <input type="checkbox"/> to Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Social services <input type="checkbox"/> to Childcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Respite care <input type="checkbox"/> to Leisure and recreation services and facilities
Social Factors YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Factors YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Factors YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Social contact <input type="checkbox"/> Social support <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourliness <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the community <input type="checkbox"/> Membership of community groups <input type="checkbox"/> Reputation of community/area <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in public affairs <input type="checkbox"/> Level of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Level of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures <input type="checkbox"/> Road safety measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Creation of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Retention of wealth in local area/economy <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of income <input type="checkbox"/> Business activity <input type="checkbox"/> Job creation <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of education opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of education opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of training and skills development opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of training and skills development opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Technological development <input type="checkbox"/> Amount of traffic congestion	<input type="checkbox"/> Air quality <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Soil quality/Level of contamination/Odour <input type="checkbox"/> Noise levels <input type="checkbox"/> Vibration <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards <input type="checkbox"/> Land use <input type="checkbox"/> Natural habitats <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape, including green and open spaces <input type="checkbox"/> Townscape, including civic areas and public realm <input type="checkbox"/> Use/consumption of natural resources <input type="checkbox"/> Energy use: CO2/other greenhouse gas emissions <input type="checkbox"/> Solid waste management <input type="checkbox"/> Public transport infrastructure