

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL – EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

TITLE: Domestic Energy Efficiency Retrofit

VERSION CONTROL

Date	Version	Author	Description of Changes
16.09.2021	1	K Whitehead	

OFFICIAL

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL –EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Stage 1 Description: Fact finding (about your policy / service /

Department	Place		Lead officer responsible for assessment		Karen Whitehead	
Service	Housing		Other members of team undertaking assessment			
Date	16/09/2021		Version		1	
Type of document (mark as appropriate)	Strategy	Project	Function	Policy	Procedure	Service
Is this a new/ existing/ revision of an existing document (please mark as appropriate)	New		Existing		Revision	
Title and subject of the impact assessment (include a brief description of the aims, outcomes, operational issues as appropriate and how it fits in with the wider aims of the organisation) Please attach a copy of the strategy/ plan/ function/ policy/ procedure/ service	<p>Domestic Energy Efficiency Retrofit</p> <p>Improving health, wellbeing and quality of life through good quality housing is a key part of our Housing Strategy. Improving the fabric of the home reduces household energy expenditure, improves health and reduces carbon emissions.</p> <p>As part of the housing offer to residents, the Council supports low income households to arrange energy efficiency improvements to their home. To facilitate this, the Council must carry out procurement that is compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 to secure value for money in the works and services it buys.</p> <p>The Council proposes to carry out a procurement exercise with an estimated value of between £6million and £9.6million over the term of the Framework, which will be between 15 months and 2 years. This need has arisen as Government funding opportunities have become available. If successful with the funding, it will allow us to continue the grant funding programmes which we have been delivering for a number of years.</p> <p>The Council's Corporate Plan 2021-25 sets out our vision for a more open, fairer, greener Cheshire East. The plan sets out priorities under the three broad aims including "a great place for people to live, work and visit", "Reduce</p>					

OFFICIAL

	health inequalities”, and “Reduce the reliance on long-term care by improving services closer to home”. The existing service and proposed procurement will enable us to deliver these priorities.	
Who are the main stakeholders and have they been engaged with? (e.g. general public, employees, Councillors, partners, specific audiences, residents)	The main stakeholders are homeowners, private tenants, private landlords, employees and contractors. We have not carried out a formal consultation exercise with any stakeholders; however we regularly engage with stakeholders through the delivery of the existing service and consult them on the individual service plan that meets their needs.	
Consultation/ involvement carried out.	YES	NO
What consultation method(s) did you use?	n/a	

Stage 2 Initial Screening

Who is affected and what evidence have you considered to arrive at this analysis? (This may or may not include the stakeholders listed above)	Residents and landlords are affected; they receive direct services from the Council and its appointed contractors for the supply of domestic energy efficiency retrofit works to their home, which enables them to reduce fuel bills, improve the thermal comfort of their home and maintain their wellbeing. We have service records over several years to evidence the demand for the service and who grants are awarded to.
Who is intended to benefit and how	Residents are the intended beneficiaries. They will receive a grant to pay for energy efficiency improvements to the home. Improving the fabric of a home creates a warm home, which improves physical and mental wellbeing and reduces health inequalities; it reduces the amount of money that needs to be spent on heating the home and therefore addresses fuel poverty.
Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups?	The provision of the service doesn’t create a different impact or outcome for any groups within the wider cohort of grant recipients – eligibility is determined by low income. Older people and people with disabilities

	are likely to benefit from the scheme more so than working age people without disabilities, as the scheme is specifically for people on lower incomes.							
Does it include making decisions based on individual characteristics, needs or circumstances?	No – decisions are based on a financial assessment and a property assessment.							
Are relations between different groups or communities likely to be affected? (eg will it favour one particular group or deny opportunities for others?)	No.							
Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality? Is there a history of unequal outcomes (do you have enough evidence to prove otherwise)?	No.							
Is there an actual or potential negative impact on these specific characteristics? (Please tick)								
Age	Y	N	Marriage & civil partnership	Y	N	Religion & belief	Y	N
Disability	Y	N	Pregnancy & maternity	Y	N	Sex	Y	N
Gender reassignment	Y	N	Race	Y	N	Sexual orientation	Y	N

Stage 3 Evidence

What evidence do you have to support your findings? (quantitative and qualitative) Please provide additional information that you wish to include as appendices to this document, i.e., graphs, tables, charts	Level of Risk (High, Medium or Low)
---	--

Age	All recipients are on low income; protected characteristics are not a criteria for grant assistance.	<i>L</i>								
Marriage and Civil Partnership	We do not record how many grant recipients have a disability, however as the qualifying criteria for the financial assessment includes eligibility for a disability benefit, then there are recipients who are disabled.	<i>L</i>								
Religion	We record household composition but not ages for energy efficiency grants; through the Warm Homes Fund scheme delivered 2019-2021 we helped 86 households with the following household members:	<i>L</i>								
Disability	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age group</th> <th>Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adult</td> <td>84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Child</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 60</td> <td>43</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age group	Number	Adult	84	Child	16	Over 60	43	<i>L</i>
Age group	Number									
Adult	84									
Child	16									
Over 60	43									
Pregnancy and Maternity		<i>L</i>								
Sex	We do not hold data on other characteristics.	<i>L</i>								
Gender Reassignment	It is anticipated that the service and procurement will have a positive impact on disabled people and older people who spend longer in their home as it will improve their living conditions.	<i>L</i>								
Race		<i>L</i>								
Sexual Orientation		<i>L</i>								

Stage 4 Mitigation

Protected characteristics	Mitigating action <i>Once you have assessed the impact of a policy/service, it is important to identify options and alternatives to reduce or eliminate any negative impact. Options considered could be adapting the policy or service, changing the way in which it is implemented or introducing balancing measures to reduce any negative impact. When considering each option you should think about how it will reduce any negative impact, how it might impact on other groups and how it might impact on relationships between groups and overall issues around community cohesion. You should clearly demonstrate how you have considered various options and the impact of these. You must have a detailed rationale behind decisions and a justification for those alternatives that have not been accepted.</i>	How will this be monitored?	Officer responsible	Target date
Age	n/a			
Marriage and Civil Partnership	n/a			
Religion	n/a			
Disability	n/a			
Pregnancy and Maternity	n/a			

Sex	n/a			
Gender Reassignment	n/a			
Race	n/a			
Sexual Orientation	n/a			

5. Review and Conclusion

Summary: provide a brief overview including impact, changes, improvement, any gaps in evidence and additional data that is needed

No adverse impacts have been identified for any groups with protected characteristics.

Specific actions to be taken to reduce, justify or remove any adverse impacts	How will this be monitored?	Officer responsible	Target date
n/a			

Please provide details and link to full action plan for actions			
When will this assessment be reviewed?	1/10/2022		
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?			
Lead officer sign off	Karen Whitehead	Date	16/09/2021
Head of service sign off		Date	

Please publish this completed EIA form on the relevant section of the Cheshire East website

OFFICIAL