

Community Impact Assessment

Name and description of project, policy or service	
Review of existing Rent and other charges policy	
Identifying the impact of this project, policy or service on the community and environment	
	<p>Questions to explore: What positive impact will your project, policy or service have? What negative impact will your project policy or service have? How will you ensure any negative impact is limited? What is the impact of doing nothing?</p>
<p>On the community in general e.g. social or economic benefits, negative impacts</p>	The Rent and Other charges policy will ensure quality services can be provided to tenants and respond to needs of our communities. Where rent or service charge increases are applied, those with low incomes are eligible for Housing Benefit to ensure they are not negatively impacted.
<p>On the council as an organisation e.g. on staff, services or assets</p>	Setting rents and service charges effectively and transparently in line with legislation reduces risk to the council. It ensures costs can be recovered and will protect the long term financial ability of the Housing Service.
<p>On the protected characteristics Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation (Specify where impacts are different for different characteristics)</p>	The policy commits us to ensure that all rents are increased in line with national legislation and all tenants regardless of protected characteristic will receive the same percentage increases. Those who are older or have a disability and live in some sheltered housing may find rent levels increased however this reflects the additional management and support costs of these type of accommodation.
<p>On the environment e.g. effects on the climate, trees, amenity space, biodiversity, water, energy, waste, material use, air quality</p>	The policy will have no positive or negative impact on the environment
<p>On the specific target community/ location e.g. if the project is based in a specific area or targeted community group</p>	The policy is borough wide.
Outline the approach you took to identify the need for this project, policy or service. Please include use of research, data and consultation with residents and/or staff.	
New guidance provided by the MHCLG led to the need for changes to the existing policy. Additionally feedback from tenants around service charges required additional amendments.	
Which commitment(s) does this policy, project or service support	
This has been accounted for in the policy – see section on Equality and Diversity	

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How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the project, policy or service is implemented?		
Action	By when	By who
Review as part of budget and rent setting process.	October 2020	Group Manager - Tenants & Leaseholders

Completed by:

Name: Layna Warden

Role: GM

Date: 23.10.2019

Reviewed and signed off by relevant Group Manager:

Name: Layna Warden

Role: Group Manager – Tenants and Leaseholders

Date: 23.10.2019