

Community Impact Assessment

Name and description of project, policy or service	
Preventing and Tackling Homelessness – Dacorum Borough Council Homelessness Strategy 2016 – 2020.	
To support the achievement of the NPSS gold standard service and comply with current and pending legislation, the council took the decision to replace the previous Homelessness strategy 2013 -2018 and develop a new one that considers the increasing demand for the service, potential changes in legislation and the requirements set out by the NPSS.	
Identifying the impact of this project, policy or service on the community and environment	
	<p>Questions to explore:</p> <p>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>
On the community in general e.g. social or economic benefits, negative impacts	This strategy review is designed to reduce the impact that national changes have on our local community and to support those who are affected negatively by them.
On the council as an organisation e.g. on staff, services or assets	<p>Within this strategy, the commitment to achieving NPSS Gold Standard accreditation includes a reduction in the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for young people and families. This strategy also commits to actively supporting people who are at risk if homelessness before they become homeless. Both of these commitments will save money therefore having a positive impact on the council as a whole.</p> <p>By achieving the NPSS Gold Standard accreditation, the council will be able to publicly show the commitment to supporting the most in need members of the community. This public declaration will also positively impact the council.</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)	This strategy makes a commitment to treating all Dacorum residents who present themselves as homeless to the council equally regardless of the protected characteristics. While the population groups most at risk of homelessness are young people, single people and males, this strategy commits to working with homeless presentations from all areas of the population to prevent and tackle the causes of homelessness.
On the environment e.g. effects on the climate, trees, amenity space, biodiversity, water, energy, waste, material use, air quality	This strategy is not likely to have any environmental impact. The staff implementing this strategy are supportive of corporate policies to minimise waste.
On the specific target community / location e.g. if the project is based in a specific area or targeted community group	This strategy sets out Dacorum Borough Council's commitments to work with strategic partners to tackle the causes of homelessness and support those members of the community who come to the council to present themselves as homeless. The strategy will positively impact these people as it sets out a commitment to support them in the most appropriate ways,

Community Impact Assessment

	including discharging the homeless duty into the private rented sector.	
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.		
<p>When this strategy launched, the commitment to review it annually was made. This review has been written after consultation with Cllr Margaret Griffiths – Portfolio Holder for Housing; Mark Gaynor – Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration; Elliott Brooks – Assistant Director Housing; Julie Still – Group Manager Residents Services; Cynthia Hayford – Strategic Housing Team Leader; Emily-Rae Maxwell – Tenant Participation Team Leader; and Homelessness Forum partners including other local authorities and local voluntary and community sector organisations.</p>		
Which commitment(s) does this policy, project or service support from the Equality and Diversity CIH Charter Housing Framework? Link to PDF CIH Commitments on intranet		
<p>2 – Equality and diversity informs our business planning. 8 – We support the communities which we serve.</p>		
How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the project, policy or service is implemented?		
Action	By when	By who
Annual review of strategy	October 2017	Group Manager Strategic Housing
Discuss impact of strategy review at homelessness forum	October 2017	Team Leader Strategic Housing
Achieve NPSS Gold Standard accreditation	tbc	Group Manager Strategic Housing

Completed by:

Name: Niamh Turner

Role: Strategy and Communications Officer

Date: 23/09/16

Reviewed and signed off by relevant Group Manager:

Name: Natasha Brathwaite

Role: Group Manager Strategic Housing

Date: 28/09/16

Reviewed June 2016