

Equality and Ruralty Impact Assessment Form

When completing this form you will need to provide evidence that you have considered how the 'protected characteristics' may be impacted upon by this decision. In line with the General Equality Duty the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard for the need to:

- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

This form should be completed in conjunction with the guidance document available on the Intranet

Once completed a copy should be emailed to cheryl.sloan@publicagroup.uk to be signed off by an equalities officer before being published.

1. Persons responsible for this assessment:

Names: Caroline Clissold	
Date of assessment: 7 th February 2025	Telephone: 01993 861000 Email: caroline.clissold@publicagroup.uk

2. Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function:

Preventing Homelessness Strategy 2025-2028
Is this a new or existing one? New/Existing (please delete as appropriate) New Policy

3. Briefly describe it aims and objectives

Local Authorities have a statutory obligation to regularly review homelessness and publish a Preventing Homelessness Strategy. Based on the results of the review, the Strategic Aims and Priorities are:	
Priority 1	Preventing Homelessness
Priority 2	Establishing effective partnerships and working arrangements.
Priority 3	Supporting rough sleepers to address their housing and other needs.
Priority 4	Increasing Accommodation Options

4. Are there any external considerations? (e.g. Legislation/government directives)

Legislation:

Section 2(1) of the Homelessness Act 2002 requires local authorities to undertake regular reviews of homelessness within its area. Section 1(4) requires local authorities to publish a new homelessness strategy based on the results of this review.

Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 & subsequent Code Of Guidance

5. What evidence has helped to inform this assessment?

Source	✓	If ticked please explain what
Demographic data and other statistics, including census findings	✓	
Recent research findings including studies of deprivation	✓	
Results of recent consultations and surveys	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Results of ethnic monitoring data and any equalities data	✓	
Anecdotal information from groups and agencies within Oxfordshire	✓	
Comparisons between similar functions / policies elsewhere	✓	
Analysis of audit reports and reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: H-CLIC and Locally produced data from a Choice Based Letting system	✓	

6. Please specify how intend to gather evidence to fill any gaps identified above:

A full action plan has been created to run along side the Strategy and will be kept under constant review

7. Has any consultation been carried out?

Yes

Details of Consultation

Informally with internal and external stakeholders

If NO please outline any planned activities

8. What level of impact either directly or indirectly will the proposal have upon the general public / staff? (Please quantify where possible)

Level of impact	Response
NO IMPACT – The proposal has no impact upon the general public/staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
LOW – Few members of the general public/staff will be affected by this proposal	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEDIUM – A large group of the general public/staff will be affected by this proposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HIGH – The proposal will have an impact upon the whole community/all staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments: e.g. Who will this specifically impact? Residents who are homeless or threatened with homelessness, particularly vulnerable groups	

9. Considering the available evidence, what type of impact could this function have on any of the protected characteristics?

*Negative – it could disadvantage and therefore potentially not meet the General Equality duty;**Positive – it could benefit and help meet the General Equality duty;**Neutral – neither positive nor negative impact / Not sure*

	Potential Negative	Potential Positive	Neutral	Reasons	Options for mitigating adverse impacts
Age – Young People		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Age – Old People		✓			
Disability		✓			
Sex – Male		✓			
Sex – Female		✓			
Race including Gypsy and Travellers		✓			
Religion or Belief		✓			
Sexual Orientation		✓			
Gender Reassignment			✓		
Pregnancy and maternity		✓			
Geographical impacts on one area			✓		
Other Groups			✓		
Rural considerations: ie Access to services; leisure facilities, transport; education; employment; broadband.			✓		

10. Action plan (add additional lines if necessary)

Action(s)	Lead Officer	Resource	Timescale

11. Is there anything else that you wish to add?

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Declaration

I/We are satisfied that an equality impact assessment has been carried out on this policy, service, strategy, procedure or function and where an negative impact has been identified actions have been developed to lessen or negate this impact. We understand that the Equality Impact Assessment is required by the District Council and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment.

Completed By:	Caroline Clissold	Date:	07/02/2025
Line Manager:	Jon Dearing	Date:	10/02/25
Reviewed by Corporate Equality Officer:	Cheryl Sloan	Date:	10/02/25