

Equality Impact Assessment Template

Before carrying out an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA), you should familiarise yourself with the [guidance](#). This document should be in **plain English**, include **Stakeholder** involvement and be able to stand up to **scrutiny** (local and/or court) if/when challenged to ensure we have met the councils public sector equality duty.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) should be completed when you are considering:

- developing, reviewing or removing policies
- developing, reviewing or removing strategies
- developing, reviewing or removing services
- developing, reviewing or removing a council function/system
- commencing any project/programme

Assessor(s) Name and job title:

Debbie Vallas / Erin Rhodes Benefits Managers

Directorate and Team/School Name:

Name, aim, objective and expected outcome of the programme/ activity:

Name:

Implementation of new legislation to introduce council tax premiums for second homes and properties empty for more than one year.

Aim:

The government encourages all billing authorities to adopt council tax premiums on empty properties with a view to incentivising property owners to bring those properties back into use. Premiums can be charged currently where properties are left unoccupied and unfurnished for periods exceeding two years.

In May 2022 the Government published the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (the Bill). The Bill includes proposals aimed at further addressing empty properties through the application of council tax premiums, in addition to measures that recognise the impact that high levels of second home ownership can have in some areas.

Objective:

Through the Bill it is the Government's intention to

		public life?)						
Age (restrictions/difficulties both younger/older)	No impact	No	Council tax is payable by the owner and residents of properties. These premiums will apply where the property is no one's main residence to all charge payers so will not adversely affect people who have a protected characteristic	This is a legislative change afforded by the Levelling Up Bill May 2022 so there is no consultation required.			Amendment to the policy will be communicated to the council taxpayers by means of information detailed on their bills and via the council's website.	
Disability a) Physical b) Mental health (must respond to both a & b)	No impact	No						
Race (including ethnicity and nationality)	No impact	No						
Religion or belief (different faith groups/those without a faith)	No impact	No						
Sex	No impact	No						

(Including Trans and non-binary – is your language inclusive of trans and non-binary people?)								
Sexual orientation (is your language inclusive of LGB groups?)	No impact	No						
Pregnancy and maternity	No impact	No						
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No impact	No						
Gender reassignment	No impact	No						

In order to identify the needs of the groups, you will need to review data, statistics, user feedback, population data, complaints data, staffing data (SAPHRreports@iow.gov.uk), community/client data, feedback from focus groups etc. When assessing the impact, the assessment should come from an evidence base and not through opinion or self-knowledge.

H. Review

How are you engaging people with a wide range of protected characteristics in the development, review and/or monitoring of the programme/ activity?

Date of next review:

H. Sign-off

Head of Service/Director/Headteacher sign off & date:

Name: Sharon Betts
Date: 21 November 2022

Legal sign off & date:

Name:
Date: