

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1:

Your details

EIA lead Officer: Marie McDonald – Programme Manager : Strategic Change

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Head of Section: Shaer Halewood – Director of Resources

Chief Officer: Shaer Halewood – Director of Resources

Directorate: Resources

Date: 18th October 2022

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Cost of Living Action Group Update

Following the extra-ordinary Policy and Resources Committee in August 2022, a series of recommendations were agreed to progress the work already being undertaken and new actions to progress and to report back to the Committee with the outcome

This is a developing proposal and this assessment may be reviewed and amended as impacts become known.

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?

Yes / No

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Policy & Resources 9th Nov 2022

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- ☐ **Services**
- ☐ **The workforce**
- x **Communities**
- ☐ **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- ☐ **None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
All Protected Groups	Provide a directory of community, voluntary and faith sector organisations (CVF) and groups providing warm places – mapped in Infobank and updated weekly	<p>Positive – All CVF organisation asked to supply details of their support offer. These organisations have an established network and have the trust of the community. It is hoped that this will make it easier to reach seldom heard groups</p> <p>Negative – We recognise that people may need this information in different languages and formats and through we will work to provide upon request and within a reasonable timeframe.</p>	Nikki Jones	Ongoing	None

All protected groups	Proposed that community, voluntary and faith organisations be able to apply for funding for grants to provide support to those in food and or fuel poverty	Positive – Support to be provided at a local level from organisations that have an established network and have the trust of the community. It is hoped that this will make it easier to reach seldom heard groups	Nikki Jones	Ongoing	None
All protected groups	A wide ranging, collaborative engagement and communications campaign	<p>Positive – Current communication channels will be utilised alongside Community Champions to promote key messages and signpost. A communications plan will be produced.</p> <p>Negative – We recognise that people may need this information in different languages and formats and we will work to provide this upon request and within a reasonable timeframe.</p>	Gail Mooney	Ongoing	Alternative languages and formats to be provided through Procurement Service

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Through the Cost of Living Action Group - meets fortnightly. Membership includes the Leader and Chief Executive of Wirral Council, place director for NHS Cheshire & Merseyside and relevant officers from Wirral Council

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

N/A

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

An extensive piece of engagement collated from resident feedback has been carried out by the qualitative insight team. A copy of the report can be found here:

<https://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/state-of-the-borough/cost-of-living-crisis-2022-23/>

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes / No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

Communications plan to be produced which will be as accessible as possible. Timings to be confirmed.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**