

INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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| Name of Policy, Decision, Strategy, Service or Function, Other: (please indicate) | The Prevention of Homelessness Strategy and Review 2018-21 | |
| Lead Officer Name(s) & Job Title(s) : | Mick Coogan – Strategic Housing Manager | |
| Department/Service Area: | Strategic Housing | |
| Telephone & E-mail Contact: | michaelcoogan@rossendalebc.gov.uk | |
| Date Assessment: | Commenced: 17 th September 2018 | Completed: 24 th September 2018 |

We carry out Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) to analyse the effects of our decisions, policies or practices. The EIA should be undertaken/started at the beginning of the policy development process – before any decisions are made.

1. Overview

The main aims/objectives of this policy¹ are:

The Homelessness Act 2002 places a statutory duty on each local housing authority to carry out a review of homelessness, and using the review, develop a strategy to prevent homelessness. Both strategy and review must be formulated at least every 5 years and then published. The draft Prevention of Homelessness Strategy and Review acts as both documents that are legally required. Following the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction act 2017 on 3rd April 2018, it is also good practice to publish a new strategy at this time, having regard to additional powers and duties due to the new legislation, and new ways of working needed to deliver a legally compliant Housing Options service.

The new strategy identifies how the Council endeavours to increase the prevention of homelessness in Rossendale and fulfil its statutory duties under part VII of the Housing Act 1996 and amended by the Homelessness Act 2002, the Localism Act 2011 and the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

(Refer to [EIA Guidance](#) for details)

Is the policy or decision under review (please tick)

New/proposed

Modified/adapted

Existing

INTERNAL ONLY

MANAGEMENT ACTION REQUIRED (to be completed by the relevant Head of Service following review by Management Team / Programme Board)

¹ Policy refers to any policy, strategy, project, procedure, function, decision or delivery of service.

- Outcome of EIA agreed/approved by Management Team / Programme Board:
Yes No
- Is a full EIA required Yes No
- Referred back to Assessor for amendment : (date)
- Published/made publicly available on: Rossendale BC Website (date) 05/10/2018

Signed: Sam Plum (Head of Service / Director) Date: 01/10/2018

Date of Review²: 1st September 2021 – to coincide with the new strategy is planned for 3 years' time.

² This date will be set on an annual basis as default for review unless otherwise specified by you.

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2. Equality Impact

Using the table below please indicate whether the policy/strategy/decision has a positive, negative or no impact **from an equalities perspective** on any of the protected equality groups listed below. **Please also give consideration to wider equality of opportunity and community cohesion impacts within and between the groups identified. If you have identified any negative impact and mitigating actions are not sufficient, you will need to complete a Full Equality Impact Assessment.**

| Equality | | Positive Impact (It could benefit) | Negative Impact (It could disadvantage) | Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution) | No Impact |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Age | Older people | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The strategy identifies the need for more housing suitable for older people due to the rise in older people in the district being the second highest in Lancashire, and has an attached key action. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Younger people and children | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Work with the 'Trailblazer' to assist young people aged 14-25 is actioned. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Disability | Physical/learning/mental health | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is an action to help provide housing for such cohorts where there is and identified need. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gender Reassignment | Transsexual people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to this cohort. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to this cohort. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Race (Ethnicity or Nationality) | Asian or Asian British people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Black or black British people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Irish people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | White British | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Chinese people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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| Equality | | Positive Impact (It could benefit) | Negative Impact (It could disadvantage) | Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution) | No Impact |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | |
| | Gypsies & Travellers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Other minority communities not listed above (please state) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any ethnicity or nationality compared to the population as a whole. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Belief or Religion | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to people of any belief or religion compared to the population as a whole. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sex | Women | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The new domestic abuse services are statistically more likely to have a more positive impact on this cohort. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Men | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to this cohort. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Sexual Orientation | Gay men, gay women / lesbians and bisexual people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No reason to believe any additional positive or negative impact to this cohort. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Marriage and Civil Partnership (employment only) | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Contribution to equality of opportunity | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Positive impact on assisting everyone by preventing or reliving homelessness. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Contribution to fostering good relations between different groups (people getting on well together – valuing one another, respect and understanding) | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No impact expected. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Human Rights http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&documentID=251 | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The policy has a positive impact in relation to the following article of the European Convention on Human Rights: Article 8 – Privacy – which covers the right to family life which the strategy promotes by enabling families to stay together in appropriate accommodation. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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