

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL


Equality Impact Assessment Forms

(See Guidelines on completing an Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Impact Assessment Forms)

	Key Information
1*	Title of Function or Policy to be assessed: South Staffordshire Council's Homelessness Strategy
2	Lead Officer: Pat Main
3	IA Review Team (optional) Pat Main, Housing Services Manager Tony Ward, Leisure Services Manager Abi O'Leary, Programming and Promotions Officer (Community Services)
4	Portfolio or Service Area: Community Services
5	A summary of this Impact Assessment has been produced and is published (state where): Council Website at www.sstaffs.gov.uk
6	Impact assessment started: April 2007 Finished: 15th May 2007
7	The Impact Assessment
8	Are there any other functions, policies or services which might be linked with this one for the purposes of this exercise? If YES, then discuss with Portfolio Manager or Head of Service before proceeding.
9	Initial Assessment
10	What are the aims/objectives/purposes of the function or policy? To provide a strategy for tackling homelessness and its causes within the South Staffordshire district. To address the individual needs of those households that are homeless or in danger of being homeless who may be classed as vulnerable and need support to enable independent living and safe and active participation/inclusion in the community.
11	Who is it intended to affect or benefit (the target population)? Households who are, or who may become homeless. Vulnerable households who are unable to protect their own personal welfare, property or finances. This will include, but is not exclusive to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People fleeing domestic violence • People with learning disabilities • People with mental health issues • People with substance misuse issues • Vulnerable young people • Ex-offenders or people at risk of offending • Travellers/Gypsies

* Shaded boxes - there's more information in the Guidelines on completing an Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Impact Assessment Forms

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugees • People with physical and/or sensory disabilities 				
12	Is it intended to impact differentially (positively or negatively) on different people or communities because of factors such as (tick):				
		yes - positively	yes - negatively	No	Don't know
13	age	✓			
14	disability			✓	
15	gender			✓	
16	language			✓	
17	race, ethnicity, culture			✓	
18	religion or belief			✓	
19	sexuality			✓	
20	Are there any concerns that this function or policy may have unintended differential impacts on people or communities because of any of the factors listed in lines 13-19?				
21	Yes:	No: ✓	Don't Know:		
22	If yes, set them out briefly here:				
23	Are there any other concerns about other minorities amongst the target population who may be disadvantaged by the function's or policy's operation, or who may receive unequal treatment?				
24	Yes:	No: ✓	Don't Know:		
25	If yes, set them out briefly here				
26	Are there any concerns about unintended impacts on other people or communities, outside the target population?				
27	Yes:	No: ✓	Don't Know:		
28	If yes, set them out briefly here				


29	Is the function or policy legal?	Yes: ✓	No:	Don't Know:
30	If No or Don't Know, seek legal advice.			
31	Should this function or policy proceed to a partial impact assessment or to a full assessment?			
32	Yes - partial: ✓	Yes - full:	No:	
33	Signed (lead officer) Pat Main			
34	Date: 31st July 2008			
35	I agree with the conclusion at 32 above. Signed (Director)  Dave Heywood Director of Community Services			
37	Date: 31st July 2008			

Part 2 – Partial Impact Assessment

38 Partial impact assessment						
	Assessment	Yes	No	D/k	N/a	Summarise evidence
39	Does the function or policy promote participation in democratic and community life?	✓				Providing accommodation to otherwise socially excluded groups enables them to become part of a community and take part in elections etc.
40	does it help to provide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equal access to services, • information (including electronic information), and/or • employment? 	✓				Having a permanent address enables a household to access services such as a GP etc and to secure permanent employment.
					✓	
		✓				
41	is equal access sufficient to ensure equality of outcomes?	✓				Procedures are in place to ensure that all clients accessing the services provided are treated equally leading to equality of outcomes.
42	or do we need to target specific communities, neighbourhoods, households or individuals?	✓				Certain clients will be targeted, ie young people as part of the overall action plan of the strategy to address their particular needs.
43	does it promote or celebrate diversity?				✓	Legally all persons accessing the service must be treated in the same way and each case assessed on its own merits. To promote any particular group could lead to prejudice from other client groups.

Part 2 – Partial Impact Assessment

44	does it promote good relationships within and between communities?	✓				The action plan of the Strategy ensures that the needs of all communities are addressed in equitably. Extensive consultation has taken place regarding the draft strategy both with service users and at 3 “roadshows” throughout the district to ensure that the needs of all communities are addressed. There was no negative feedback from these events on the proposals contained within the action plan.
45	does it help to prevent social exclusion?	✓				Providing accommodation and appropriate support to otherwise socially excluded groups or individuals, enables them to become part of and contribute too community life.
46	does it help to re-integrate excluded groups into mainstream society?	✓				As above
47	does it provide high quality, inclusive services?	✓				All households accessing the service which is open to all, are dealt with on the same basis incorporating established good practice and legal requirements.
48	Does the existing evidence indicate the need for action to	Yes	No	D/k		
49	• remove or minimise differential or adverse impacts		✓			
50	• ensure the function or policy is legal		✓			
51	• adapt it to have a positive impact on equalities and inclusion?		✓			

52	If No or Don't know at lines 39-47, do you need more evidence?	Yes (tick) go to 65.	No (tick) go to 53.	✓
53	Are there adequate systems in place to monitor the future impact of this function or policy in relation to	Yes	No	N/a
54	age	✓		
55	disability	✓		
56	gender	✓		
57	language (spoken languages and BSL)		✓	
58	race, ethnicity or culture	✓		
59	religion or belief		✓	
60	sexuality		✓	
61	If No to any of these, can a system be set up?	Yes:	No:	✓
62	If Yes, add to action plan (see line 65).			
63	If No, record reasons. Data about clients is collected from them at the time of application on their Application for Housing form. Not collecting information regarding the client's language, religion or beliefs and sexuality also helps protect them from any prejudices that may otherwise exist if this information is known.			
64	As a result of this assessment, is a full impact assessment required?	Yes:	No:	✓
65	If NO, prepare and attach an action plan responding to the evidence. If no action plan is required, provide justification here. No			
66	Signed (lead officer) Pat Main			
67	<i>Head of Service to delete as required in lines 68-72.</i>			
68	I have seen and endorse the action plan.			
69	I am satisfied that robust monitoring systems are in place			
70	I am satisfied that where monitoring is not in place, the reasons are justified.			
71	I am satisfied that an action plan is not required.			
72	A full impact assessment is not required.			
73	Comments or caveats: N/A			
74	Signed Director of Community Services			
	 <p>Date: 31st July 2008</p>			