

APPENDIX 3

Draft Equality Impact Assessment

1. The Public Sector Equality Duty placed a duty on all public bodies to have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.
 - Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
2. The duty has the following three aims:
 - To remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics.
 - To take steps to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from the needs of other people.
 - To encourage people with certain protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.
3. The protected Characteristics are:
 - Age
 - Disability
 - Gender
 - Gender reassignment
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Race
 - Religion, belief or lack of belief
 - Sexual orientation
 - Marriage and Civil partnership. (For this characteristic the duty only applies to the first aim to eliminate discrimination)
4. The Equality Impact Assess for this report is detailed below.

Lead Officer	Louise Taylor, Head of Housing
Decision Maker	Dover District Council Leader
Name and Type of decision	Adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2024
Date of decision	Tbc
Aims of the decision	The Homelessness Act 2002 gave all local authorities a responsibility to produce a 5 year strategy on homelessness for their areas, and renew the strategy at the end of each period.
• Objectives	The aim of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is to improve

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intended outcomes • Key actions • Who and how many will be affected? 	<p>outcomes for those facing a housing crisis. We are also required to follow legal procedures to ensure we accurately support and assess applications for assistance.</p> <p>The findings from the Homelessness Review have been used to update and draft the Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2020-2024 and agree on the priorities for the Council in relation to homelessness and homelessness prevention, for the next 5 years. The priorities agreed are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tackling Homelessness Together 2. Enhanced Accommodation Options 3. Using Resources Effectively 4. Improving Options for Homeless Households 5. End Rough Sleeping <p>The strategy sets out how the council, working with partners, aims to achieve these priorities and monitor progress.</p> <p>The strategy supports equality of access and assistance to all eligible person/households to Housing Options and other related community and statutory services.</p>
<p>Information and Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarise research and information that you used to prepare your proposals / preferred options • What data did you use to research your proposals • List anything you found that will affect people with protected characteristics. 	<p>The previous Homelessness Strategy was reviewed as part of the process of drafting this strategy.</p> <p>To help inform this strategy we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged and consulted with organisations delivering homelessness related services in the Dover district • Collected data and evidence from them and our own records about services that work well and any challenges we face • Reviewed data relating to statutory homelessness • Reviewed our use of temporary accommodation • Reviewed rough sleeping and sofa surfing in the district • Reviewed the accommodation and support provided by DDC and partner Organisations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally consulted with stakeholders, service users and members of the public for a period of 8 weeks between 25 January and 22 March 2021. <p>The information gathered did not identify any difference for people with protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has there been any specific consultation done? • What were the consultation results? 	<p>See above.</p> <p>The report to Cabinet recommends that the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping strategy now be approved and adopted by the Council</p> <p>A full 8 week public consultation has taken place and stakeholders, service</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did the consultation analysis show any difference for people with protected characteristics? • What conclusions did you draw from the consultation? 	<p>providers, service users and members of the public invited to comment on the strategy.</p> <p>The comments submitted through the consultation have been reviewed and there has been no need to amend the strategy as a consequence.</p>
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Assessing if the decision is likely to be relevant to the three aims of the Equality Duty.

Aim	Relevance Yes / No
Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimization	Yes
Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.	Yes
Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.	Yes

If you have decided that this decision is relevant to the three aims of the Equality Duty, use the section below to show how it is relevant and what the impact will be.

Protected Characteristic	Relevance High/Medium/Low	Impact of the decision Positive / Negative
Age	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone due to their age. A household/person will receive the same level of service regardless of their age.
Disability	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone with a disability, either visible or invisible, they will receive the same level of service.
Gender reassignment	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone having had gender reassignment, they will receive the same level of service.
Gender	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone due to their gender, a household/person will receive the same level of service regardless of their gender.
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Low	Neutral The strategy and the service does not

		discriminate or disadvantage anyone due to their relationship/marital status.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Low	Neutral The strategy and the service does not discriminate or disadvantage if someone is pregnant or has a child or children.
Race	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage on the grounds of race, a household/person will receive the same level of service regardless of their race.
Religion, Belief or Lack of Belief	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone due to their religion, belief or lack of belief, they will receive the same level of service.
Sexual Orientation	Low	Neutral The Strategy does not discriminate or disadvantage anyone due to their sexual orientation, they will receive the same level of service.

If you have found negative impact, outline the measures you intend to take to mitigate it.	No negative impact identified.
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