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| Title of proposed EIA                    | Homelessness Reduction New Burdens Grant 2022/23  |
| Reference No                             | EQUA898   |
| EA is in support of                      | Amended Service   |
| Review Frequency                         | Two Years   |
| Date of first review                     | 13/05/2024  |
| Directorate                              | City Housing  |
| Division                                 | Housing Solutions & Support   |
| Service Area                             | Housing Solutions and Support Caseworker Service  |
| Responsible Officer(s)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Parkes  |
| Quality Control Officer(s)               | <input type="checkbox"/> Kieran Cronin  |
| Accountable Officer(s)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Stephen Philpott   |
| Purpose of proposal                      | To obtain Cabinet approval to accept the Homelessness reduction Act, New Burdens Grant for the financial year 2022/23 allocated by Department of Levelling Up |
| Data sources                             | relevant reports/strategies   |
| Please include any other sources of data |   |

Birmingham Homeless Prevention Strategy 2017  
Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2018-2023

Council Plan 2018-2022

Housing Birmingham Partnership Strategy

Housing Reduction Act 2017

#### ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Protected characteristic: Age

Age details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified. The acceptance of this grant will strengthen the assistance and provision of tools to prevent people threatened with homelessness or who are homeless having to access Temporary Accommodation due to a housing crisis.

The homeless duties are provided to all people at any stage of life.

The impact of homelessness begins at birth.

Impact begins at birth:

- Babies are more likely to be low birth weight, miss immunisations, not be registered with a GP

Children are more likely to experience:

- Learning and developmental difficulties, enduring mental ill health

Families are more vulnerable to:

- Family breakdown, domestic abuse, maternal mental ill health

Capacity of parent/s to effectively parent is significantly reduced

Closely linked with complex and chaotic life experiences:-

- Mental ill health, substance misuse problems, prison/ care system experience

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) are part of most street homeless people's life histories

Severe health inequalities, poorer health and wellbeing, and

lower life expectancy

Homelessness households experience lower life expectancy than the general population

This grant will facilitate supporting older people and especially those that are homeless after hospital discharge

Protected characteristic: Disability

Service Users / Stakeholders

Disability details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified. 15% of all households owed a homelessness duty in England had a support need of physical ill health or disability

Appropriate regard and provision is embedded in service delivery to ensure accessibility for people of particular need

We work closely with the hospital discharge pathway to ensure people who have additional needs around their mental, physical and emotional health and may need extra support to make a sustained recovery into stable housing and onward to a positive and healthy future.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Service Users / Stakeholders

Gender details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified. The acceptance of this grant will strengthen the assistance available to prevent people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness irrespective of gender identity.

The majority of rough sleepers are males over 25 years old.

The majority of domestic abuse is perpetrated by men against women.

Male violence accounts for the vast majority of harm and deaths through domestic abuse.

Single female parents with dependent children were the largest group owed a prevention duty, comprising 26.6 of households.

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Service Users / Stakeholders

Gender reassignment details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified. The acceptance of this grant will strengthen the assistance available to prevent people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness irrespective of gender identity.

Homelessness amongst trans people is disproportionately high.

Stonewall Housing has seen an increase in trans people accessing their services from 8% in 2014-15 to 23% in 2017-18.

Services and staff must let people self-identify and being mindful of how language can make people feel unsafe or unwelcome.

There are many possible gender identities, e.g. trans man, trans woman, non-binary or gender fluid. Good practice is to let people self-identify and avoid asking unnecessary personal questions.

We also work to assure accommodation provided is safe.

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Not Applicable

Marriage and civil partnership details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified.

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Service Users / Stakeholders

Pregnancy and maternity details:

A pregnant woman might be reasonably be expected to have priority need for accommodation under the main homelessness duty. Earlier identification and intervention to prevent homelessness is critical to ensure every child has the best start.

Protected characteristics: Race

Service Users / Stakeholders

Race details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified.

Homeownership, access to social housing and the quality of housing varies widely between ethnic groups.

Overcrowding affects ethnic minority households disproportionately.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Service Users / Stakeholders; Not Applicable

Religion or beliefs details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Service Users / Stakeholders

Sexual orientation details:

No negative impact of this proposal has been identified.

There are policies in place within the service that recognise Hate Crime and Harassment due to sexual orientation, and would prioritise customers whose homes were at risk due to these crimes.

Socio-economic impacts

Whilst people of all financial backgrounds can become homeless in their life span, this policy is most likely to have a positive impact on low income groups who are at a greater risk of homelessness and are more likely to require temporary accommodation. Birmingham has higher than national average people of working age in unemployment at 16%

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

None as the Housing Strategy is currently under review and much of the data considered as part of this EIA will be updated in the coming 9 months.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

NO

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?

[www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk](http://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/homelessness-statistics>

Consultation analysis

There is no likely profoundly negative impact on any equality groups through the funding of this work to prevent homelessness.

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

No adverse impact on those with supported characteristics

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact? Not applicable

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

The effectiveness of prevention services provided by Birmingham City Council are regularly benchmarked against the Local Authorities, both through reporting to the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities and regular DLUHC scrutiny.

What data is required in the future?

Data on presentations

Supply and demand

Employment and Cost of living impact in Birmingham

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

The proposal sets out how the Council aims to prevent homelessness within a circumstance of rising demand and increased financial hardship for its citizens. The council aims to make transparent and fair support to those households facing housing crisis, ensuring that those with the highest needs are priorities

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

This grant will provide an opportunity to intervene, prevent and tackle homelessness for the people of Birmingham by developing an effective tailored response to individual needs.

## QUALITY CONTROL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

No

Quality Control Officer comments

Information reviewed and submitted for approval - minor spelling error corrected.

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

Yes

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

21/04/2022

Reasons for approval or rejection

This EIA reflects the funding programme its impact and value.

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

Content Type: Item

Version: 35.0

Created at 20/04/2022 06:40 PM by ☐ Debbie ParkesLast modified at 21/04/2022 11:03 AM by Workflow on behalf of ☐ Kieran Cronin

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