

Title of proposed EIA	RSI 2022-25 grant funding
Reference No	EQUA876
EA is in support of	Amended Service
Review Frequency	No preference
Date of first review	01/04/2023
Directorate	City Housing
Division	Housing Support and Solutions
Service Area	
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jasvinder Bishop
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kieran Cronin
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Gary Messenger
Purpose of proposal	Permission to bid and procure services from Cabinet
Data sources	Survey(s); relevant reports/strategies; Statistical Database (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	ONS and DLUHC data on rough sleepers Data held by existing commissioned providers
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Service Users / Stakeholders; Employees
Age details:	<p>The Rough Sleepers Initiative 2022-25 is a grant funded programme of support and services to those who are homeless and rough sleeping. The programme is entering its 5 year of operation.</p> <p>The programme will provide a range of services including emergency accommodation, outreach and navigator support, health interventions and wellbeing services.</p> <p>Rough sleepers are acknowledged as some of the most excluded of groups with a increased chance of early death, substance misuse, poor physical and mental health, disability, offending behaviour, a history of being in care including as a child, and legal issues</p>

relating to status in the country and access to benefits.

The age profile of rough sleepers tends to be 5-10% in the age band 16-25, with the majority being 26-39, and a further 10-15% being 40+. RSI services are open to all ages, and support is in place regardless of age, with specialist services in place for 16-25's.

Protected characteristic: Disability

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

Disability details:

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Those with disabilities make up a higher proportion of rough sleepers. RSI services do not exclude on the grounds of disability but looks at support requirements for successful outcomes. There is a partnership in place that includes social services, health, DWP professionals able to assess and secure relevant support to enable access to services.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

Gender details:

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Women currently account for less than 10% of rough sleepers found bedded down on the streets of Birmingham, men 90%. With this it is recognised that women's homelessness can be more hidden and less likely to present as street sleeping. RSI services are accessible to both men and women and is committed to identification and provision for both presenting and hidden rough sleeping. Specialist womens only services are included as part of the programme and will look to address the specific issues faced by women. Part of this will include gathering data and identifying further gaps in provision.

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Gender reassignment details:

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

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Services are accessible by all rough sleepers, and gender reassignment is not a barrier to access. The services will work proactively with anyone who identifies as transgender at any stage of their journey.

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Service Users/ Stakeholders;
Employees

Marriage and civil partnership details:

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Marital status is not a barrier to access RSI services. Services are designed to work with those who are single or as a couple. Accommodation and support will be based on the needs of the individual or couple regardless of marital status.

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Pregnancy and maternity details:

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

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Pregnancy and maternity details may have relevance in terms of an individuals legal status as homelessness. Priority need applicants may be afforded further rights, benefiting the individual. RSI services may support individuals through pregnancy and maternity jointly with statutory services.

Protected characteristics: Race

Race details:

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

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Rough sleepers are acknowledged as some of the most excluded of groups

with a increased chance of early death, substance misuse, poor physical and mental health, disability, offending behaviour, a history of being in care including as a child, and legal issues relating to status in the country and access to benefits.

People from black and minority ethnic groups present as sleeping rough at a lower rate than the general population of Birmingham. It is recognised that rough sleeping may be more hidden amongst particular minority groups. Work is done across the homeless partnership to address areas of under-representation and access to services. There is an over-representation of people sleeping rough from EU nation states, where individuals have rights to be in the UK and to work, but without rights to benefits/public funds - this status can exclude from accommodation. RSI programme has specialist services that work with specifically with non UK nationals.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Religion or beliefs details:

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

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Religion or beliefs are not a factor in accessing RSI services. Services will work with all those who are rough sleeping or homeless regardless of religion or beliefs.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Service Users / Stakeholders;
Employees

Sexual orientation details:

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Recording of sexual orientation amongst rough sleepers is very low and in some part reflective of the crisis in which individuals are presenting. Sexual orientation is not a factor in excluding access to RSI services.

Socio-economic impacts

The programme seeks to bring in approx £4.5million of funding over the 3 years 2022-25. Funding will be for services delivered by BCC as well as commissioned providers.

People who sleep rough are some of the most socio-economically excluded, the RSI funding will support to address two factors in that exclusion - access to safe accommodation, and access to

support, including health and wellbeing interventions. Once an individual is housed and engaged with services, meaningful support can be put in place to address other factors that can lead to exclusion- for example, substance misuse services, physical and mental health services. This foundation then support a process of recovery, including, education, training, employment and other elements that help integration.

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

NO

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

DLUHC data on Rough Sleeping

Monthly data provided by existing commissioned services

Data into Womens Rough Sleeping commisioned by Spring Housing

Consultation analysis

The development of the bid included consultation with Homelessness Forum, Regional Homelessness Taskforce, Rough Sleeper Action Group, existing service providers

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

None

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?

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

Monthly data will be collected as required by DLUHC. This will include equality monitoring. Annual reviews to identify any gaps in services or challenges faced by particular groups.

What data is required in the future?

Data collected on numbers accessing services, data on protected characteristics, data on support outcomes.

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

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

The RSI programme actively seeks to work with individuals who are disadvantaged, and face multiple exclusions on the basis of protected characteristics including gender and disability.

RSI services will work with all individuals who are rough sleeping or homeless regardless of their protected characteristics and will actively seek to remove any barriers to access due to these.

QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

No

Quality Control Officer comments

Reviewed and submitted to accountable officer for final approval

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

08/04/2022

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

Content Type: Item

Version: 23.0

Created at 11/03/2022 11:46 AM by ☐ Jasvinder Bishop

Last modified at 08/04/2022 11:09 AM by Workflow on behalf of ☐ Gary Messenger

Close