

Equality Impact Assessment



Hampshire
County Council

Rural Communities Fund - CCBS Grant Stream

Accountable officer: Jo Heath

Email address: jo.heath@hants.gov.uk

Department: Culture, Communities and Business Services

Date of assessment: 09/04/2020

Description of current service/policy

The Rural Communities Fund is managed by the Rural Programme within Culture Communities and Business Services. The priorities of the scheme are to support communities to deliver against the Rural Priorities:

Community resilience - help communities address and resolve local challenges themselves, such as supporting older and vulnerable people, or responding to extreme weather events.

Rural transport - support rural communities to tailor existing transport options to better meet the needs of residents without cars.

Self-help - support volunteering and community-led initiatives in rural communities.

Economic development - support rural enterprises

Geographical impact: All
Hampshire

Description of proposed change

The Rural Communities Fund was created by the amalgamation of four other grant funding streams in 2017 - the Rural Retailers and Community Enterprises Grant Scheme; the Community Challenge Fund; Flood Alleviation; and the Small Grant Scheme. Decisions on funding are overseen by the Executive Member of Culture and Rural Affairs, with recommendations from the Rural Programme Team.

All applicants are required to demonstrate they have considered the needs of people identified in law as being at risk of discrimination, those who share protected characteristics, and that their project has no negative impacts on these groups.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? No

Following amalgamation, grant criteria have been based on the previously run grant schemes, with feedback from applicants to previously run schemes informing the development and management of this scheme.

Statutory considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Age: Neutral		
Disability: Neutral		
Sexual orientation: Neutral		
Race: Neutral		
Religion and belief: Neutral		
Gender reassignment: Neutral		

Gender: Neutral		
Marriage and civil partnership: Neutral		
Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral		
Other policy considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Poverty: Neutral		
Rurality: Positive	The Rural Communities Fund is only available to rural parishes in Hampshire, which is defined as a Parish with a population of less than 5000. All grant applications to the Rural Communities Fund are required to demonstrate how their project will build community resilience and encourage self-help in rural Hampshire.	

Neutrality statement (if all considerations have a neutral impact)

Any other information