



## Equality Impact Assessment

### What is an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and why does the County Council do them?

The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (PSED) is an obligation within the [Equality Act 2010](#) ("the Act"), which asks public authorities, like Hampshire County Council, to give 'due regard' to equality considerations, in particular to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

This includes assessing the impact of policies and practices on individuals and communities with a protected characteristic, as defined in the Act and some other specific groups. The County Council uses EIAs to ensure it has paid 'due regard' to equalities considerations when there are changes to a service or policy, a new project or certain decisions.

EIA author	Position & Department	Contact
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Title:	Demand Management & Prevention Grant Awards May 2024
Related EIAs:	None

EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	Local Solutions Funding
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	The Local Solutions fund continues to offer funding to projects which support a diverse range of Hampshire residents, and does so in collaboration with Social Care Teams, health partners and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector. The grants being proposed for funding are varied in terms of their desired outcomes and those they support. Grants proposed will support seldom heard groups (settled gypsy and traveller community) to access provision designed to fit the unique characteristics and specific needs of this community. They will also seek to support residents aged 70+ through projects to reduce social isolation and loneliness and promote a return to health to enable people to remain happy and healthy at home for as long as possible
New/changed service/policy/project	The grants proposed in this paper all represent new services which were not previously funded and therefore are of additional benefit to those they seek to serve. As a result of the proposals contained within this Executive Member Decision Report we do not anticipate any changes to service provision, rather these are extensions to existing services or new services which were not previously available.

Engagement
<p>The Local Solutions Grant application process is designed to enhance collaboration between HCC and the applicant every step of the way. Throughout the application process, the grants within this paper were shaped in order to ensure the outcomes proposed align with the Adults' Health and Care strategy and deliver the maximum benefit for participants.</p> <p>A key focus for DM&amp;P at the current time is building and strengthening relationships with the local districts across Hampshire. The individual districts have been consulted on each project which impacts their locality for their thoughts and suggestions to ensure the maximum benefit across multiple levels of Local Government.</p> <p>Finally various HCC teams have been involved with the shaping of the projects outlined in this report. An example of this is the engagement of the Transport Team with the Alresford minibus project in</p>

order to confirm the training which formed part of the application was the most appropriate and that the level of public transport demand was present in the area.

## Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

### Age

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	<p>A number of projects included in this report will deliver new services which are primarily aimed at Hampshire residents 70+. The Fawley Recreation Centre project works specifically with older adults to ensure that they have accessible gym equipment which will enable them take a strengths based approach to improving their fitness and recovery from strokes, falls and time in hospital. It does so in a social atmosphere to enable people to connect to others in their community and reduce the level of social isolation and loneliness. We know from Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) data that the area that this project covers has one of the highest number of residents 70+ and so transport will be provided as part of the offer in order to ensure participants from more removed villages can attend.</p> <p>The decision to seek funding for the Basingstoke Neighbourcare grant was also driven by the JSNA data. The project will be based in Popley, which contains areas in the 1st and 2nd decile for highest levels of social isolation and are in the lowest decile in terms of people over 65 with bad or very bad health outcomes. Social isolation is an objective term to describe an absence of social contacts and community involvement and this project seeks to directly address the issue of social isolation for over 65s in the areas surrounding Basingstoke which see the highest rates.</p> <p>The Happy Healing Hut project seeks to support older adults in recovery from time in hospital to regain their independence and confidence in the home. Targeted intervention will ensure participants (and their carers) will be able to live confidently, safely and independently in their own homes.</p>
Mitigation	

## Disability

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	<p>All projects recommended for funding in this paper are open to residents with disabilities to provide additional support to what is already available in the community.</p> <p>The Fawley Recreation Centre project will provide disabled access exercise equipment which will enable adults with a physical disability or recovering from strokes and falls to rebuild their fitness on equipment which is designed for them. Staff have been trained to support with a range of physical disabilities to ensure that participants have the support they need to exercise in a safe and supportive environment.</p> <p>Areas and surrounding Fawley have a reported 4.6% of residents with a disability which is higher than the Hampshire average and is a key driver for supporting a project like this in the area. Data shows that those with a physical disability are significantly more likely to experience social isolation and loneliness and the Waterside area of the New Forest has one of the highest scores on the social isolation index and alongside its statistically higher rate of residents with disabilities than in Hampshire as a whole. The Fawley project seeks to improve participants physical mobility and strength in a social atmosphere to build community connections.</p>
Mitigation	

## Gender Reassignment

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral

Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of gender reassignment
Mitigation	

## Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of pregnancy and maternity
Mitigation	

## Race

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	<p>The First Steps New Forest project seeks to ensure that the Settled Gypsy and Traveller community have the bespoke homelessness support required to meet the unique needs of this community. Current provision is not meeting the needs of this community and this project will seek to address this with volunteers from the community with lived experience.</p> <p>The Settled Gypsy and Traveller community resides primarily in the New Forest District owing to historical ties and availability of housing. Data shows that the New Forest has the</p>

	3rd highest rate of homelessness in Hampshire at 4.8 families per 1000. This trend is reflected in the Settled Gypsy and Traveller community where homelessness has been increasing since the pandemic. Whilst homelessness support is provided in the New Forest, a range of issues mean this is not being accessed by the Settled Gypsy and Traveller community and the First Steps grant seeks to address this.
Mitigation	

## Religion or Belief

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of religion or belief
Mitigation	

## Sex

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of sex
Mitigation	

## Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of sexual orientation.
Mitigation	

## Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of marriage or civil partnership status
Mitigation	

## Poverty

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral

Rationale	Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of their financial situation.
Mitigation	

## Rurality

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	<p>Projects in this paper will support residents living in rural communities, enabling them to access provisions which are available in urban centres of the county.</p> <p>The First Steps project will seek to support members of the Settled Gypsy and Traveller community across a number of rural locations in the New Forest.</p> <p>Similarly the Fawley Recreation Centre project will utilise community transport options to ensure that residents of smaller rural communities in the New Forest will have access to a service which would not otherwise be available in their villages. We know from Public Health data that the area covered by this project has one of the highest numbers of residents aged 70+ in the whole of Hampshire, many of whom live in smaller villages or hamlets around the area.</p>
Mitigation	

Geographical Impact: Basingstoke and Deane, East Hampshire, New Forest, Rushmoor

## Equality Statement

Additional information:



The grants linked to this EIA will be monitored by Officers in the Demand Management and Prevention Team within Adults Health. A robust monitoring form has been designed and signed off for the purpose of ensuring consistency of monitoring across all grants and this will be used here. Outcomes will be measured and lessons learned captured to ensure any findings can be passed on to relevant teams and fed into any future work.

## Overview Statement:

A summary assessment to show that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been paid, which is undertaken when a full EIA is not needed:

EIA reference number: 00607

Date of production of EIA for publication: 15/05/2024