# Equality Impact Assessment Some in the Ingress 15.a

	this form. If y			•		
Access to Services team (see guidance for details).						
Section 1						
Which service	e area and dire	ectorate are ye	ou from?			
Service Area:	Cabinet					
Directorate: N	I/A					
Q1(a) WHAT	ARE YOU SO	CREENING F	OR RELEVA	NCE?		
Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal	

### (b) Please name and describe here:

**Motion: Pension Credit Take-Up Campaign** 

Tackling Poverty is a corporate priority for Swansea Council, so that every person in Swansea can achieve their potential.

The Council's Vision for Swansea states: "The Council aspires to ... achieve a Swansea in which residents **Maximise their Income** and get the most out of the money that they have".

#### We note that:

- 1. The under-claiming of welfare benefits and tax credits keeps vast amounts of money locked out of local people's pockets and our local economy. The charity EntitledTo reported in February this year that an estimated total of £16bn is unclaimed in the UK every year.(<a href="www.entitledto.co.uk">www.entitledto.co.uk</a>)
- 2. The most highly under-claimed benefit is Council Tax support, with over 2.7m people UK-wide choosing not to claim, or not knowing they can. As a council we are already working hard to promote this support.
- 3. The next most highly under-claimed benefit is Pension Credit, with 2 in 5 eligible people not claiming it, missing out on an average of over £2,000 per year per household.
- 4. The number of pensioners in poverty is increasing across the UK (The Joseph Rowntree Foundation Annual Report 2019/20).
- 5. The lack of income arising from the under-claiming of Pension Credit means older people sacrifice healthy food, heat and opportunities to connect with friends and family. Pension Credit under-claiming is often identified when an older person qualifies for intensive personal support, having been entitled for many years.
- 6. Since August 1<sup>st</sup>, over-75s now face an annual charge of £157 for a TV licence, unless they receive pension credit.
- 7. The ongoing Coronavirus crisis is creating financial stress for households of all kinds, and ensuring that older people are receiving all the income they can is an important strategy for supporting all of our resident community.

## **Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form** – 2017/8

### Therefore this Council agrees to:

- Commit to working with our key partners to increase take-up of Pension Credit in Swansea, these are Citizens Advice, Carer Centres and Care and Repair.
- 2. Consider developing resources to raise the level of Pension Credit Take-Up through a campaign with our key partners over a 6-9 month period.
- 3. Encourage action across all Council services to support a Pension Credit Take-Up Campaign and raise awareness amongst those who would benefit from it. This could include the use of direct mail to identifiable cohorts e.g. through Revenues and Benefits; this may be repeated throughout the campaign. We will engage wider Council services through the Swansea Council Poverty Forum to maximise the impact of the campaign. Also Marketing and Communications including posters, leaflets, bridge banners and digital marketing communications to reach a wide audience.

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a F Direct front line service delivery		RELATE TO?  Indirect front line service delivery		Indirect back room service delivery	
☐ (H)		<b>⊠</b> (M)		□ (L)	
Because they Because		MERS/CLIENTS ACCESS ause they Becau automatically everyone in S (M)		se it is y provided to	On an internal basis i.e. Staff (L)
Children/young peop Older people (50+) Any other age group Disability Race (including refug Asylum seekers Gypsies & travellers Religion or (non-)beli Sex Sexual Orientation Gender reassignmen Welsh Language Poverty/social exclus Carers (inc. young ca Community cohesion	le (0-18)	ENTIAL IMF High Impact (H)	PACT ON THE  Medium Impac  (M)		

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

Please provide details below – either of your planned activities or your reasons for not undertaking engagement

Doesn't apply to Notice of Motions

# **Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form** – 2017/8

Q5(a	) HOW VISIBLE IS T High visibility ☐(H)	HIS INITIATIVE TO THE (  Medium visibility  (M)	GENERAL PUBLIC?  Low visibility  (L)				
(b)	(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc)						
	High risk ☐ ( <b>H)</b>	Medium risk ☐ <b>(M)</b>	Low risk ⊠ <b>(L)</b>				
Q6	Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?						
☐ Yes							
Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?  Please tick the relevant box							
MOSTLY H and/or M → HIGH PRIORITY → ☐ EIA to be completed Please go to Section 2							
MOS		OW PRIORITY / → OT RELEVANT	Do not complete EIA     Please go to Q8     followed by Section 2				
Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.							
The proposed Notice of motion if agreed with have a positive impact on those who are eligible to claim Pension Credit. A full EIA is not required for this proposal.							
agree	Please email this compement before obtaining oval is only required vi	, , ,	to Services Team for d of Service. Head of Service gnatures or paper copies are				
Screening completed by:							
Name: Rhian Millar							
Job title: Access to Service Manager  Date: 16/10/2020							
Approval by Head of Service:							
	Name: Tracey Meredith						
	Position: Chief Legal Officer						

Please return the completed form to <a href="mailto:accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk">accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk</a>

Date: 16/10/2020