

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – Appendix 1

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: Housing and Public Protection

Directorate: Place

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/
Function

Policy/
Procedure

Project

Strategy

Plan

Proposal

(b) Please name and describe here:

Covid-19 Phase 2 Funding Application – Planning Guidance for Homelessness and Housing Related Support Services and Innovative Housing Programme Funding Phase 4 (IHP4) Applications

a) Phase 2 Homelessness Funding

The report seeks retrospective approval for the Phase 2 Homelessness bid projects and approval for the Council to receive the awarded grant from Welsh Government.

The Welsh Government (WG) issued new guidance to local authorities on 3rd June 2020, setting a requirement to produce “Phase 2 Transition Plans” by 30th June. The fundamental aim is to ensure that everyone brought into emergency temporary accommodation during the pandemic is supported into long-term self-contained accommodation.

During the pandemic, there has been a suspension of eligibility and priority need criteria that exists under current homelessness legislation. This means that the Council is housing everyone who requires temporary accommodation for this period, including households with No Recourse to Public Funds. This has led to a large increase in the numbers of people in B&B and other temporary accommodation who would not normally be accommodated under current homelessness legislation (i.e. single, homeless households with no other reasons for vulnerability), leading to a significant increase in demand for temporary accommodation, support services and permanent accommodation.

Therefore, Swansea’s priorities for this funding have been to work closely with partners to maximise resources to provide intensive support to enable households to rapidly access and sustain long-term accommodation and increase the availability of affordable 1-bedroom properties in Swansea. Provision is also being made within schemes to provide additional accessible and wheelchair suitable accommodation.

b) Innovative Housing Programme Phase 4 (IHP4)

This report also seeks approval for Bids for Welsh Government Innovative Housing Programme Phase 4 (IHP4) to support additional funding for 3 of the new build project Phase 2 capital projects, and 3 bids to the Optimised Retrofit programme.

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Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery

Indirect front line service delivery

Indirect back room service delivery

(H)

(M)

(L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to

Because they want to

Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea

On an internal basis i.e. Staff

(H)

(M)

(M)

(L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+) →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees) →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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.

A strong partnership approach has been adopted between the Council's Homelessness Service, Housing Support Grant Team, RSLs (Pobl, Family Housing and Coastal), key homelessness and support organisations including The Wallich, Goleudy (formerly Caer Las), Crisis, Plattform, Health and Barod (substance misuse). Close partnership working is continuing between the organisations who have received Phase 2 funding to ensure that all households in temporary accommodation are able to receive appropriate support and are housed in suitable accommodation as quickly as possible.

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Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility
 (H)

Medium visibility
 (M)

Low visibility
 (L)

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk
 (H)

Medium risk
 (M)

Low risk
 (L)

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details below

Social Services (Housing Support Grant Team) have been closely involved in the Phase 2 Homelessness Planning. The projects and schemes outlined in the Cabinet report will be beneficial and provide additional capacity within services.

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

MOSTLY L → LOW PRIORITY / NOT 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 Council will use the Welsh Government's (WG) Phase 2 homelessness funding that has been made available to enable local authorities in Wales to support homelessness services during the pandemic. The Phase 2 funding application, capital projects and revenue schemes for come under the Council's Homelessness Strategy, which was subject to a full EIA in 2018. Each of the projects/schemes contributes directly to achieve the Homelessness Strategy aims and will allow support and housing to be directed to the most vulnerable and protected groups, including rough sleepers, refugees, people with disabilities. Individual projects are being run by external organisations therefore will be subject to their own equality requirements. Where necessary, further EIA screening will be carried out for the Local Authority projects included in the Phase 2 Funding.

In addition, the More Council Homes Strategy sets out the Council's approach for HRA investment in new affordable housing. The housing will be delivered via the strategy, and will take into account current and projected need, location and available resources. These new developments will be let in accordance with the Councils Allocations Policy, which has already been subjected to an EIA report. If the IHP 4 funding bid is

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successful we will undertake a further assessment to ensure that the project is paying regard to any potential equality implications.

At this stage will be little or no impact regarding the Welsh language or commitment to the UNCRC.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:
Name: Rosie Jackson
Job title: Senior Housing Policy and Leasehold Officer
Date:
Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Mark Wade
Position: Head of Housing & Public Health
Date:

Please return the completed form to accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk