

# Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – 2017/8

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: Cabinet

Directorate: N/A

### Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

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. ([www.entitledto.co.uk](http://www.entitledto.co.uk))
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.

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Therefore this Council agrees to:

1. 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 RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery  <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Indirect front line service delivery  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	Indirect back room service delivery  <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
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## (b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	Because they want to  <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea  <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	On an internal basis i.e. Staff  <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
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## 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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

Doesn't apply to Notice of Motions

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

High visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium visibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
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**(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION?**  
*(Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)*

High risk <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
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**Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?**

Yes       No      **If yes, please provide details below**

**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 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.

**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.

<b>Screening completed by:</b>
Name: Rhian Millar
Job title: Access to Service Manager
Date: 16/10/2020
<b>Approval by Head of Service:</b>
Name: Tracey Meredith
Position: Chief Legal Officer
Date: 16/10/2020

**Please return the completed form to [accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk)**