

# Full Equality Impact Assessment Record

## Section 1:

**Service:**

**Title of strategy, policy or service:**

**Officers involved in the EQIA:**

**Type of strategy, policy or service (delete below as appropriate):**

Existing:

New/proposed:

Changing/Update/ revision

**Q1 – What is the aim of your strategy, policy, project or service?**

To inform residents and partners about Poole’s housing needs and issues and set out key challenges where action will be required to help meet both current and future housing need.

**Q2 – Who is it going to benefit and how? If this is a changing function state who will be affected or not longer benefit**

Residents in Poole, but particularly vulnerable people and those with a housing need

**Q3 – What outcomes do you want to achieve?**

1. Increase the supply of affordable homes in Poole to better meet local needs
2. Prevent homelessness for vulnerable households
3. Improve health and wellbeing through housing

**Q4 – Are there barriers to doing this?**

The Council plays an enabling and influencing role in the provision of housing locally with limited levers available and even less financial resource. It is uniquely challenging in terms of the central importance of housing to quality of life compared to the powers the authority has to deliver. A wide range of barriers exist in terms of finance, changes to benefits and the rising cost of living, amongst others.

**Q5 – How will you put this into practice?**

Through the delivery of an action plan focused on achieving the three main priorities set out in the Strategy.

## **Section 2: Information gathering and judging impact**

**Q6 - What existing information and data do you have?**

A comprehensive needs and issues paper was prepared to inform the development of the strategy. This can be found [here](#).

**Q7- What does this tell us about the likely impact on different groups?**

### **General/all equality groups**

The Strategy focuses on vulnerable people and people with a housing need across all equalities strands

### **Age**

Housing is important to all ages, however, some age groups have specific needs and some can be difficult to accommodate. The strategy sets out some clear aspirations about supporting older people to move to accommodation that better meets their needs and will enable them to live independently for longer. The Strategy also considers the need for families to be appropriately housed in homes which are warm and well maintained across sectors and sets out an ambition that more detailed housing plans for young and older people will be prepared. The document commits to stopping the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless 16 and 17 year olds and limited its use for families.

### **Disability**

Well adapted and suitable housing can have a substantial impact of the quality of life achieved by people with disabilities. The document sets out an action to fund bespoke homes to meet highly complex needs and to develop more detailed housing plans for people with learning and physical disabilities. The development of extra care housing is also referenced in the strategy.

### **Gender reassignment**

While the document does not specifically reference gender reassignment, the strategy will provide new opportunities where people have specific housing needs. It will be important to consider the needs of people who have undergone gender reassignment throughout the actions set out in the strategy and particularly with regard to communal establishments.

**Pregnancy and maternity**

While the document does not specifically reference pregnancy and maternity, the strategy will provide new opportunities where people have specific housing needs. The limit on the use of temporary accommodation for families and for young people will support some people in this protected group.

**Race**

There is a principle that BME people will be considered through all the activities set out in the strategy. The actions related to improving the quality of private rented housing may provide particular benefits to BME people.

**Sex**

The document sets out specific actions on supporting victims of domestic abuse. Local services are provided to men and women, although the majority of victims are female.

**Religion or belief**

While the document does not specifically reference religion or belief, the strategy will provide new opportunities where people have specific housing needs related to their protected characteristic.

**Sexual orientation**

There is a principle that LGB people will be considered through all the activities set out in the strategy. The needs of LGB and T people will need to be considered within more detailed housing plans, particularly communal establishments.

**Socially excluded groups**

The strategy aims to support vulnerable groups in securing housing that better meets their needs. It also references fuel poverty and affordability of housing as well as the regeneration of estates all of which should provide benefits to socially excluded people.

**Further action resulting from the EQIA**

To ensure the needs of BME, LGB and T people and issues of religion or belief are considered in the development of more detailed housing plans as set out in the strategy.