

# Equality Impact Assessment Form

Please ensure that you refer to the 'Equality Impact Assessment Guidance' while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Equalities Officer or Equalities Team

## Details

Name of Initiative to be assessed: Scheme of Building Regulations Charges

Name of responsible officer: Ken Bateman

Group/Directorate: Place and Transformation

Service Area: Planning and Countryside

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

### (a) WHAT ARE YOU ASSESSING FOR IMPACT ?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal	Information/ Position statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### (b) Please name and describe below

A revised scheme of charges for Building Control services based upon the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010.

Local Authorities are allowed to set their own scheme of charges to provide a fair and competitive basis for Building Regulation applications and ensure that the service is self-financing over a rolling 3 year period. Charges were first imposed on Local Authorities in response to privatisation and competition in the delivery of Building Regulation Services.

### (c) IS THE DELIVERY OF THIS INITIATIVE AFFECTED BY LEGISLATION OR OTHER DRIVERS SUCH AS CODES OF PRACTICE?

The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 impose a duty upon all Local Authorities to set a scheme of charges for Building Regulations services. The scheme of charges is based upon a hourly rate constructed using CIPFA guidance with consultation and advice from the Councils accountants.

### (d) Does the initiative directly affect service users, employees or the wider community?

Yes  Continue assessment  
No  No need to continue screening or carry out an EqIA

**Screening/Relevance Test: Is an equality impact assessment required?**

*Screening is used to decide whether the initiative you are responsible for has a high or medium negative impact on any of the protected groups and will require a full EqIA. Please highlight the positive impact the decision will have on the protected characteristics.*

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What will be the effect on :-

Protected Characteristic	Impact? <i>Include Positive and Negative</i>
Age	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Disability	Medium positive impact – there is a fee exemption for Registered Disabled people
Gender Reassignment	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Marriage & Civil Partnership	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Race	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Religion or Belief	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Sex	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Sexual orientation	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Carers	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.
Welsh Language	Low positive impact – proposal will ensure continuation of an effective Building Control Service for all.

**If after completing the EqlA screening/relevance test you determine that this service/function/policy/project is not relevant for an EqlA you must provide adequate explanation below (Please use additional pages if necessary).**

The proposal does not have any negative impact on any identified group. The proposal will ensure the continuation of an effective Building Control Service. The service plays a key role in ensuring that the County Borough is a safe and attractive place to live, work, play and visit for all members of society, through regulating new development and other building works.

Yes ..... No .....

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

**N.B. If the initial screening process has identified actual or potential high or medium negative impact on a particular group or groups then you MUST carry out a full EqlA.**

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## Full Equality Impact Assessment

*You should use the information gathered at the screening stage to assist you in identifying possible negative/adverse impact, including positive impact, and clearly identify which protected groups are affected.*

In terms of any disproportionate / negative / adverse impact that the proposal may have on a protected group, what steps (if any) could be taken to reduce that impact for each group identified. Attach a separate action plan if necessary.

If ways of reducing the impact have been identified but are not possible, please explain why they are not possible.

Please highlight positive impacts and actions that have been identified as a result of the assessment process.

### **Evidence Sources**

(i) Give details of any data or research that has led to your reasoning above, in particular, the sources used for establishing the demographics of service users.

(ii) Give details of how you have engaged with service users on the proposals and steps to avoid any disproportionate impact on a protected group and how you have used any feedback to influence your decision.

Are you satisfied that the engagement process complies with the requirements of the Statutory Equality duties?

**Decision Log** – (detail how Elected Members and Senior Managers have been involved in the decision process (give dates of key meetings and decisions made))

### **Review**

**Date of Next Review:**

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<b>If review is not required, explain why.</b>

<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Signature:</b>
<b>Job Title:</b>
<b>Approval date:</b>

<b>Date of Update:</b>
<b>Update recording</b>