

Equality Impact Assessment: Screening Tool

Summary of proposal

Name of proposal	Additional Revenue funding for Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme for 2024 - 2025
Reference number (if applicable)	N/A
Service Area	Homes and Neighbourhoods
Date screening completed	7 th March 2024
Screening author name	Sarah Turley
Fairness and Equality team sign off	
Authorising Director/Head of Service name	Ian Swift

Before completing the EQIA Screening Tool please read the guidance and FAQs. For further help and advice please contact equalities@islington.gov.uk.

Please provide a summary of the proposal.

Please outline:

- What are the aims/objectives of this proposal?
- Will this deliver any savings?
- What benefits or change will we see from this proposal?
- Which key groups of people or areas of the borough are involved?

This EIA relates to the approval of accepting Revenue funding of £637,090 from the Greater London Authority for continuance of the Independent Housing Intensive Support Team (IHIS) support team for 2024 – 2025. This internal LBI team supports 60 individuals with a history of rough sleeping who are living independently in their own homes (council accommodation). This scheme has been in existence since 2021 and so far, has supported 81 individuals. The original Revenue funding was from 2021 – 2024, however the Greater London Authority have additional Revenue funding to extend this service until 31st March 2025. Due to the amount – this is a key decision and as such this EIA is being carried out, further to the initial one which was carried out prior to the scheme inception in 2021.

The IHIS team work intensively with individuals to offer personalised support to link in with services as needed, to support tenancy sustainment, in order that people can move on positively after 2 years.

The social benefits of this contract are immense. This service provides a lifeline for individuals who find themselves street homeless and offers a positive move on opportunity for people ready to move on from supported/temporary accommodation, by offering intensive ongoing support for 2 years.

It also offers considerable value to local residents, business and communities by providing another route of accommodation away from the streets, thus reducing rough sleeping in the borough. It also supports the creation of a fairer borough, by offering a safe home and support to some of the most dis-advantaged residents of the borough, who face greater social inequalities on account of additional support needs.

The benefits expected to be realized from this contract are: a continued reduction in the number of people sleeping rough, continued support for 60 individuals living in the IHIS scheme to sustain their tenancies and move on positively, continued move on from supported/temporary accommodation, freeing up much needed spaces for people new to the streets.

The continuation of this funding will offer savings by way of less demand for temporary accommodation for people rough sleeping, by creating through put from supported/temporary accommodation. This also promotes the health and well-being of individuals, likely to result in less demand for acute admissions to A&E, ambulance call outs and reduces the cost to NHS partners.

The service users of the IHIS scheme will feel the greatest impact, as current support will continue to be provided for 12 months until end of March 2025.

On whom will the proposal impact? Delete as appropriate.

Group of people	Impacted?
Service users	Yes – positive impact
Residents	Yes – positive impact
Businesses	Yes – positive impact
Visitors to Islington	Yes – positive impact
Voluntary or community groups	Yes
Council staff	Yes

Group of people	Impacted?
Trade unions	Yes
Other public sector organisations	Yes
Others	Please specify: N/A

What consultation or engagement has taken place or is planned?

Please outline:

- Which groups or communities you have consulted/plan to consult
- Methods used/will use to engage (for example, focus groups)
- How insight gained from engagement or consultation has been/will be fed into decision making or proposal design

If you have not completed any engagement activity and do not plan to, you should outline why this decision has been made.

This scheme is already in existence and as part of this, service user feedback is routinely sought from service users and is included in Quarterly Reports to funders (Greater London Authority). This feedback also features direct quotes from service users about their experience of the project and their support worker.

What impact will this change have on people with protected characteristics and/or from disadvantaged groups?

Of the groups you have identified above, please now indicate the likely impact on people with protected characteristics within these groups by checking the relevant box below. Use the following definitions as a guide:

Neutral – The proposal has no impact on people with the identified protected characteristics

Positive – The proposal has a beneficial and desirable impact on people with the identified protected characteristics

Negative – The proposal has a negative and undesirable impact on people with the identified protected characteristics

You should then assess whether the negative impact has a low impact, medium impact or high impact. Consider the level and likelihood of impact. Please also think about whether the proposal is likely to be contentious or perceived as a negative change by certain groups, as this could justify the completion of a full EQIA. See the guidance for help.

Protected characteristic	Positive impact	Neutral impact	Negative impact	Description of the impact (if applicable)
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Disability (include carers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Race or ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Religion or belief (include no faith)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Gender and gender reassignment (male, female or non-binary)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Maternity or pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	

Protected characteristic	Positive impact	Neutral impact	Negative impact	Description of the impact (if applicable)
Sex and Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Marriage or Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	
Other (e.g. people living in poverty, looked after children, people who are homeless or refugees)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	This scheme specifically supports people who are/have experienced street homelessness and multiple disadvantage.

How do you plan to mitigate negative impacts?

Where there are disproportionate impacts on groups with protected characteristics, please outline:

- The other options that were explored before deciding on this proposal and why they were not pursued
- Action that is being taken to mitigate the negative impacts

Action	Lead	Deadline	Comments

Screening Decision	Outcome
Neutral or Positive – no full EQIA needed*.	No
Negative – Low Impact – full EQIA at the service director’s discretion*.	Yes/No
Negative – Medium or High Impact – must complete a full EQIA.	No
Is a full EQIA required? Service decision:	Yes/No

Screening Decision	Outcome
Is a full EQIA required? Fairness and Equality recommendation:	No

* If a full EQIA is not required, you are still legally required to monitor and review the proposed changes after implementation to check they work as planned and to screen for unexpected equality impacts.

Please send this completed EQIA Screening Tool to equalities@islington.gov.uk for quality checking by the Fairness and Equality Team.