

# Resident Impact Assessment

## Stacey Street Rough Sleeper Hub

### Service Area: Housing

## 1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc?

Islington Council has been awarded a grant to purchase a former care home on Stacy Street. The intention is that we will create a rough sleepers' hub and supported accommodation unit in order to provide a fast and safe route off the streets for people experiencing rough sleeping in Islington.

## 2. Resident Profile

Who is going to be impacted by this change i.e. residents/service users/tenants? Please complete data for your service users. If your data does not fit into the categories in this table, please copy and paste your own table in the space below. Please refer to **section 3.3** of the guidance for more information.

		Borough profile	Service User profile (rough sleepers)
		Total: 206,285	Total: 276
Gender	Female	51%	18%
	Male	49%	82%
Age	Under 16	32,825	Under 18 = 0
	16-24	29,418	18-25 = 28,
	25-44	87,177	26-45 = 188
	45-64	38,669	46-55 = 42
	65+	18,036	Over 55 = 18
Disability	Disabled	16%	No data
	Non-disabled	84%	
Sexual orientation	LGBT	No data	No data
	Heterosexual/straight	No data	No data
Race	BME	52%	No data
	White	48%	No data
	Christian	40%	No data

Religion or belief	Muslim	10%	No data
	Other	4.5%	No data
	No religion	30%	No data
	Religion not stated	17%	No data

### 3. Equality impacts

With reference to the [guidance](#), please describe what are the equality and socio-economic impacts for residents and what are the opportunities to challenge prejudice or promote understanding?

This Hub for rough sleepers will provide a quick, safe route off the streets for some of our most vulnerable residents. The shelter will work with all rough sleepers that want to access the service regardless of whether they have any of the protected characteristics. At the moment, this group of residents are marginalised and find it difficult to access mainstream services, such as housing, health and benefits. The aim of the hub will be to provide drop in surgeries with housing professionals, nurses (including nurses from substance misuse services) and also the DWP.

The Hub will increase the diversity of those residents accessing these schemes as it will be promoting engagement with the assistance of the staff team and the dedicated outreach workers that we have.

Local resident engagement sessions will be held ahead of the unit opening, in order to co-produce the service, not only with local residents, but with people with lived experience of rough sleeping. A change of use planning permission will need to be submitted and as part of the application process local residents will be invited to comment on the service and object to it if they see fit.

The resident engagement will continue for the lifetime of our project, when we have procured a new provider to run the Hub we will ask the provider to attend a resident engagement session to discuss the shelter specifically.

The provider will have long established hostel services that enjoy good relationships with their immediate neighbours by ensuring:

- That they observe and manage the behaviour of residents in the area surrounding the premise as well as on site. Staff are trained and experienced in managing the conduct of people arriving and leaving the hostel so as to have no impact upon our neighbours.
- Activity within the premises will not result in any level of noise nuisance
- That whilst substance use is an issue for the people who use shelters, we observe strict policies around drug and alcohol use and in particular have a zero tolerance for any activity that takes place outside of the premises that can in any way impact upon our neighbours.

- they welcome contact from anyone wanting to talk to us about any aspect of our work
- they have staff on site and share phone and email contact details with our neighbours.
- they regularly have volunteering opportunities for anyone in the local community wishing to support our work.

Islington Council would expect this high level of service to be evident for this new Hub and will be contract monitoring this formally on a regularly basis to ensure that this is the case.

The social benefits of this project are immense. This service will create an emergency route off the streets for rough sleepers that have very limited options otherwise. This will prevent them from becoming entrenched on the streets and experiencing poor health as a result.

As well as improving the prospects for many rough sleepers, the service is likely to deliver an overall cost saving for other council services too for example Adult Social Care as being off the streets will improve someone's health and enable access to health facilities. It will also enhance the support and assistance available to this cohort.

The proposed service closely aligns to a number of priorities contained within both the Council's Corporate Plan and Housing and Rough Sleeping Strategy. The focus is on preventing homelessness including rough sleeping and creating a place where everyone whatever their background has an opportunity to reach their potential and enjoy a good quality of life. One of our main priorities in the Housing and Rough Sleeping Strategy is to eliminate rough sleeping, this much needed Hub will be one of the ways that we achieve this. The Hub also meets the aims of partnership and collaborative working as it is a joint initiative between Islington health and housing, the successful provider, residents and peers. The Hub will also assist with us improving the health and well-being of this vulnerable population group by hosting district nurse and substance misuse surgeries.

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## 4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

### a) Safeguarding risks and Human Rights breaches

Please describe any safeguarding risks for children or vulnerable adults AND any potential human rights breaches that may occur as a result of the proposal? Please refer to **section 4.8** of the [guidance](#) for more information.

The service is for only for those adults over 18, it will however be accommodation vulnerable rough sleepers. The safeguarding risks may come in the form of financial exploitation from one rough sleeper to another, or physical assault or self neglect. The procured service provider will be expected to attend any borough based safeguarding training, know how to make safeguarding alerts to the borough and also attending mental capacity training.

This project will not breach human rights.

If potential safeguarding and human rights risks are identified then **please contact equalities@islington.gov.uk to discuss further:**

## 5. Action

How will you respond to the impacts that you have identified in sections 3 and 4, or address any gaps in data or information?

For more information on identifying actions that will limit the negative impact of the policy for protected groups see the [guidance](#).

Action	Responsible person or team	Deadline
Resident Engagement	Housing Needs, New Build and Community Safety	Ongoing

Please send the completed RIA to equalities@islington.gov.uk and also make it publicly available online along with the relevant policy or service change.

**This Resident Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the guidance and using appropriate evidence.**

**Staff member completing this form:**

Signed: *Georgina Earthy*

Date: 26/10/2020

**Head of Service or higher:**

Signed: *Ramiz*

Date: 26/10/2020