

Equality Impact Assessment: Screening Tool

Summary of proposal

Name of proposal	Lightning Protection Equipment Servicing and Maintenance
Reference number (if applicable)	2223-0104
Service Area	Housing Property Services
Date screening completed	13.07.22
Screening author name	Glenn McCorkindale
Fairness and Equality team sign off	
Authorising Director/Head of Service name	

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?

Islington council is the landlord for around 35,000 council homes located across the borough. In addition, the council provides a number of community centres located on key housing estates and blocks across its housing stock and it also provides a number of reception centres which provide emergency accommodation for homeless people in Islington.

Residents are reliant on the council to deliver repairs to keep their homes and communal areas in a good state of repair. Failure by the council to meet its repair obligations could impact adversely on residents, particularly due to the health and safety implications of the nature of the work involved. This also carries a reputational and financial risk for the council.

The council needs to procure a service to undertake the annual inspection and testing and, where needed repair, of lightning protection equipment located in Islington Council residential blocks, community centres and reception centres. The council has an existing contract with a supplier to provide this service which expires in April 2023.

Should a block be struck by lightning, a lightning protection system fitted from the roof to the ground helps to safely earth the considerable electrical force of the lightning bolt, reducing the potential risk of damage to electrical equipment that is present at the site. Whilst there is not a legal requirement within the UK to install such equipment, once installed it must be properly inspected and maintained in accordance with requirements of BS EN 62305. This is to ensure the equipment remains safe and

fit for purpose i.e. protection of properties and occupants from potential damage in a lightning strike. There is a considerable amount of other equipment located on our properties, including communications equipment, TV aerials, solar panels, door entry and CCTV systems that could be affected and damaged in the event of a lightning strike.

As part of the proposed procurement the council will aim to secure social value contributions from the new contractor which is likely to include employment and training opportunities for local residents. The contractor will also be required to pay employees delivering this contract the London Living Wage.

On whom will the proposal impact? Delete as appropriate.

Group of people	Impacted?
Service users	Yes
Residents	Yes
Businesses	No
Visitors to Islington	No

Group of people	Impacted?
Voluntary or community groups	No
Council staff	Yes
Trade unions	No
Other public sector organizations	No
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.

Consultation has not been undertaken and is not considered necessary for this procurement exercise.

As stated above residents, including homeless residents living in temporary accommodation, will benefit from the heightened safety provided through the continued regular servicing and maintenance of lightning protection equipment fixed to the buildings in which their homes, accommodation or community facilities are located with the procurement of this repairs and maintenance contract.

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.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Disability (include carers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Race or ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Religion or belief (include no faith)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Gender and gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment

Protected characteristic	Positive impact	Neutral impact	Negative impact	Description of the impact (if applicable)
(male, female or non-binary)				fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Maternity or pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Sex and Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Marriage or Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.
Other (e.g. people living in poverty, looked after children, people who are homeless or refugees)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	The provision of this contract will benefit all residents with lightning protection equipment fitted to their homes or the buildings they use on council estates.

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*.	Yes
Negative – Low Impact – full EQIA at the service director’s discretion*.	No
Negative – Medium or High Impact – must complete a full EQIA.	No
Is a full EQIA required? Service decision:	No
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.