

Appendix A

Corporate Cumulative Equality Impact Assessment Table of Review dates

Report Details	Implications	Review Date
<p><b>Cabinet 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>  <b>Agenda Item 9: THE ALLOCATION OF DLUHC'S HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION GRANT AND DOMESTIC ABUSE FUNDING AWARDS FOR 2023/24 AND 2024/25</b>  <b>REPORT OF: SERVICE DIRECTOR - REGULATORY</b></p>		
<p>1.1 Demand for the Council's homelessness services remains high with the need to secure provision for accommodation and support services for single homeless people, especially those with complex support needs, particularly pressing.</p> <p>1.2. The Council has received Homelessness Prevention Grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), totalling £746k over the two-year period 2023/24 – 2024/25. In order to help it meet its duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the Council has also received additional Homelessness Prevention Grant funding totalling £71k over 2023/24-2024/25.</p> <p>1.3. This report details proposals for the allocation of this funding for specialist homelessness services for local people.</p>	<p>An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached as Appendix 1. The assessment notes the potential positive impacts this decision will have for some of the most vulnerable members of the community in North Hertfordshire</p>	<p><b>Assessment Date: 06/06/23</b>  <b>Review Date: 01/06/24</b></p>
<p><b>Cabinet 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>  <b>Agenda Item 10: STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – ADOPTION</b>  <b>REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - REGULATORY</b></p>		
<p>To consider the responses received on the draft of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) during public consultation and approve the subsequent amendments to the Statement of Community Involvement.</p>	<p>An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix B. The SCI has identified a number of groups within the community which tend not to engage with local planning issues and consultations. These groups include working age people, people with disabilities, black and ethnic minority groups, young people and gypsy and traveller communities. Work will continue with the Policy and Community Engagement Team to encourage these groups to participate in planning consultations.</p>	<p><b>Assessment Date: 25/08/23</b>  <b>Review Date: 05/01/24</b></p>

<p><b>Cabinet 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>  <b>Agenda Item 7: Empty Homes Strategy 2024-29</b>  <b>REPORT OF: Frank Harrison, Environmental Health Manager</b></p>		
<p>This strategy states the objectives North Herts Council (the Council) has set itself so as to endeavour to bring as many long-term vacant homes back into occupation as is practicable. Whilst short-term empty homes are inevitable when linked to house sales, or where the occupier may need to be care elsewhere, these homes pose little or no concern to the local communities, and quickly return to occupation. However, a small but significant number of houses remain vacant for protracted period, and it is these that tend to have a negative impact on their area, and are also the target of this strategy. The Council intends to work with the owners of these premises to initially understand their reasons for keeping them vacant, but to then work with as many owners as possible, to allow this unused resource to better serve the communities, mitigate the negative impact they have, and provide an increased opportunity to meet the Councils housing needs, without the need to build so additional new homes. This strategy sets out the intention and the outline processes to allow the Council to achieve this objective.</p>	<p>Given that this policy targets empty homes, and seeks to bring them back into occupation, the status of the owners of these is not taken into consideration, and as such, in regard to this aspect, there are no negative equalities implications.</p> <p>It is however, recognised that some owners of empty homes keep their homes vacant for personal, psychological or emotional reasons, and where this may be the reason, this strategy highlights the intention to work with current owners to understand their reasoning and for them to bring the property back into occupation willingly.</p> <p>The benefit of having a greater number of homes available for occupation, including via a reduction in the number of empty homes, is that more people, including those currently homeless will have a greater opportunity for their own home. This strategy therefore has positive implications for this aspect of equalities.</p> <p>To highlight the equalities impact of this strategy, an equalities assessment is included as an appendix.</p>	<p><b>Assessment Date:</b>  <b>30/10/2023</b>  <b>Review Date: 30/10/2024</b></p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7: ADOPTION OF A NEW HOUSING STRATEGY (2024-2029)</b>  <b>REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</b></p>		
<p>1.1 As the local housing authority, the Council has statutory responsibilities to consider the housing needs of the district, to oversee and enforce housing standards and to prevent and manage homelessness.</p> <p>1.2. The proposed Housing Strategy (2024-2029) provides a strategic framework for the Council to undertake these functions and succeeds the previous Housing Strategy (2019- 2024).</p>	<p>A high-level Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is included at Appendix 3. The requirement for more detailed assessments will be considered in advance of the implementation of any specific policies.</p>	<p><b>Assessment Date:</b>  <b>23/02/2024</b>  <b>Review Date: 23/02/2024</b></p>

<p>1.3. A new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for the district is also incorporated within the proposed Housing Strategy.</p>		
<p><b>Cabinet 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>  <b>Agenda Item 6: UPDATE TO THE COMMON HOUSING ALLOCATION SCHEME</b>  <b>REPORT OF: SERVICE DIRECTOR – HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</b></p>		
<p>The Council and settle Group share a Common Housing Allocation Scheme (CHAS), which sets out who can apply for affordable housing in the district and how it is allocated. This report details proposed changes to the CHAS, which are primarily intended to ensure that scarce affordable housing continues to be prioritised for those who need it the most, but also to update the CHAS where necessary, following changes to the policy environment and working practices.</p>	<p>An Equality Impact Assessment is included at Appendix 3. This illustrates that the changes are broadly viewed as positive for those with protected characteristics.</p>	<p><b>Assessment Date:</b>  <b>23/01/2024</b>  <b>Review Date: 23/01/2025</b></p>