

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Name and brief description of proposal/project / policy / service being assessed:

Rushcliffe Borough Council Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Policy 2023 – 2028 replaces the current DFG Policy 2018 - 2023. The revised policy aligns with the County wide policy adopted by the other districts and boroughs in the County providing consistency for clients and supporting more aligned working practices between the organisations.

The DFG is a grant available to owner occupiers, private sector tenants and social housing tenants towards adapting their homes to make it more suitable for a disabled person to live in. DFGs also deal with larger works in excess of the maximum minor adaptations limit (available via Social Services) and is subject to means testing which may require a charge to be registered on the property.

Information used to analyse the effects of equality:

The Disabled Facilities Grant Policy takes account of the effect of the Council's priorities on all residents of the Borough and is supported by the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme. A key component of this is ongoing equalities monitoring and customer satisfaction surveys. In addition, key operational policies will also have had a separate Equalities Impact Assessment carried out.

The Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership has completed a Housing Needs Assessment in 2020 which includes the needs assessment of people with disabilities. The study provides an indicative figure of the number of households by tenure for each local authority area that require a more specialist or adapted(able) home on the basis of mobility related disability, sensory impairment or educational/learning needs and recommends an indicative proportion of homes that should be able to respond to/accommodate these needs in each tenure.

The Housing Register provides additional information on the backlog needs of people with disabilities requiring social rented housing. This can be used to inform new build developments where affordable housing is delivered and inform policy changes i.e. Allocation's Policy. This will ensure the best use of properties which have already been adapted to those applicants requiring rehousing on mobility grounds.

	Could particularly benefit (X)	May adversely impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action not possible)
People from different	x		The Policy seeks to improve access and	Positive - service is available to

ethnic groups			<p>standards of living accommodation across all tenures for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Ethnic monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts.</p> <p>The revised DFG policy recognises the challenges faced by people from different ethnic groups where language barriers may exist. To address this additional support to progress the application and the delivery of works is available on request.</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specific needs
Men, women (including maternity/pregnancy impact), transgender people	x		<p>The Policy seeks to improve access and standards of living accommodation for all people with disabilities.</p> <p>Equality and diversity monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specific needs
Disabled people or carers	x		The Policy specifically meets the needs of people with disabilities and seeks to maximise the use of the DFG grant to	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specific needs

			<p>provide a diverse range of housing to meet the needs of residents.</p> <p>The countywide approach to DFG Policies enhances opportunities to work with partners to proactively identify and address different needs thereby avoiding a postcode lottery.</p> <p>The revised DFG policy recognises the challenges faced by disabled people and provides additional support to progress the application and the delivery of works where requested.</p> <p>Equality and diversity monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	needs
People from different faith groups	x		<p>The Policy seeks to ensure that DFGs are available to people with different faith needs and will take account of these requirements as part of the design specification.</p> <p>Equality and diversity monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts</p>	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specific needs

			Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.	
Lesbian, gay or bisexual	x		<p>The Policy seeks to improve access and standards of living accommodation for all people with disabilities ensuring that same sex coupled have the same rights as other couples.</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specifics needs
Older or younger people	x		<p>The Policy seeks to improve access and standards of living accommodation for all people with disabilities, specifically the adding population who are more likely to require adaptations to their properties.</p> <p>The revised DFG policy recognises the challenges faced by older people and provides additional support to progress the application and the delivery of works where requested.</p> <p>Equality and diversity monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specifics needs
Other (marriage/civil partnership. Looked after children, cohesion/good relations, vulnerable children/adults)	x		The Policy seeks to improve access and standards of living accommodation for all people with disabilities, specifically children and vulnerable adults with disabilities.	Positive - service is available to all and individual solutions will be considered to meet specifics needs

			<p>The revised DFG policy recognises the challenges faced by these groups and provides additional support to progress the application and the delivery of works where requested.</p> <p>Equality and diversity monitoring of the DFG applications and customer satisfaction surveys will inform if specific research or action is required to address any negative impacts</p> <p>Separate EIAs are produced relating to operational policies.</p>	
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OUTCOME(S) OF EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: *(delete as appropriate)*
 No major change required

Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this policy/proposal/project:
 The Housing Delivery Plan is supported by an Action Plan which will set targets against the three priorities of Supply and Affordability, Sustainable Housing and the Environment, Homelessness and Support. The Action Plan will be reviewed on a six-monthly basis and mitigation measures will be established if any adverse impacts on equality are identified.

Names of officers who conducted EIA and date
 Donna Dwyer, Strategic Housing Manager

Approved by:

Date: 12.1.22

