

Equality and Diversity Rapid Impact Assessment

Date 21/01/2009	Title Report on Garden Maintenance Scheme
Is this a new document? <input type="checkbox"/> No	Is this an existing document under review? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please list any existing documents which have been used to inform this Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment.	<p>Disability Rights Commission (DRC) publications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Duty to Promote Disability Equality, Statutory Code of Practice • Disability equality impact assessment • Policy Framework for Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion • DCC report to the Housing Committee 23/08/04
What is the description of the policy, procedure or strategy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the criteria for individual access to free gardening service to support the aim of adopting a 'person-centred' approach to the delivery of services. • Ensuring that limited resources available are better targeted to those most in need.
What is the intended outcome of this policy, procedure or strategy?	<p>Current provision is limited to those in receipt of all levels of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) who do not have the support of adult family members to tend their gardens and to all over 70 years of age. Effectively this means that an informal waiting list for this provision has developed and the existing criteria excludes those who may not be eligible for DLA but who may struggle to maintain their gardens. The report aims to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue a free service for those on middle and higher rates of DLA who don't have family support to tend their gardens. • To offer an independent medical examination to access the need for gardening support for those who are on lower level of DLA and who don't have family support to tend their gardens. • To allow those on other disability related benefits such as Employment Support Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Allowance etc. and who don't have family support to tend their gardens to apply for the service. • A phased increase in the automatic entitlement from 70 to 75 years the age. Future applicants will be offered an independent medical examination if aged 70 years and over to access their need for gardening support.
Which individuals are responsible for undertaking Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment?	Rod Houston, Assistant Land Services Operations Manager Bruce Patrick, Asst Procurement & Performance Manager Scott Mands, Equality & Diversity Co-ordinator

Which groups of the population will be positively or negatively affected by this policy, procedure or strategy?

	Positively	Negatively	No Impact	Not Known
Ethnic Minority Communities including Gypsies and Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender including transgender people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or Faith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with a disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economic status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other please state	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Equality and Diversity Rapid Impact Assessment Checklist

Have any positive impacts been identified?	Better targeting of resources Ending of 'gateway' benefit criteria to a person centred approach to service delivery
Have any negative impacts been identified?	No
What action is proposed to overcome any negative impacts?	N/A
What recommendations have you made to eliminate or reduce negative impacts?	N/A
If any negative impacts have been found please indicate if a Full Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment has been recommended?	N/A
Give details of any consultation or involvement which has been undertaken.	This matter was discussed at a meeting of the Equality and Diversity Core Group on the 20/01/09

Is there a need to collect further evidence in regard to data and research?	Yes (see below)
How will monitoring be measured?	<p>Over the first year information will be gathered to assess the impact of the changes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording the numbers and equality monitoring of those applying for the benefit • Numbers and equality monitoring breakdown of people who are moving off the waiting list and receiving gardening support • Numbers, equality monitoring breakdown and rationale for the refusal of free gardening support • Numbers and equality monitoring breakdown of people applying for medical assessment • Types of disability benefits paid to those who apply for the service

Department

Contract Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Type of Document

Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Contact Information

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Signature of author of the policy, procedure or strategy: Rod Houston

Head of Department and Service area: Ken Laing, Director of Contract Services

Date of next review: 2014

If you require further information:

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