



Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Initial Screening Form

Appendix A

MSDC Sheltered Housing Service Charges for 2020/21

Screening determines whether the policy has any relevance for equality, ie is there any impact on one or more of the 9 protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010. These are:

- **Age**
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership*
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief (including lack of belief)
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

1. Policy/service/function title	MSDC Sheltered Housing Service Charges for 2020/21
2. Lead officer (responsible for the policy/service/function)	Lee Crowdell, Tenant Services Corporate Manager
3. Is this a new or existing policy/service/function?	Existing
4. What exactly is proposed? (Describe the policy/service/ function and the changes that are being planned?)	We are proposing that we do not increase the MSDC Sheltered Housing service charges for 2020/21
5. Why? (Give reasons why these changes are being introduced)	Due to the service impact of our covid19 response, our services to sheltered housing tenants has been changed and reduced. Given that, it did not seem reasonable that we should raise the charges that they pay for that service
6. How will it be implemented? (Describe the decision making process, timescales, process for implementation)	No change to existing arrangement.

<p>7. Is there potential for differential impact (negative or positive) on any of the protected characteristics?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Positive impact. The situation with MSDC Sheltered tenants is the result of voting issues at the 27 February full council meeting that led to tenants being informed that there would be no service charge increase.</p> <p>The report proposes that Mid Suffolk tenants continue to be charged at 2019/20 levels</p>
<p>8. Is there the possibility of discriminating unlawfully, directly or indirectly, against people from any protected characteristic?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>9. Could there be an effect on relations between certain groups?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>10. Does the policy explicitly involve, or focus on a particular equalities group, i.e. because they have particular needs?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Sheltered Housing is provided for older people and so this proposal will focus on this particular equalities group</p>
<p>If the answers are 'no' to questions 7-10 then there is no need to proceed to a full impact assessment and this form should then be signed off as appropriate.</p> <p>If 'yes' then a full impact assessment must be completed.</p>	
<p>Authors signature</p> <p>Date of completion</p>	

Any queries concerning the completion of this form should be addressed to the Equality and Diversity Lead.

* Public sector duty does not apply to marriage and civil partnership.