

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Luan Quirke - Lead Auditor

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Head of Section: Mark Niblock – Chief Internal Auditor

Chief Officer: Matthew Bennett – Director of Finance (Section 151 officer)

Directorate: Finance

Date: 25/11/24

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

The following Counter Fraud Strategy and related policies/plan:

- Counter Fraud Strategy
- Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Fraud Response Plan
- Anti-Bribery Policy
- Anti-Money Laundering Policy

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?

Yes/ No **If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date**

.....

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

LQ note: No potential to affect protected groups – see explanation below:

The strategy and related policies are not anticipated to have a positive or negative impact on any protected group.

The application of the strategy and related policies affects two broad categories of people – employees and external individuals.

The policies deal with the Council's approach to members of staff who commit fraud. In taking formal action against staff as a result of a fraud investigation, we are bound by the disciplinary process.

The policy also deals with the approach to customers, suppliers and others who defraud the Council, such as those applying for Council Tax Support. In undertaking external investigations, we are bound by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act and the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act. There is nothing in the framework that suggests particular groups would be adversely affected by the Strategy and related policies as the decision making which arises from the framework is based on factors which have no relevance to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief or disability. For example, the decision to take prosecution action against an individual is based upon evidential and public interest tests. In regard to the Anti-Money Laundering Policy all suspicions of Money Laundering are reported to and decided upon by the MLRO/DMLRO based on factors which have no relevance to protected groups. Reports are made based on potential suspicious transactions in accordance with the Money Laundering Regulations.

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

None (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals. We encourage services to consider the impact on those who serve and who have served in the armed forces and their families, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored? N/A

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this? See explanation in section 3.

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process? N/A

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes / No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

Not required

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

N/A

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise. Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published (section 2a)**
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts? (section 4)**
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**