

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA160669514

Submitted: 05 December 2019 14:39 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Approval to enter into agreement with Affordable Homes Solutions CIC for acceptance of grant awarded under the Warm Homes Fund and subsequent agreement with Essex Citizens Advice Ltd- Essex County Council's appointed delivery partner.

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): Following acceptance of a bid to the Warm Homes Fund as administered by Affordable Warm Home Solutions CIC, Essex County Council has been awarded £774,833 to deliver energy efficiency and health related solutions. The proposal will increase the availability of high quality advice, guidance and support to at least 2500 households suffering fuel poverty across administrative Essex. Essex County Council with work in partnership with Citizens Advice Essex to deliver the service.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Help people get the best start and age well, Help create great places to grow up, live and work

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Improve the health of people in Essex

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help create great places to grow up, live and work: Help to secure stronger, safer and more neighbourly communities

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a new policy (or decision)

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqlA relates:

<https://www.affordablewarmthsolutions.org.uk/warm-homes-fund/>

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqlA, for example decision documents:

<https://www.affordablewarmthsolutions.org.uk/warm-homes-fund/>

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): The project will target approximately 2500 households over the project term. Services will be targeted on those living in the coldest homes and on low incomes and/or with exacerbating health conditions and experiencing fuel poverty. In accordance with NICE guidelines the following beneficiaries will be targeted: people with cardiovascular conditions; people with respiratory conditions; people with mental health conditions; people with disabilities; older persons; households with young children, pregnant women; people on low income. Citizens Advice Essex supports clients with a profile weighted towards those on the lowest income and a higher incidence of long term health and disability than the general population. Citizens Advice Essex Client Profile data supports the targeting and impact of this project

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: No

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: Yes

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: Basildon, Braintree, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping Forest, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring, Uttlesford

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: No

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: Yes

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank. You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: Age, Disability - learning disability, Disability - mental health issues, Disability - physical impairment, Disability - sensory impairment, Pregnancy / maternity

I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics: I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: The project and conditions of grant funding is specifically targeted at those who may be disadvantaged through health, age, pregnancy and thus mitigates against any negative impacts

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting of the services of this project are in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting is in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting is in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting is in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting is in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Pregnancy / maternity

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Targeting is in line with NICE guidelines

Extent of impact: High

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: High targeting on those more likely to be living in coldest homes and on low incomes and or with exacerbating health conditions is a positive impact

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqIA completed: 05/12/2019

Name of person completing the EqIA: Paul Ashworth

Email address of person completing the EqIA: Paul.Ashworth@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Economy, Localities & Public Health

Your service area: Wellbeing, Public Health and Communities

Your team: Communities

Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: mike.gogarty@essex.gov.uk