

Equality Analysis Form / EqIA

By completing this form you will provide evidence of how your service is meeting Stroud District Council's General Equality duty:

The Equality Act 2010 states that:

*A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have **due regard** to the need to –*

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The protected characteristics are listed in Question 9

Stroud District Equality data can be found at:

<https://inform.gloucestershire.gov.uk/equality-and-diversity/>

Please see Appendix 1 for a good example of a completed EIA.

[Guidance available on the HUB](#)

1. Persons responsible for this assessment:

Name(s): Adrian Blick	Telephone: 01453 766321
	E-Mail: adrian.blick@stroud.gov.uk
Service: ICT	Date of Assessment: 17/11/23

2. Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function:

Community Funding (Crowdfunding) Strategy

Is this new or an existing one? New

3. Briefly describe its aims and objectives

To provide members of our community and community groups with support and expertise in raising funds for project work, they wish to sponsor, that brings benefit to the wider community. Citizens, businesses, the council, and others can contribute to the fund-raising, as they wish, to meet the funding target set by the sponsors.

The key objectives are as follows:

- Bring community aspirations to life
- Build civic pride
- Increase collaboration

- Reduce reliance on Government funding.

4. Are there external considerations? (Legislation / government directive, etc)

No

5. Who is intended to benefit from it and in what way?

This initiative will potentially benefit both the citizens and the place, depending on the nature of the projects that are sponsored. For example, a community group may setup a project to build a community garden or enable transport in rural areas to improve accessibility.

As stated in the key objectives, this initiative will also have positive impacts for those who take part in the funding campaigns as it will demonstrate to them the power they have to make a positive difference through the initiatives they sponsor and through the collaborative relationships they establish via this work.

6. What outcomes are expected?

A wide range of projects are expected to be funded and then implemented which will enhance and enrich the lives of those who take part in the projects and those who are able to enjoy the outcomes (e.g., in the case of a community garden, other members of the community).

In addition, by providing the on-line platform, access to expertise and match-funding, the relationships between the council and citizens will be improved.

A key outcome is the increase in funding available to community. The council will put money towards projects which align with the council plan priorities and the community will be encouraged to raise funds for themselves. This approach enables the council contribution and the community contribution to increase the amount spent on each project making a positive contribution by increasing the amount available for each project.

By increasing funding and enabling communities to choose their own projects, this works towards building resilient communities.

7. What evidence has been used for this assessment?: (eg Research, previous consultations, Inform (MAIDEN); Google assessments carried out by other Authorities)

Community funding is a widely used method for generating funds and is well-referenced including with other local authorities. The council team spoke with Cotswold District Council which has been operating its own initiative for some years and it reported favourable outcomes.

8. Has any consultation been carried out? See list of possible consultees

Head of Environmental Health, Head of Community Services, ICT team, Senior Leadership Team

9. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?
(Negative – it could disadvantage and therefore potentially not meet the General Equality duty;
Positive – it could benefit and help meet the General Equality duty;
Neutral – neither positive nor negative impact / Not sure)

Protected Group	Type of impact, reason and any evidence (from Q7 & 8)
Age	<p>The district has a population of circa 121,103 people which are broken down into the following age categories:</p> <p>Aged 0-4 – 5,643 Aged 5-19 – 20,200 Aged 20-64 – 67,030 Aged 65+ - 28,230</p> <p>The crowd funding project is an opportunity for the community to work together. Age could be seen as a negative however it fosters community groups to come together, mixing different age groups using knowledge of the community and matching with skills to deliver fundraising. Working across ages and sharing skills and knowledge is a positive outcome of this project.</p>
Disability	<p>Positive: As the funding campaigns are curated on an on-line microsite, anyone able to access the site can setup and publicise projects. As mentioned above this type of fundraising fosters community groups to come together to work on projects sharing knowledge and skills.</p>
Gender Re-assignment	Neutral
Pregnancy & Maternity	Neutral
Race	Neutral
Religion – Belief	Neutral
Sex	Neutral
Sexual Orientation	Neutral
Marriage & Civil Partnerships (part (a) of duty only)	Neutral
Rural considerations: le Access to services; transport; education; employment; broadband;	<p>The funding campaigns are curated on an on-line microsite, those not having access to the internet would need to partner with others who do.</p> <p>Using the HUB network who work with the smaller rural HUBS, this is an opportunity to bring more people to the HUBS, improve community resilience and foster good relationships which benefit the rural communities. We see this as a positive and it will enable access to fundraising bringing projects to rural communities. Positive.</p>

10. If you have identified a negative impact in question 9, what actions have you undertaken or do you plan to undertake to lessen or negate this impact?


Please transfer any actions to your Service Action plan on Excelsis.

Action(s):	Lead officer	Resource	Timescale

Declaration

I/We are satisfied that an Impact Assessment has been carried out on this policy, service, strategy, procedure or function * (delete those which do not apply) and where a negative impact has been identified, actions have been developed to lessen or negate this impact.

We understand that the Equality Impact Assessment is required by the District Council and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment

Completed by: Adrian Blick	Date: 17/11/23
Role: Head of ICT Service	
Countersigned by Head of Service/Director: 	Date: 20/11/2023

Date for Review: Please forward an electronic copy to policy@stroud.gov.uk