

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/>

1. Persons responsible for this assessment:

Name(s): Tony Dix	Telephone: 07753 725185
	E-Mail: tony.dix@stroud.gov.uk
Service: Community Services	Date of Assessment: 11/12/2023

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

Serious Violence Statutory Duty

Is this new or an existing one?

3. Briefly describe its aims and objectives

The Serious Violence Duty commenced on 31st January 2023. The duty imposes a statutory duty for local authorities to address Serious Violence in its area.

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

Section 17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998 was amended to include the Serious Violence Statutory Duty. HM Government Serious Violence Statutory Duty Guidance

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

- Residents of rural & urban communities of the Stroud District Council area
- People who work in the district
- Visitors/Tourists to the district

Including those whose status are defined as 'protected characteristics'

6. What outcomes are expected?

The outcome will be a reduction of serious violence and an increase and confidence in reporting and greater community engagement.

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

The police recorded 2.1 million offences of violence against the person in the year ending March 2023. This was a 20% rise compared with the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020 (1.8 million offences) and a slight increase (1%) compared with the year ending March 2022.

As a result of the above nationwide violence statistics the Government have made the tackling of Serious Violence a statutory duty for all specified authorities which includes all Local Authorities

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

List of consultees:

- Stroud District Council services
- Members anti-social behaviour workshop
- Gloucestershire Police
- Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (Gloucestershire)
- Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS)
- Gloucestershire County Council Departments
- Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service
- Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board
- Barnardos
- Victim Support
- Trading Standards
- Solace
- Town Councils
- Safe Space
- Clewer Initiative (Modern Slavery)
- Bromford Housing
- Sovereign Housing
- Sanctuary Housing
- P3 Charity
- Change Grow live (Drug & Alcohol services) CGL.
- The Door
- Prospects (Youth Provision)

**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	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have age related protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Disability	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have disability protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Gender Re-assignment	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have gender re-assignment protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Pregnancy & Maternity	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have pregnancy and maternity protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Race	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have race protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Religion – Belief	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have religion – belief

	protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Sex	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have sex protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Sexual Orientation	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have sexual orientation protected characteristics to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Marriage & Civil Partnerships (part (a) of duty only)	The imposed Serious Violence Statutory Duty on Local Authorities will have a positive impact on all residents, visitors and workers who have marriage and civil partnership protected characteristics. to reduce violent crimes impacted on them
Rural considerations: I.e., Access to services; transport; education; employment; broadband;	<p>The Stroud District Community Safety Partnership Plan (SDCSP) priorities will look at how we can reduce serious violence, support victims through partnership working and increase confidence to report.</p> <p>Rural crime and access to support services of all kinds is vastly different from urban crime. It often severely impacts the rural businesses.</p> <p>Victims of crimes committed on farms and rural locations often feel isolated and perpetrators will often use threatening behaviour if confronted, this puts rural communities and individuals at risk. To compound this issue many rural locations are remote and so police response times are lengthened.</p> <p>The lack of access to services in rural locations has an impact on reporting and accessing domestic abuse and mental health support.</p> <p>Rural victims are half as likely to report their abuse to others.</p> <p>Rural victims' abuse goes on significantly longer.</p> <p>Rural victims cannot readily access support services.</p> <p>Rural victims live in a society that protects the perpetrators.</p> <p>Rural victims are isolated, unsupported, and unprotected in a rural hell, which is purposefully 'normalised.' Positive Impact</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: Tony Dix	Date: 11/12/2023
Role: Interim Principal Community Services Officer	
Countersigned by Head of Service/Director:	Date:
	12/12/2023

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