

Household Support Fund Round 4 Impact Assessment (IA)

Name of the project, policy, service, or strategy:	Household Support Fund Round 4		
Responsible officer:	Reece Drew (Community Development Team Leader)		
Service Lead:	Howard Anthony (Head of Communities and Housing)		
Date of assessment:	26/06/23	Date of review:	October 23



WORKING TOGETHER

Introduction

Overview

What is an Impact Assessment?

The Impact Assessment is a tool to ensure that any policy, project, strategy, or service is assessed to consider any positive or negative impacts for all our residents with regards to equalities, health, and sustainability. It is important that this is done in a timely manner and ideally it should precede the start of the project, policy or strategy concerned at Chorley Council or South Ribble Borough Council.

Who is the Impact Assessment for?

The responsibility of conducting the Impact Assessment is with the leading officer of the policy that is being assessed, with service leads responsible for the final sign off of the assessment. Once complete and signed off, the Impact Assessments are submitted to Performance and Partnerships, who are responsible for storing, monitoring, and ensuring the quality of the assessments. The assessment tool covers both Chorley and South Ribble Borough Council.

Why do we need to do Impact Assessments?

As Councils, we are committed as community leaders, service providers, and employers. Therefore, we will work to ensure that everybody is afforded equality of opportunity and good life chances. The Impact Assessment is a tool we use to ensure that we fulfil these commitments and thus meet our legal duties.

Instructions

Quick steps for completion

Follow the quick steps below when completing the Impact Assessment:

1. Sections: There are three sections to the Impact Assessment. These include:

- Equality impact: the impact on the nine equality strands, which include age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and marriage and civil partnership. See the **Equality Framework**.
- Health and environmental impact: the impact on health and wellbeing as well as the environment.
- Reputational impact: the impact on the Councils' reputation and our ability to deliver our key priorities. Reference should be made to the Corporate Strategies.

2. Rating and evidence: Each section has a number of questions that should be given a rating and evidence given for why the rating has been selected. This allows us to quantify the impact. The rating key is outlined below:

Code	Description
P	Positive impact
N	Negative impact
NI	Neutral impact

3. Actions: Once a rating is given, actions should be identified to mitigate any negative impacts or maximise any positive impacts of the policy, project, or strategy that is being assessed.

4. Sign off: Once the assessment is completed, sign off is required by a Service Lead.

5. Submit: Once signed off, the Impact Assessment should be sent to the Performance and Partnerships Team, who will store the assessment securely and check for quality.

6. Follow up: Actions should be implemented and changes should be made to the policy, project, or strategy that has been assessed, with follow ups conducted annually to monitor progress.

Information and Support

Contact details

To submit your completed Impact Assessment or for guidance and support, please contact Performance and Partnerships at performance@chorley.gov.uk or performance@southribble.gov.uk

Equality Impact

Area for consideration	P	N	NI	Evidence	Further action required
What potential impact does this activity have upon:					
Those of different ages?	X			There will be direct targeted commission grants focusing on supporting people of different ages i.e. households with children, households with pensioners.	N/A
Those with physical or mental disability?	X			There will be direct targeted commission grants focusing on households with disabilities. The 'Warm Homes' grants will also be used to support Disabled Facilities Grants where residents cannot afford to contribute, and the housing associate do not offer contributions.	N/A
Those who have undergone or are undergoing gender reassignment?			X	No support directly targets this group, however support through the Household Support Fund is open to all residents.	N/A
Those who are pregnant or are parents?	X			In addition to the direct targeted commission grants to support families with children, the funding will be used to build on the already successful School Uniform project.	N/A
Those of different races?			X	Information about the support available through the Household Support Fund will be provided on the council's website, with an option to translate this into different languages.	N/A
Those of different religions or beliefs?	X			Support provided through partners such as Foodbanks are conscious of making support accessible for individuals with different religions or beliefs i.e. Halal, Vegan etc.	N/A
Those of different sexes?			X	No support directly targets this group, however support through the Household Support Fund is open to all residents.	N/A
Those of different sexual orientations?			X	No support directly targets this group, however support through the Household Support Fund is open to all residents.	N/A

Those who are married or in a civil partnership?			X	N/A	N/A
Socio-economic equality or social cohesion?	X			This project focuses on financial inclusion and directly supports residents through the cost of living crisis.	N/A

Health, Social and Environmental Impact

Area for consideration	P	N	NI	Evidence	Further action required
What potential impact does this activity have upon:					
Enabling residents to start well (pre-birth to 19)? <i>(Please consider childhood obesity, vulnerable families, and pregnancy care)</i>	X			There will be direct targeted commission grants focusing on supporting households with children.	n/a
Enabling residents to live well (16 to 75 years)? <i>(Please consider mental and physical wellbeing, living environment, healthy lifestyles, and improving outcomes)</i>	X			There will be direct targeted commission grants focusing on supporting people of different ages i.e. households with children, households with pensions, households with disabilities.	n/a
Enabling residents to age well (over 65 years)? <i>(Please consider social isolation, living independently, dementia, and supporting carers and families)</i>	X			There will be direct targeted commission grants focusing on supporting, households with pensioners.	n/a
Natural environment? <i>(Please consider impact on habitation, ecosystems, and biodiversity)</i>			X	The project does not directly target improvements to this area; however it also does not create a negative impact.	n/a
Air quality and pollution? <i>(Please consider impact on climate change, waste generation, and health)</i>	X			The pop-up bike shop will encourage active travel. This will be delivered alongside the school uniform shop.	n/a
Natural resources? <i>(Please consider the use of materials and as well as transport methods and their sustainability)</i>	X			Energy support and advice will be available over the telephone, therefore saving to need to travel.	n/a
Rurality? <i>(Please consider the impact of those who live in rural communities, their access to services/activities)</i>	X			Support will be offered to residents from all areas within the borough, including rural areas.	n/a

Strategic Impact

Area for consideration	P	N	NI	Evidence	Further action required
What potential impact does this activity make upon:					
The Councils' reputation? <i>(Please consider impact on trust, confidence, our role as community leaders, and providing value for money)</i>	X			Effective delivery of the Household Support Fund and targeting of resources at those in need is important to the Council. Development of the commission-based approach and targeting of resources is aimed at value for money and ensuring trust in the council to apportion the fund fairly across the borough and at those in need of the support provided through the fund.	n/a
Our ability to deliver the Corporate Strategy? <i>(Please refer to the Strategic Objectives)</i>	X			Thriving communities as a priority directly relates to the Household support fund and contributes the corporate project on delivery of the 'Cost of Living Action Plan'.	n/a

Impact Assessment Action Plan

If any further actions were identified through the Impact Assessment, then they should be listed in the table below:

Action	Start Date	End Date	Lead Officer
Revise impact assessment following the delivery of Phase One. This will reflect the delivery plan for Phase Two.	October 2023	October 2023	Reece Drew
Develop communications plan to ensure that those most in need of support are aware of what's available and how to access to the support, and to also optimise positive news opportunities for the council.	July 2023	July 2023	Reece Drew