



Reference number

EIA000322



Which directorate(s) are responsible for this EIA?		["City Housing"]
Division		Housing Solutions and Support Service
Service area		Homeless Centres
Budget Saving		Yes

Responsible officer		Ranjeet Kaur
Accountable officer		Stephen Philpott

Data sources		["Relevant research"]
Data source details		The average gas and electric bill in Great Britain - British Gas Average gas and electricity usage Ofgem

Does this proposal impact people due to their age as per the Equality Act 2010?		Yes
What age groups are impacted by your proposal?		["0-9 years", "10-19 years", "20-29 years", "30-39 years", "40-49 years", "50-59 years", "60-69 years", "70-79 years", "80-89 years", "90 years or over"]





Please describe the impact to the disability characteristic

All citizens regardless of their age can access the service and assistance will be given to all in accordance with legislative requirements.

However, it is important to note that this specific proposal will only impact households that have been placed in temporary accommodation within our homeless centres provided by Birmingham City Council, where officers are onsite daily to provide housing advice, support and guidance.

Our data reveals that while 9% of households in B&Bs have disclosed a disability, 47% have not, suggesting the actual figure could be higher. National research on the impact of homelessness on this demographic indicates that households with disabilities are disproportionately affected by homelessness. There is also a recognized issue concerning undisclosed disabilities.

The impact for this group will be similar to all the the other characteristics in that households within our homeless centres are more likely to be low-income households on benefits and therefore may be impacted financially.

How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the disability characteristic?





Please describe the impact to the gender reassignment characteristic

All citizens regardless of their age can access the service and assistance will be given to all in accordance with legislative requirements.

However, it is important to note that this specific proposal will only impact households that have been placed in temporary accommodation within our homeless centres provided by Birmingham City Council, where officers are



What legal marital or registered civil partnership



Does this proposal impact people covered by the Equality Act 2010 under the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity? Yes



[Redacted]



Please describe the impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic

All citizens regardless of ethnicity and race can access the service and assistance will be given to all in accordance with legislative requirements.

However, it is important to note that this specific proposal will only impact households that have been placed in temporary accommodation within our homeless centres provided by Birmingham City Council, where officers are onsite daily to provide housing advice, support and guidance.

Our service data for households in TA tell us that our current residents are Black African 21%, Asian or Asian British Pakistani 15%, White British 13% and therefore this proposal will currently disproportionately impact those who identify as White British, Pakistani and Black African.

National research by Herriot Watt identified that minority groups and more significantly Black people are more likely to experience homelessness compared to White British people. They are also more likely to experience discrimination, harassment, or abuse on the grounds of race and ethnicity in housing.

The primary impact of this proposal however will be that they are more likely to be low-income households on benefits and therefore may be impacted financially by the service charge increase.

How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic?

- Our homeless centres are manned by officers between the hours of 8am-9pm. These officers will be on hand to communicate the increase in service charge to residents and offer benefit maximisation guidance, support and assistance.
- Written notification of the increase will be sent to all residents following cabinet approval in January 2024. This will give residents adequate notice of the increase (2 months plus).
- Letters will include information on how/where residents can seek financial advice and assistance if required.
- Cost of service charge is still competitive in comparison to other forms of temporary and permanent accommodation.



<p>Does this proposal impact people's religion or beliefs as per the Equality Act 2010?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>What religions could be impacted by this proposal? Please describe the impact to the religion or beliefs characteristic</p>	<p>["No religion", "Christian", "Buddhist", "Hindu", "Jewish", "Muslim", "Sikh"]</p> <p>Whilst we do not gather data on this characteristic the service can be accessed by all regardless of religion or belief.</p> <p>However, it is important to note that this specific proposal will only impact households that have been placed in temporary accommodation within our homeless centres provided by Birmingham City Council, where officers are onsite daily to provide housing advice, support and guidance.</p>



Please describe the impact to the sexual orientation characteristic

All citizens regardless of ethnicity and race can access the service and assistance will be given to all in accordance with legislative requirements.

However, it is important to note that this specific proposal will only impact households that have been placed in temporary accommodation within our homeless centres provided by Birmingham City Council, where officers are onsite daily to provide housing advice, support and guidance.

Whilst our internal data around this characteristic is insufficient, we know that national research has found clear evidence that LGBTQA+ are overrepresented among homeless populations.

The reasons why LGBTQA identity increases a person's chance of becoming homeless are not as well documented.

Research from Stonewall shows that almost one in five LGBT people have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives. Rates are even higher amongst trans people, with 25% having experienced homelessness at some point.

Individuals that fall into this characteristic are known to face a higher risk of discrimination or harassment. However, the primary impact will be that are more likely to be low-income households on benefits and therefore may be impacted financially by the service charge increase

How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the sexual orientation characteristic?

- Our homeless centres are manned by officers between the hours of 8am-9pm. These officers will be on hand to communicate the increase in service charge to residents and offer benefit maximisation guidance, support and assistance.
- Written notification of the increase will be sent to all residents following cabinet approval in January 2024. This will give residents adequate notice of the increase (2 months plus).
- Letters will include information on how/where residents can seek financial advise and assistance if required.
- Cost of service charge is still competitive in comparison to other forms of temporary and permanent accommodation.



How will you ensure any adverse impact and mitigation measures are monitored?
Please enter the email

Periodic review of homeless centre data

