

Equality and Human Right Impact Assessment: The Form



EHRIA

Aberdeen City Council

There are separate guidance notes to accompany this form – “Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment – the Guide.” Please use these guidance notes as you complete this form. Throughout the form, **the word “proposal” refers to policy, strategy, plan, procedure, report or business case.** This then, embraces a range of different actions such as setting budgets, developing high level strategies and organisational practices such as internal restructuring. Please also refer to the “Completion Terminology” at the end of the form.

1: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment- Essential Information

Name of Proposal: Commercialisation of ACC Duct Network	Date of Assessment: 14/01/2016
Service: IT & Transformation	Directorate: Corporate Governance
Committee Name or delegated power reference (Where appropriate): Finance Policy and Resources	Date of Committee (Where appropriate): 25 February 2016
Who does this proposal affect? Please Tick ✓	Employees <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Applicants <input type="checkbox"/> Service Users <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members of the Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (List below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Businesses

2: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment- Pre-screening

Is an impact assessment required?

Yes

No

If No, what is the evidence to support this decision?

(Once this section is completed, please complete section 8 of the form).

3: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment

a- What are the aims and intended effects of this proposal?

The proposal seeks to allow commercial telecoms operators access to ACC ducts to accelerate deployment of fibre based connectivity across the city and introduce greater market competition.

The infrastructure of itself is neutral in effect however it is designed to align with programmes engaging and supporting communities.

Utilising existing ducting capacity may also reduce the requirement of telecomm service suppliers to cause disruption to roads and footpaths to lay new ducting to support their ambitions.

b- What equality data is available in relation to this proposal?

(Please see guidance notes)

Ofcom data on access to internet and speeds of connection.

ACC Tenants Surveys

<p>c- List the outcomes from any consultation that relate to equalities and/or human rights issues e.g. with employees, service users, Unions or members of the public that has taken place in relation to the proposal.</p>	
<p>d- Financial Assessment</p> <p>If applicable, state any relevant cost implications or savings expected from the proposal.</p>	<p>Costs (£)</p> <p>Implementation cost £ 10,000</p> <p>Projected Savings £ 82,000 *income</p>

e- How does this proposal contribute to the public sector equality duty: to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations?

The provision of access to Aberdeen City Council duct access will open up the potential for faster deployment of new business models for digital connectivity for citizens and businesses. Such connectivity could provide the platform for reducing digital, economic and social inequality through providing means of engagement with public and private sector services, community building opportunities and supporting vulnerable individuals in independent living.

f- How does this proposal link to the Council's Equality Outcomes?

Of itself network access is neutral but delivery of cost effective, robust connectivity can support actions across the range of Equalities Outcomes. For example.

5. Effective customer service that is aware of the differences and requirements of different groups. The lead services will be Corporate Governance.

Increased community digital access may provide for better citizen directed engagement and encourage effective data sharing with citizens.

6. An increased proportion of council communication adheres to Accessible Information Guidelines. The lead service will be Corporate Governance and will apply to all services

Providing earlier and more robust digital connection will support ongoing community engagement programmes that will seek to develop best practice in communications with citizens.

4: Equality Impact Assessment - Test

What impact will implementing this proposal have on employees, service users or other people who share characteristics protected by *The Equality Act 2010* ?

Protected Characteristic:	Neutral Impact: Please √	Positive Impact: Please √	Negative Impact: Please √	Evidence of impact and if applicable, justification where a ' <i>Genuine Determining Reason</i> '* exists *(see completion terminology)
Age (People of all ages)				
Disability (Mental, Physical, Sensory and Carers of Disabled people)				
Gender Reassignment				
Marital Status (Marriage and Civil Partnerships)				
Pregnancy and Maternity				

Equality Impact Assessment Test:

What impact will implementing this proposal have on employees, service users or other people who share characteristics protected by *The Equality Act 2010* ?

Protected Characteristic:	Neutral Impact: Please √	Positive Impact: Please √	Negative Impact: Please √	Evidence of impact and if applicable, justification where a '<i>Genuine Determining Reason</i>'* exists *(see completion terminology)
Race (All Racial Groups including Gypsy/Travellers)				
Religion or Belief or Non-belief				
Sex (Women and men)				
Sexual Orientation (Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay And Bisexual)				
Other (e.g: Poverty)				

5: Human Rights Impact Assessment Test

Does this proposal have the potential to impact on an individual's Human Rights? Evidence of impact and , if applicable, justification where the impact is proportionate

Article 2 of protocol 1: Right to education

Yes No

Evidence:

Article 3: Right not to be subjected to torture, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment

Yes No

Evidence:

<p>Article 6: Right to a fair and public hearing</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evidence:</p>
<p>Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evidence:</p>
<p>Article 10: Freedom of expression</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evidence:</p>
<p>Article 14: Right not to be subject to discrimination</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evidence:</p>

<p>Other article not listed above, please state:</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evidence:</p>
<p align="center">6: Assessment Rating:</p>	
<p>Please rate the overall equality and human right assessment (Please see Completion terminology)</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Red Amber <input type="checkbox"/> Amber <input type="checkbox"/> Green </p>
<p>Reason for that rating:</p>	

7: Action Planning

As a result of performing this assessment, what actions are proposed to remove or reduce any risks of adverse outcomes identified on employees, service users or other people who share characteristics protected by *The Equality Act 2010* ?

Identified Risk and to whom:	Recommended Actions:	Responsible Lead:	Completion Date:	Review Date:

8: Sign off

Completed by (Names and Services) :

Sean Cremer

Signed off by (Head of Service) :

Simon Haston

Please send an electronic copy of your completed EHRIA - without signatures - together with the proposal document and/or committee report to:

Equalities Team
Customer Service and Performance
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 13
Second Floor North
Marischal College
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AB

Telephone 01224 523039 Email sandrab@aberdeencity.gov.uk

9: Completion Terminology:

Assessment Pre-screening Rating:

This section will highlight where there is the obvious potential for a negative impact and subsequent risk of negative media coverage and reputational damage to the Council. Therefore, a full impact assessment is required, for example around sensitive issues such as marching, Gypsy/ Traveller issues, change to social care provision. It should also be completed to evidence why a full impact assessment was not required, example, there is no potential negative impact on people.

Assessment Rating:

After completing this document, rate the overall assessment as follows:

Red: As a result of performing this assessment, it is evident that we will discriminate (direct, indirect, unintentional or otherwise) against one or more of the nine groups of people who share *Protected Characteristics*. It is essential that the use of the proposal be suspended until further work or assessment is performed and the discrimination is removed.

Red Amber: As a result of performing this assessment, it is evident that a risk of negative impact exists to one or more of the nine groups of people who share *Protected Characteristics*. However, a genuine determining reason may exist that could legitimise or justify the use of this proposal and further professional advice should be taken.

Amber: As a result of performing this assessment, it is evident that a risk of negative impact exists and this risk may be removed or reduced by implementing the actions detailed within the *Action Planning* section of this document.

Green: As a result of performing this proposal does not appear to have any adverse impacts on people who share *Protected Characteristics* and no further actions are recommended at this stage.

<p>Equality Data:</p>	<p>Equality data is internal or external information that may indicate how the proposal being analysed can affect different groups of people who share the nine <i>Protected Characteristics</i> – referred to hereafter as ‘<i>Equality Groups</i>’.</p> <p>Examples of <i>Equality Data</i> include: (this list is not definitive)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Application success rates by <i>Equality Groups</i> 2: Complaints by <i>Equality Groups</i> 3: Service usage and withdrawal of services by <i>Equality Groups</i> 4: Grievances or decisions upheld and dismissed by <i>Equality Groups</i>
<p>Genuine Determining Reason</p>	<p>Certain discrimination may be capable of being justified on the grounds that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) <i>A genuine determining reason exists</i> (ii) <i>The action is proportionate to the legitimate aims of the organisation</i> <p>Where this is identified, it is recommended that professional and legal advice is sought prior to completing an Equality Impact Assessment.</p>
<p>Human Rights</p>	<p>The rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights, as incorporated into the UK Law by the Human Rights Act 1998.</p>
<p>Legal Status:</p>	<p>This document is designed to assist us in “<i>Identifying and eliminating unlawful Discrimination, Harassment and Victimisation</i>” as required by <i>The Equality Act Public Sector Duty 2011</i>. An Equality Impact Assessment is not, in itself, legally binding and should not be used as a substitute for legal or other professional advice.</p>