

## Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

### Title of policy/process under consideration

**Supporting People**

### Lead department

**Corporate affairs**

Is this policy/process? (Please tick)

New ☐ Existing ☐ Revised ☒

Is this a full EIA? (Please tick)

Yes ☐ No ☒

### Please state the reasons for the above decision.

The policy has no significant impact on any of the protected characteristics.

## What are the policy/process objectives and aims?

The 'Supporting People' programme began on 1 April 2003, bringing together 7 housing-related areas of funding from across central government. It provides housing related support to vulnerable people to enable them to live as independently as possible in the community. The type of service provided included; provision of visiting support services to older people in their own homes, warden serviced housing and assistance to prepare for and maintain independence.

There is therefore a crossover with mainstream social care services.

Prior to Supporting People, housing related support services had been mainly funded through housing benefit and income support.

Initially the Supporting People budget was ring-fenced, however this ring-fence was removed in Scotland in 2008 and England in 2009 thereby allowing local authorities flexibility to use the money on other services if they wished. In Northern Ireland and Wales the supporting people grant remains ring-fenced.

The ILF Trust Deed requires that the local authority provide a minimum level of Qualifying Support and Services (QSS - essentially personal and domestic care).

Whilst the funding was ring-fenced it was regarded as being distinct from social care and therefore not counted towards the local authority provision of QSS. However the removal of that ring-fence in Scotland and England and the payment of Supporting People as part of the formula grant means that it is no longer a distinct budget.

Following discussions with CLG and DWP the ILF policy was amended to allow services in Scotland and England described as 'supporting people', to be used towards the threshold sum provided that they met the QSS criteria.

The initial inclusion of these services allowed a greater number of people to meet the threshold sum and become eligible for ILF funding, however it had a negative impact on some individuals who were taken over the maximum limit of £785 that existed at the time for new applications.

The ILF ceased to be open to new applicants in 2010, the inclusion of supporting people services towards QSS ensures that some ILF users in England and Wales are able to continue to meet the Local Authority threshold sum.

## Please state the reasons why the changes are taking place.

The policy has been amended to simplify and update the content to make it more accessible. The amendments have not changed the purpose or nature of the policy.

| Key                            |                               |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| -2                             | Significant negative impact   | +1 Mild/moderate positive impact   |
| -1                             | Mild/moderate negative impact | +2 Significant positive impact   |
| 0                              | Neutral impact                |  |
| Protected Characteristic       | Impact                        | Notes  |
| Age                            | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to age.                            |
| Disability                     | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to disability.                     |
| Gender                         | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to gender.                         |
| Gender reassignment            | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to gender reassignment.            |
| Marriage and civil partnership | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to marriage and civil partnership. |
| Pregnancy and maternity        | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to pregnancy or maternity.         |
| Race                           | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to race.                           |
| Religion or belief             | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to religion or belief.             |
| Sexual orientation             | 0                             | The policy has no significant impact relating to sexual orientation.             |

What alternative policy/process options have been considered to reduce or alleviate any identified impact?

Consultation was undertaken.

What research has been gathered/considered when making decisions regarding the Protected Characteristics?

ILF 2006 Trust Deed  
Trustees meeting June 2008

Are any future actions required for example monitoring or review?

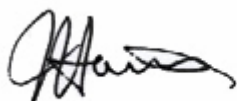
No

EIAB comments/recommendations

The EIA was presented to the board on 24 October 2013. The board agreed to the EIA as presented with no suggestions for amendment.

Date form completed 16 September 2013

Signature of EIAB chair



Date 5 November 2013

**Subsequent amendments to policy/process**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Date of amendment |  |
|-------------------|--|

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| Details of amendment |
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| Reason why a new EIA is not required |
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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Date of amendment |  |
|-------------------|--|

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| Details of amendment |
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| Reason why a new EIA is not required |
|                                      |

Date of amendment

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