



Ref No: EQ633324321

Please click this button to download copy of the 'Equality Impact Assessment Guidance' :
Download Instructions

Officer Name: Emmanuel Lynch

Email Address: emmanuel.lynch@ipswich.gov.uk

Title of report: Equality Assessment for Fire Safety Policy

Report : This Policy seeks to ensure that a formalised framework is in place to manage fire risk across the housing portfolio and that this can be planned, delivered, monitored and reviewed in such a way that continuous improvement is achieved, and that the Council has strategic direction to manage fire risk appropriately.

What evidence/data is being used to support this equality analysis? Please select all that apply.: Findings from surveys, focus groups & consultations, Information from statutory partners (e.g police)

Service area: Maintenance & Contracts

Corporate Manager: Gavin Fisk

Corporate Manager email: Gavin.Fisk@ipswich.gov.uk

Links to supporting documents where available:New Fire Safety Guidance

Please upload any supporting documents: New fire safety guidance comes into force on 1 October 2023 - GOV.UK.html

What is proposed?: This new guidance is part of the Home Office's fire safety reform programme's Phase 3 and is a crucial step towards bolstering fire safety on all FSO-regulated premises that would include properties managed by the Council.

Why are the changes being introduced?: The new regulations aim to enhance collaboration and coordination between responsible persons (RPs), impose stricter requirements for recording and sharing of fire safety information, simplify the process for enforcement authorities to take action against non-compliance, and provide residents with comprehensive information regarding fire safety in their buildings. The Act now requires all Responsible Persons to reduce, as well as to assess and manage, the fire risks posed by the structure and external walls of the building(s) and by individual doors opening onto common parts of the building

What evidence is being used to support this Equality Impact Assessment, and how is it being used?: In October 2023, the Government implemented new stricter fire safety requirements for blocks of flats that took effect in England. They are part of the response to the Grenfell Tower

distaster were a 24-storey block of flats in North Kensington, West London, set fire and caused 72 deaths.

How will this change be implemented?: This change is an Act of Law and therefore mandatory for housing providers to fully comply with the new requirements. Any breaches of the new Act could lead to prosecution or imprisonment of any employee within the organisation held accountable.

Age: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not discriminate against or have an impact on age. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements and standards as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Disability: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those with disabilities. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements and standards as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against marriage or civil partnerships. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements and standards as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Race: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate those on grounds of race. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Pregnancy & Maternity: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those who are pregnant or in maternity. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Religion or Belief: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those on ground of religion or belief. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Gender Reassignment: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or

further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those on ground of gender reassignment. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Sex: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those on ground of sex. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

Sexual Orientation: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: The new Fire Safety Policy does not have an impact or discriminate against those on ground of sexual orientation. The new Policy aims to protect all tenants by implementing the new fire safety requirements as per the Fire Safety Act 2023.

I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives: I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives

The report helps us to 'eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation' in the following way(s): By completing the report it helps the Policy to treat all tenants in the same way and will not be unlawful, harass or victimise any individuals.

The report helps us to 'advance equality of opportunity...' in the following way(s): By completing the report it helps the Policy to treat all tenants the same way and will assist the Council to advance equality and opportunity.

The policy helps us to 'foster good relations...' in the following way(s): By completing the report it helps the Policy to treat all tenants in the same way and will ensure that the Council can protect tenants in line with the new fire safety legislation.

The new provisions will be reviewed in the following way(s): The Policy will be updated annually or if changes to legislation require this to be sooner.
