

Equality Impact Assessment

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Job title	Policy, Research and Engagement Support Officer		
What are you thinking of changing or implementing?			
<p>The Council is updating its Empty Homes Strategy. The strategy sets out the Council's approach to long-term empty homes in the Borough and the tools it will consider using to tackle the ongoing challenges.</p> <p>Whilst the data suggests there is no significant empty home problem in Fareham Borough, we recognise that long-term empty properties can disrupt local communities and nearby residents.</p>			
What is the expected or anticipated impact of this change?			
<p>As part of the corporate objective of Providing Housing Choices, the Empty Homes Strategy will make a contribution toward housing need.</p> <p>The strategy recognises that the number of empty properties in the Borough is below the national average, but there remain a small number of challenging properties.</p> <p>The Empty Homes Strategy aims to bring long-term empty homes back into use. It establishes two objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To encourage owners of empty homes to bring their properties back into use2. To appropriately and proportionately use Council resources to address problematic empty homes <p>The strategy sets out the appropriate approaches the Council could consider in helping to help meet the objectives.</p> <p>Encouragement tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Advice on selling/letting the home○ Farelets: a rented scheme to encourage homeowners to become landlords○ Council Tax premium (exemptions may apply)○ Communication <p>Enforcement tools and more formal legal action, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Enforced Sale○ Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMO)			
Protected characteristic: Age (including children and young people)			
Points to consider:			



- How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?

The Empty Homes Strategy will apply across all age groups. However, it will have a positive impact on young people who may have difficulty renting or buying in the private sector. By potentially increasing supply and property types it will help young people access the property market.

It will also have a positive impact on older owners who have moved into alternative accommodation for care or support needs without making adequate arrangements to their existing home. This strategy will help provide advice and information on the options available.

Protected characteristic: Disability (including physical and those with mental health conditions)

Points to consider:

- How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?

The Empty Homes Strategy may have a positive impact to those with a disability or whose health has deteriorated causing them to move into alternative accommodation. Consideration for personal circumstance will be taken to ensure appropriate action when exploring available options for the empty property.

Protected characteristic: Gender reassignment

Points to consider:

- How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?

No impact identified.

Protected characteristic: Marriage and civil partnership

Points to consider:

- How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic?
- What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?

The Empty Homes strategy is inclusive to all people regardless of their marital status. However, it may have a positive impact as properties can often be left empty due to marital and relationship breakdowns. Support and advice will be available the people involved to help sell or bring the property back into use.



<p>Protected characteristic: Pregnancy and maternity</p> <p>Points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?
No impact identified.
<p>Protected characteristic: Race</p> <p>Points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?
No impact identified.
<p>Protected characteristic: Religion or belief</p> <p>Points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?
No impact identified.
<p>Protected characteristic: Sex</p> <p>Points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?
No impact identified.
<p>Protected characteristic: Sexual orientation</p> <p>Points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered the potential impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What, if any, is the expected impact on people with this protected characteristic? • What steps or action is planned to mitigate any negative impact?
No impact identified.



No barriers identified, therefore policy can proceed – Yes

