

# Equality Analysis

## Birmingham City Council Analysis Report

<b>EA Name</b>	Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020
<b>Directorate</b>	People
<b>Service Area</b>	Policy And Commissioning - People
<b>Type</b>	New/Proposed Policy
<b>EA Summary</b>	This Stage 1 Equality Analysis covers considerations relating to the process of developing and implementing a new city-wide Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020. The new strategy will replace the current Birmingham Violence Against Women Strategy 2013-2015.
<b>Reference Number</b>	EA001359
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<b>Task Group Member</b>	
<b>Date Approved</b>	2016-09-22 01:00:00 +0100
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### Introduction

The report records the information that has been submitted for this equality analysis in the following format.

#### **Overall Purpose**

This section identifies the purpose of the Policy and which types of individual it affects. It also identifies which equality strands are affected by either a positive or negative differential impact.

#### **Relevant Protected Characteristics**

For each of the identified relevant protected characteristics there are three sections which will have been completed.

- Impact
- Consultation
- Additional Work

If the assessment has raised any issues to be addressed there will also be an action planning section.

The following pages record the answers to the assessment questions with optional comments included by the assessor to clarify or explain any of the answers given or relevant issues.

## **1 Activity Type**

The activity has been identified as a New/Proposed Policy.

## **2 Overall Purpose**

### **2.1 What the Activity is for**

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<p>What is the purpose of this Policy and expected outcomes?</p>	<p><b>1.1 The Vision</b>  Birmingham aspires to a vision where everyone who lives and works in the city can do so free from the harm generated by acts of domestic abuse and or violence (DVA). This vision is underpinned by a core aspiration that everyone can expect to receive equality and respect in their domestic relationships.</p> <p>The purpose of the Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020 is to deliver a set of realistic aims and objectives that are widely accepted to form a platform from which Birmingham moves forward in making measurable strides to realise the vision of a city free of domestic abuse.</p> <p><b>1.2 Scoping the vision</b>  The Place Directorate's Community Safety Partnership and the Directorate for People Commissioning Centre of Excellence will scope and form the Strategy. A dedicated project team with input from external expert reference representatives will ensure contributions are captured by the valued network of stakeholders working in this subject field. In addition, new views will be captured through consultation exercises that get input from: statutory and voluntary organisations delivering DVA services; those well placed in neighbourhoods to help form new approaches, and from a Citizens' Voice commentary that includes views from people with direct experience of abuse and the use of support pathways.</p> <p>Combined these actions aim to ensure the Strategy receives a collective "buy in" to the vision, across the council and its multi-agency partners citywide. The Strategy narrative will be presented in plain language and focus on presenting the key aims and objectives to enable tangible change. Supplementary information will include: a refreshed Needs Analysis, a Literature Review and this Equality Assessment as appendices for the audience who want this level of detail.</p> <p><b>1.3 Equality considerations</b>  To support the integrity of the Strategy meeting relevant need, the project team will take expert reference guidance from multi-agency representation via a specifically formed Equality Assessment Task Group. Together these stakeholders will incrementally test at key development stages of the Strategy its scope and approach relating to the strategic vision representing all Birmingham residents.</p> <p><b>1.4 Policy &amp; Practice</b>  The Strategy encourages a refreshed approach to delivering multi-agency policies and practices on all things aligned to meeting the vision. In parallel, to keep pace with meeting national progress on tackling DVA, the Strategy has a focus to break cycles of abuse and violence beginning by emphasising the delivery of a clear prevention agenda - one which actively challenges attitudes and behaviours; seeks opportunities to make effective early help interventions, and one that protects effective safety and support pathways run from community access points.</p> <p><b>1.5 Commissioning</b>  The Strategy 2017-2020 will form a robust template that influences planned future service commissioning and approaches to working in wider organisational partnership arrangements.</p>
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For each strategy, please decide whether it is going to be significantly aided by the Function.

Public Service Excellence	Yes
A Fair City	Yes
A Prosperous City	Yes
A Democratic City	Yes

## 2.2 Individuals affected by the policy

Will the policy have an impact on service users/stakeholders?	No
<p><u>Comment</u> 2.1 Service users / stakeholders</p> <p>The Strategy seeks to configure a city-wide response to prevent and tackle domestic abuse. Ongoing commitment and support is required from strategic partners and key stakeholders to ensure the successful delivery of the Strategy.</p> <p>The impact of the proposed strategy will be better understood following analysis of the public consultation exercise.</p>	
Will the policy have an impact on employees?	No
<p><u>Comment</u> 2.2 Employees</p> <p>In order to meet the needs of our Citizens, we aim to create an environment where the workforce is supported to develop their knowledge and expertise in relation to domestic abuse and its impact on adults and their children.</p> <p>The impact of the proposed strategy will be better understood following analysis of the public consultation exercise.</p>	
Will the policy have an impact on wider community?	No
<p><u>Comment</u> 2.3 Wider community</p> <p>The Strategy will challenge attitudes and behaviours across the City relating to DVA.</p> <p>The impact of the proposed strategy will be better understood following analysis of the public consultation exercise.</p>	

## 2.3 Analysis on Initial Assessment

This is the initial (Stage 1) Equality Assessment to help inform the Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020.

The strategic vision is relevant to all protected characteristics and the EA will be a 'live' document incrementally considered and updated during the development stages to reach a final Strategy document.

The Stage 1 considerations have been overseen by the DVA EA Task Group, who are senior multi-agency representatives each providing expertise to identify and recommend considerations around what equality strands will or may affect Citizens positively or negatively.

This Stage 1 EA forms part of a suite of draft documents to be circulated for consideration and comment.

A further assessment will be undertaken following full and meaningful consultation on the draft Strategy.

### **3 Concluding Statement on Full Assessment**

This is the initial (Stage 1) Equality Assessment to help form the Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020.

It assesses if the strategy is / will be relevant to any protected characteristics, particularly in a future service delivery context.

The strategic vision is relevant to all protected characteristics and the EA will be a 'live' document incrementally considered and updated during the development stages to reach a final strategy document.

The Stage 1 considerations have been overseen by the DA EA Task Group, who are senior multi-agency representatives each providing expertise to identify and recommend considerations around what equality strands will or may effect residents positively or negatively.

This Stage 1 EA forms part of a suite of draft documents to be circulated for consideration and comment.

The Full Assessment will be undertaken on receipt of and consideration of stakeholder / public consultation feedback received on the draft strategy.

### **4 Review Date**

31/01/17

### **5 Action Plan**

There are no relevant issues, so no action plans are currently required.