

Equality Impact Assessment

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| Title: | Safer Homes Project | |
| Version: | 1.0 | |
| Date of draft: | April 2017 | |
| Date approved by Equalities Group | 18 May 2017 | |

Section 1A: Overview

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| Name of Policy, Procedure, Practice, Strategy or Service: | Safer Homes Project |
| Service, Group, Team: | Community Safety |
| Equality Assessment Lead Officer: | Katherine Thornhill |
| Head of Service | Lorraine Poyser |

| 1B: Please state the intended outcomes of the policy | How will you know these have been achieved? <i>What performance monitoring is in place?</i> |
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| <p>The Safer Homes project is a mobile service working to improve security in the homes of elderly (aged over 60) and vulnerable people living in Erewash, including recent victims of domestic burglary. The project also supports medium-risk domestic abuse victims.</p> <p>The project works by offering advice to home owners on how to keep their property safe and secure, and installing home security equipment free of charge (including door or window locks / alarms, door chains) where necessary to strengthen access routes into the property and external buildings. A project officer is employed to undertake minor security works and further assessments of home safety including a free Home Fire Safety Check which provides safe escape route information.</p> <p>The project is run in partnership with South Derbyshire District Council who originally set up the service over 5 years ago with the CVS. The 'Project Worker' is directly employed by South Derbyshire CVS working 2 days a week in each district area. The cost of the scheme for the council includes 2 days a week for officer salaries, and administration costs including responsibility for organising bookings/referrals and evaluation of the scheme.</p> <p>Referrals into the project can come direct from individuals who qualify for the service and also from other agencies including Derbyshire Police, Derbyshire County Council, Erewash Borough Council and Neighbourhood Watch.</p> <p>In addition to the standard security visits, the 'Project Worker' assists the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and police with proactive crime prevention initiatives such as shed security in hotspot areas, running anti-tamper number plate screw operations and property marking events in response to local need.</p> <p>The outcome of the Service is to provide advice, appropriate practical assistance through target hardening and reassurance to eligible residents; those who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent victims of dwelling or non-dwelling burglary; • Medium risk domestic violence and abuse victims; and, • Vulnerable members of our communities, primarily those over 60 years of age. | <p>Quarterly SLA meetings will be held and will consider the following performance indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers of referrals received from each referral agency • Number of visits made and details of equipment installed • Results of any client satisfaction survey / other feedback • Number of complaints received and how they were resolved • Any staffing issues • Any proposals or recommendations for the development / extension of the Service. |

Section 2A: The policy. How will the policy/plan/strategy impact on residents, visitors, businesses or other agencies that we work with? *What work has been undertaken to advise these groups about the changes planned in the policy/plan/strategy?*

The project promotes community cohesion and personal / property security by targeting those residents who own their own home and are vulnerable for a particular reason. This includes recent victims of dwelling or non-dwelling burglary. The project offers reassurance to residents, whether they have been a victim or not, through the provision of a personalised visit and advice, and where necessary the fitting of free security equipment. This ensures that residents feel safer in their own home, and therefore in their community.

As this service has been running for 2.5 years, and over 5 years in South Derbyshire, the service is well established. There is no further impact upon residents or agencies due to this. As well as security and safety advice, the team also works with the Community Safety Teams in South Derbyshire and Erewash to ensure that any issues and concerns found by the members of the team in the community are raised and actioned.

2B: What needs is the policy/service designed to meet? *You could also refer to your current Service Plans and how the policy/service fits into EBC's Corporate Plan Priorities. How does the policy, procedure, practice, strategy or service align with Corporate Priorities*

The project has been designed to support the Council's Corporate Plan aim of 'A clean, safe and welcoming borough' and also the Erewash CSP's 2017-2020 priorities to 'Reduce crime', 'Support vulnerable people' and 'Build empowered and resilient communities'.

The project will support these priorities by providing targeted support to those residents in need, to ensure that they are more aware of how to keep themselves and their property safe. This will help us to reduce crime, but also prevent repeat victimisation. The visits will signpost residents into other services as appropriate.

2C: Is the service provided subject to any element of outsourcing? *Is the service delivered in part, or in its entirety by an outside company or organisation? If challenged about a service delivered on our behalf you must show that the organisation meets the expectations with regard to equalities in its customer service and recruitment and retention of staff.*

The service is delivered by South Derbyshire CVS in conjunction with South Derbyshire District Council. The project is subject to an agreed Service Level Agreement with South Derbyshire CVS to set out the aims, objectives and management of the project including the standard equalities and safeguarding clauses.

Section 3A: Gathering Information

What equality monitoring information do you gather and how is this information used to develop services, functions and policies at the current time. *You could look at the take up of services, customer satisfaction (complaints and compliments) and enforcement action.*

The project has previously collected necessary information including name, address, contact details and reason for referral.

A new Service User evaluation form, provided by South Derbyshire CVS will include a section that invites service users to provide additional information relating to age, disability, ethnicity, faith/belief, sexuality and gender/transgender.

3B: What does available data and the results of any consultations show about the take up of services? What is the impact on different groups? (qualitative and quantitative). *You could look at previous community consultation exercises, customer reviews, census data, staff feedback etc. Does your consultation identify responses by protected characteristic or identify particular community and voluntary groups that you worked with.*

Remember: by law you are required to be able to demonstrate, through data analysis and evidence, that you have considered the impact of your service on **ALL** of the relevant protected groups. This document is just a short summary of this process and a tool to help you to check that you have taken the Equality Act 2010 and the Council's equality objectives into consideration.

The service is open to all residents of Erewash that own their own home. In addition, the service also provides a personalised visit to the property and the member of the team undertaking the visits is able to provide a tailored service to meet the individual needs of that particular household. Feedback from residents who have used the service has identified that the service has improved the well-being of residents as they report feeling less vulnerable.

There are no barriers to residents accessing the service – the project is open to referrals by residents themselves, or through an organisation, for example the Police following a burglary. Taking all of this information into account, there are no issues relating to diversity.

The work of the partnership means that the project is promoted in some editions of EBC Today, although not in any of the last four editions. The service is also promoted at any market stall events held at Ilkeston and Long Eaton, and other partners including Neighbourhood Watch and the Police. The scheme is not currently promoted via the EBC website but consideration is being given to a partnership website which could address this. The use of the new equality monitoring form will provide data to identify equality related issues.

Section 4: Impact Assessment *Here you need to analyse the needs of different groups and the possible impacts the service may have on them. How is the policy or decision likely to affect the **promotion of equality** and the **elimination of discrimination** in each of the groups?*

| Stake Holder Group | Is this group likely to be affected in a positive way? | In what way will they be affected? | Is this group likely to be affected in a negative way? | In what way will they be affected? |
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| Age (older people, young people) | The group is likely to be affected in a positive way. | Older people are classed as a 'vulnerable' group for the project and would therefore have access to the project subject to them being a home owner. | Yes | The scheme is not currently being promoted via EBC Today or the website, for older residents the use of an article in EBC Today may have greater impact in raising awareness of the service. |
| People with Disabilities (Both physical and mental impairments) | The group is likely to be affected in a positive way. | Those with disabilities are classed as a 'vulnerable' group for the project and would therefore have access to the project subject to them being a home owner. | Yes | No data is currently being collected to identify if this group is accessing the service but this may be addressed by the new equality monitoring form which service users will be able to complete. |
| Gender (Women, Men, Transgender, Transsexuals) | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |
| Race (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic groups. Include people whose first language is not English) | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. Information required in another language could be provided where English was not the first language of the home owner. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |
| Sexual Orientation | The group is unlikely to be affected as this | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |

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| | is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | | is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | |
| Religion and belief | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |
| Dignity, Human Rights and Socio-economic disadvantage | Yes | Vulnerable residents who may not have the income available to make these changes are provided with safety and security advice and devices free of charge. | The group is unlikely to be affected in a negative way as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |
| Marriage and Civil partnerships | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |
| Pregnancy and maternity/paternity | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. | The group is unlikely to be affected as this is not relevant to the receipt of the service. | The service would refer into any other services required should the need arise from a visit or contact with a resident. |

| Section 5A: Actions How will you monitor the ongoing effect of the policy/strategy/plan? | When will this be undertaken? | Expected outcomes / performance measures | Which Corporate Plan aim will this action meet? |
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| <p>The Service Level Agreement sets out the performance information required from the delivery organisation and both Erewash and South Derbyshire CSPs are in continual dialogue about the project and work through any issues as they arise.</p> | <p>Monthly, with quarterly meetings.</p> | <p>Numbers of referrals received from each referral agency</p> <p>Number of visits made and details of equipment installed</p> <p>Results of any client satisfaction survey / other feedback</p> <p>Number of complaints received and how they were resolved</p> <p>Any staffing issues</p> <p>Any proposals or recommendations for the development / extension of the Service.</p> <p>Collection of a broader range of equality data</p> | <p>A clean, safe and welcoming borough.</p> |
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| 5B: If you have identified any negative impacts on any of the groups in section 4 how will you mitigate the effect? | | | | | |
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| Negative impact | Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact | Outcome / performance measure | Lead Officer – who will the monitoring of this action be reported to? | Date that the monitoring will be undertaken, how often will it be done? | Which of the current Equality Objectives does this action meet? (State number *) |
| <p>The scheme is not currently being promoted via EBC Today or the website, for older residents the use of an</p> | <p>Greater promotion of the scheme via EBC Today</p> | <p>One edition of EBC Today per year to have an article included.</p> | <p>Community Safety Manager</p> | <p>March 2018</p> | <p>Objective 1 & 2</p> |

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| <p>article in EBC Today may have greater impact in raising awareness of the service.</p> | <p>Consideration is being given to a partnership website which will allow greater promotion of individual schemes and activities such as the Safer Homes project</p> | <p>Decision about a website is pending.</p> | <p>Community Safety Manager</p> | <p>December 2017</p> | <p>Objective 1& 2</p> |
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*The objectives are:

1. **Provide a welcoming and safe place for our communities, visitors and businesses which embraces equality and is free from discrimination.**
2. **Provide relevant services that are free from discrimination and delivered in a way that is responsive and accessible.**
3. **Understand and value the diversity of our communities through community engagement**
4. **Foster an accessible and inclusive working environment for all our staff and strive to achieve a workforce that is representative and diverse.**