

Draft equality impact assessment

1 Service affected

- Review of current practice for equipment orders;
- review of discretionary small items;
- review of equipment to homes

2 Relevance to equality

You need to make clear if the policy/function is highly relevant, relevant or not relevant to equality. To determine relevance to equality you need to complete the 'Determining Equality Relevance Checklist at the start of this document.

Please detail which groups are most affected.

- People with a disability
- Older people

3 Potential savings

Proposed savings to budget.

On-going net revenue savings against 2019/20 budget

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000
Gross revenue saving/additional income (-)	150	150	150	150
Additional revenue cost (+)	0	0	0	0
Net revenue saving (-)/cost(+)	150	150	150	150

How will this be achieved?

Rationalisation of equipment to ensure most cost effective option is supplied

4 Policy/service proposal

There is scope to reduce the current level of expenditure on equipment through

- (a) replacing special orders with standard stock items in all but exceptional cases;
- (b) reviewing arrangements for provision of equipment to care homes;
- (c) general review of the scope of items of equipment provided through the Joint Store. There may be scope to explore further revenue saving through capitalising more purchases if appropriate capital provision (beyond the current £200,000) is available.

Associated savings costs to be reviewed and added. Investigate option of a partnership with provider(s) to offer the option of a paid "up-grade" for higher spec of equipment. .

5 Impact on equalities groups

Please detail the likely impact of your proposals on each equality group including service users and potential service users.

The equality groups are

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage and civil partnership (but only for aim one of the duty)

You will need to consider these impacts in relation to the duties detailed under the PSED

Please indicate how important this service is to each equality group and the likely impact of change on each group

There is likely to be no or a negligible impact on the provision of critical equipment and therefore no impact on outcomes for people.

The changes being proposed are on the supply side and are about making better use of resources and making use of generic, lower cost items that meet client need rather than purchasing bespoke items.

6 Evidence of impacts

What evidence do you currently have about who uses this service and the likely impact of your proposals on each equalities group?

See Tables below.

There is only a limited risk associated with this proposal. It requires diligence to ensure equipment prescribers only provide bespoke rather than generic equipment where there is an identifiable eligible need. Changes to the provision of discretionary items (simple low cost aids that are widely available) will need to be well communicated but users of the services should not notice any change in standards.

Table 1 – Age profile of service users in receipt of equipment 2017/18

Age Band	Number of service users	%
65+	975	78%
18 - 64	277	22%
Total	1252	100%

78% of adult social care service users who received equipment in 2017/18 were aged 65+. 22% of Adult Social Care clients were aged 18-64.

Table 2 – Primary Support Reason of service users in receipt of equipment 2017/18

Primary Support Reason	Number of service users	%
Physical Support - Personal Care Support	1165	93.1%
Physical Support - Access and Mobility Only	28	2.2%
Learning Disability Support	27	2.2%
Support with Memory and Cognition	18	1.4%
Social Support - Support for Social Isolation / Other	10	0.8%
Mental Health Support	3	0.2%

Sensory Support - Support for Visual Impairment	1	0.1%
Total	1252	100%

People with a Primary Support Reason of Physical Support (Primary Care Support) represented 93% of adult social care service users in receipt of equipment in the period. A further 2% of service users had a PSR of Physical Support (Access and Mobility only).

Table 3 - Sex of service users in receipt of equipment 2017/18

Sex	Number of service users	%
Female	806	64%
Male	446	36%
Total	1252	100%

The above table shows that there were more female (64%) than male (36%) service users in receipt of equipment in Bexley in 2017/18.

Table 4 - Ethnicity of service users in receipt of equipment

Ethnicity	Number of service users	%
White	973	78%
Mixed	10	1%
Asian/ Asian British	56	4%
Black/ Black British	53	4%
Other	9	1%
BME groups	128	10%
Refused/Not Known	151	12%
Total	1252	100%

Data shows that 78% of adult social care service users in receipt of equipment were White. 10% were from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Groups.

Table 5 – Religion or belief of service users in receipt of equipment

Religion/belief	No. of service users	%
Religion not stated	745	59.5%
Christian	417	33.3%
No religion/belief	46	3.7%
Muslim	14	1.1%
Hindu	12	1.0%
Sikh	11	0.9%
Other religions	4	0.3%
Jewish	3	0.2%
Buddhist	0	0%
Total	1252	100%

33.3% of service users in receipt of equipment in 2017/18 were Christian and 3.7% have no religion or belief. There is no record of religion or belief for 745 people (59.5%) in receipt of equipment. 44 service users (3.5%) in receipt of equipment in 2017/18 were affiliated to a minority religious group.

What data is missing and how would you be able to fill this gap?

- Sexual orientation: No evidence available
- Marriage and civil partnership: No evidence available

It should be noted that some individuals or client groups may be reluctant to share this information or may not wish their status to be recorded. In some circumstances, there may not be opportunities to record this additional information (e.g., where service users have only been issued equipment and not come into contact with other services).

Is this likely to be subject to a public consultation with service users and potential service users?

Yes.

How will you do this?

The Council is undertaking a consultation on 2019/20 budget proposals between November 2018 and 11 January 2019. People will be able to give their views online or using a paper survey.

7 Possible mitigating actions

Please detail how any potential negative impacts for each equalities groups could possibly be addressed?

If possible please indicate what you think the likely cost of mitigation would be

As with all contracts, the Council will continue to monitor the efficacy of the proposed changes to ensure the delivery of savings with no impact to service users.