

Equality Impact Assessment

This **online** equality impact assessment should:

An equality impact assessment should take place when considering doing something in a new way. Please submit your completed EIA as an appendix to your committee report. Please remember that this will be a public document – do not use jargon or abbreviations.

Service Directorate of Economic Growth and Regeneration

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy

Application for Commuted Sums Funds for Lune Valley Community Land Trust

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy: Existing New/Proposed

Lead Officer Kathy Beaton

People involved with completing the EIA

Kathy Beaton

Step 1.1: Make sure you have clear aims and objectives

Q1. What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

To provide a grant to fund the site acquisition of a proposed community led housing project providing 20 units of affordable housing.

Q2.

Who is intended to benefit? Who will it have a detrimental effect on and how?

The proposed scheme will directly benefit local communities in need of affordable housing, and will provide the highest possible standard of energy efficiency (Passivhaus) keeping running costs low. This in turn will help mitigate the effects of climate change and will encourage other community groups and housing providers to achieve the same standards.

Step 1.2: Collecting your information

Q3. Using existing data (if available) and thinking about each group below, does, or could, the policy, service, function, project or strategy have a negative impact on the groups below?

Group	Negative	Positive/No Impact	Unclear
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faith, religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender including marriage, pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation including civic partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other socially excluded groups such as carers, areas of deprivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 1.3 – Is there a need to consult!

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Q4. Who have you consulted with? If you haven't consulted yet please list who you are going to consult with? Please give examples of how you have or are going to consult with specific groups of communities

Lune Valley CLT has already been engaged in consultation with the local community in Halton in 2018 and ongoing dialogue with Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council. A Parish Housing Needs Survey has been commissioned which includes Halton and neighbouring parishes so that the scheme can be designed to align with the needs identified in the survey. There has been extensive consultation with the Community Land Trust Network's Specialist Advisor who has been working very closely with and on behalf of the group. There has been consultation with Homes England as capital grant funding will be required. Lune Valley CLT will be entering into a development lease with South Lakes Housing, a partner Registered Provider, stemming from detailed discussions and negotiations to take this project forward.

Step 1.4 – Assessing the impact

Q5. Using the existing data and the assessment in questions 3 what does it tell you, is there an impact on some groups in the community?

Age: Positive. The scheme will include units which comply with M4(2) accessibility standards which would be suitable for people of any age.
Disability: Positive. The scheme will include units which comply with M4(2) accessibility standards to ensure that people with specific needs can be accommodated within the development
Faith, Religion or Belief: No impact/Positive - it will increase the choice of affordable housing to all sectors of the community
Gender including Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity: No impact/Positive - it will increase the choice of affordable to people and the unit sizes will align to whatever the identified need is.
Gender Reassignment: No impact/Positive - the whole purpose of the scheme is to create an inclusive community.
Race: No impact/Positive - the whole purpose of the scheme is to create an inclusive community.
Sexual Orientation including Civic Partnership: No impact/Positive
Rural Communities: In relation to the allocation policy for the affordable units, preference will be given to people with a local connection to Halton and then surrounding rural areas and then anywhere else in Lancaster district.

Step 1.5 – What are the differences?

Q6. If you are either directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to change this or mitigate the negative impact?

None expected

Q7. Do you need any more information/evidence eg statistic, consultation. If so how do you plan to address this?

Further consultation will take place as deemed appropriate to support the planning application for this scheme. The group may also undertake further marketing/engagement work if the scheme proceeds.

Step 1.6 – Make a recommendation based on steps 1.1 to 1.5

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Q8. If you are in a position to make a recommendation to change or introduce the policy, service, function, project or strategy, clearly show how it was decided on.

Cabinet approval is being sought to allow the existing policy on allocation of commuted sums to be amended. Grants have previously been awarded to Registered Providers and the proposed amendment would include community groups to receive commuted sums payments. Community led housing is probably more able to provide a housing solution that meets a very clearly defined local housing need. This proposal provides an excellent opportunity to deliver a community led development providing 100% affordable housing in Lancaster district which offers the potential to provide an exemplar scheme in terms of the design and thermal efficiency and be zero carbon.

Q9.
If
you
are
not

in a position to go ahead, what actions are you going to take?

N/A

Q10. Where necessary, how do you plan to monitor the impact and effectiveness of this change or decision?

Regular review and analysis of grant applications and payments.