

Part A

Initial Impact Assessment

Proposal name

Acceptance and spending of Domestic Act Funding for support in Safe Accommodation

Brief aim(s) of the proposal and the outcome(s) you want to achieve

Sheffield City Council has been awarded £1,356,134 for 2023/24 and £1,381,721 for 2024/25 by the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities in order to provide support for people living in safe accommodation because of domestic abuse. This is the third and fourth year of new burdens funding relating to Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

This EIA covers the proposal that this funding is accepted by Sheffield City Council and used to fund existing contracts and grants for the purposes of meeting our statutory duties under Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act – which requires local authorities to provide support to people living in safe accommodation due to domestic abuse (as laid out in the statutory guidance).

Acceptance of the funding is an enabling proposal to support the substantive aim of providing accommodation and support. EIA 975, *Domestic Abuse safe accommodation and support services re-commissioning*, provides a full assessment and context.

Proposal type

Budget

non-Budget

If Budget, entered on Q Tier? Yes No

Q Tier reference

0014032000000

Year of proposal (s)

21/22 22/23 23/24 24/25 other

Decision Type

- Committee (select below)**
- Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee
- Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee
- Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee
- Education, Children and Families Policy Committee
- Housing Policy Committee
- Strategy and Resources Policy Committee
- Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee
- Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee
- Regulatory Committees (e.g. Licensing Committee)
- Other Policy Committee or sub-Committee
- Local Area Committees
- Leader**
- Executive Director/Director**
- Officer Decisions (Non-Key)**
- Council (e.g. Budget and Housing Revenue Account)**

Lead Committee Member	Bryan Lodge / Zahira Naz
Lead Director for Proposal	Greg Fell
Person filling in this EIA form	Alison Higgins
Equality Lead Officer	Ed Sexton

Lead Equality Objective

<input type="radio"/> Understanding Communities	<input type="radio"/> Workforce Diversity	<input type="radio"/> Leading the city in celebrating & promoting inclusion	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Break the cycle and improve life chances
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Portfolio, Service and Team

Lead Portfolio **Is this Cross-Portfolio?**
 Yes No

Is the EIA joint with another organisation (eg NHS)?
 Yes No Please specify

Consultation

Is consultation required?
 Yes No

If consultation is not required please state why

This proposal is to accept government funding in order to continue current contract and grant arrangements. Consultation took place in 2021 on the Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment and Strategy that this funding relates to.

Are Staff who may be affected by these proposals aware of them?
 Yes No

Are Customers who may be affected by these proposals aware of them?
 Yes No

If you have said no to either please say why

Customers have not been informed as they will be unaffected as services will continue.

Initial Impact

Under the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) we have to pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations

For a range of people who share protected characteristics, more information is available on the [Council website](#) including the [Community Knowledge Profiles](#).

Identify Impacts

Identify which characteristic the proposal has an impact on tick all that apply

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transgender
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy/Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partners
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race	<input type="checkbox"/> Cohesion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poverty & Financial Inclusion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Armed Forces
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact?

- Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/> Year on Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Across a Community of Identity/Interest
<input type="checkbox"/> Geographical Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

If yes, details of impact

Does the proposal have a geographical impact across Sheffield?

- Yes No

If Yes, details of geographical impact across Sheffield

City wide

Local Area Committee Area(s) impacted

- All Specific

If Specific, name of Local Committee Area(s) impacted

Initial Impact Overview

Based on the information about the proposal what will the overall equality impact?

Domestic Abuse is a gendered issue: the funding will be spent as required under the statutory guidance for support in safe accommodation for people affected by domestic abuse.

Some of the funding will be used to enhance support offered in our young women's provision, and the majority of the recipients of the other adult provision are anticipated to be female. However the funding will enable increased support to male victims, including GBT+ victims being supported in dispersed accommodation and via our Sanctuary Scheme provision (target hardening for domestic abuse victims to enable them to stay safe in their own homes).

The needs assessment and strategy produced in 2021 and currently being refreshed, considers all people with protected characteristics in relation to domestic abuse and is designed to help us ensure that services are accessible to all sections of local communities.

The funding will be used to continue existing contracts and grants in order to ensure Sheffield has good quality refuges and dispersed accommodation, and that victims and their children (from all protected groups in the city and those that aren't protected) are able to access support to enable them to recover from the impact of domestic abuse and move on with their lives.

EIA 975, *Domestic Abuse safe accommodation and support services re-commissioning*, provides a full assessment and context.

Is a Full impact Assessment required at this stage? Yes No

If the impact is more than minor, in that it will impact on a particular protected characteristic you must complete a full impact assessment below.

Initial Impact Sign Off

EIAs must be agreed and signed off by an Equality lead Officer. Has this been signed off?

Yes No

Date agreed

Name of EIA lead officer

Review Date