

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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| Name of activity: | Empty Property Assistance Program | Date Completed: | 13 th October 2021 |
| Directorate / Division responsible for activity: | Place/Technical Services | Lead Officer: | Nat Slade |
| Existing Activity | Y | New / Proposed Activity | N |
| | | Changing / Updated Activity | Y |

What are the aims / main purposes of the activity?

To bring empty properties back into use, the report proposes a review of this activity.

What are the main actions and processes involved?

Proactively and reactively investigating long term (6month or more) empty properties, to bring them back into use by informal means, offer of financial assistance or through enforcement action. A review of this activity is proposed to assist with bringing more empty properties back into use.

Who is intended to benefit & who are the main stakeholders?

All residents of Arun District could potentially benefit from this activity.
 Bringing an empty property back into use means a much needed home becomes available, potentially for a local resident/family, it can deal with a range of issues that the empty home could be causing in the neighbourhood eg. Vandalism, pest infestations, squatting, rubbish etc, thereby benefitting local residents.
 A range of departments within the Council are involved with Empty Homes work, Private Sector Housing, Council Tax, Legal, Planning and Housing, other stakeholders include property owners, local residents, letting/estate agents, developers, local charitable housing organisations

Have you already consulted on / researched the activity?

The Council have had an empty homes officer for a number of years therefore activity in this area is based upon experience as well as researching good practice from other local authorities and playing an active role in the National Empty Homes Network.

| Impact on people with a protected characteristic (What is the potential impact of the activity? Are the impacts high, medium or low?) | | |
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| Protected characteristics / groups | Is there an impact (Yes / No) | If Yes, what is it and identify whether it is positive or negative |
| Age (older / younger people, children) | No | |
| Disability (people with physical / sensory impairment or mental disability) | No | |
| Gender reassignment (the process of transitioning from one gender to another.) | No | |
| Marriage & civil partnership (Marriage is defined as a 'union between a man and a woman'. Civil partnerships are legally recognized for same-sex couples) | No | |
| Pregnancy & maternity (Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant & maternity refers to the period after the birth) | No | |
| Race (ethnicity, colour, nationality or national origins & including gypsies, travellers, refugees & asylum seekers) | No | |
| Religion & belief (religious faith or other group with a recognised belief system) | No | |
| Sex (male / female) | No | |

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| Sexual orientation (lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual) | No | |
| Whilst Socio economic disadvantage that people may face is not a protected characteristic; the potential impact on this group should be also considered | No | |

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| What evidence has been used to assess the likely impacts? |
| Experience of delivering this activity and researching good practise from other local authorities. |

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| Decision following initial assessment | | | |
| Continue with existing or introduce new / planned activity | Y | Amend activity based on identified actions | N |

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| Action Plan | | | |
| Impact identified | Action required | Lead Officer | Deadline |
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| Monitoring & Review | |
| Date of last review or Impact Assessment: | |
| Date of next 12 month review: | |

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| Date of next 3 year Impact Assessment (from the date of this EIA): | |
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| Date EIA completed: | 13/10/21 |
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| Signed by Person Completing: | Louise Crane |
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