Northamptonshire County Council		Initial Equality Impact Assessment
Department	Environment, Developme	ent and Transport
Service Area	Northamptonshire Fire a	nd Rescue Service (NFRS)
Date	12 April 2013	

This Initial EqIA will help you to analyse equality in the context of your policy, practice or function.

The assessment is a useful method to document your equalities analysis in a transparent manner, as well as to consider whether there are opportunities to **advance equality** in relation to your proposal. Even if there are no adverse impacts, it is **essential** to ensure that we meet our equality duties in The Equality Act 2010 by considering whether we have had 'Due Regard' to:

- The elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- The advancement of equality of opportunity between and for different groups of protected characteristics
- The fostering of good relations between and for different groups of protected characteristics

The **'Protected characteristics'** we must consider in terms of the above **duties** are referred to in the Equality Act 2010 'Public Sector Equality Duty' and are:

- Sex
- Gender reassignment (i.e. transgender individuals),
- Age (young and old),
- Disability (mental, and physical)
- Race and ethnicity,

- Sexual orientation (heterosexuality, homosexuality, etc)
- Religion or belief (including no belief)
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Marriage and Civil Partnership Only applies to the first aim of the Public Sector Equality Duty above

For more information about analysing equalities and to view the Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit, please visit the County Council Equalities pages: http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/community/equalities/pages/toolkit.aspx

1. <u>Who is responsible for equality analysis?</u>

All officers and members of Northamptonshire County Council, have some degree of responsibility for ensuring that EqIAs are conducted. You need to identify the people who will lead and be responsible for this EqIA.

Title of policy, practice, service or function to be changed or implemented	A10 – Social and Charity Events
Is this a new or existing policy, practice, service or function?	Existing policy (updated)
Persons undertaking assessment (please also state name or contact of lead officer)	Area Manager – Community Services

2. Details of policy, practice, service or function

What are the aims and objectives of the policy, practice or function? If this EqIA is assessing the impact of a proposed change please describe the aims of the proposed change.	A10 gives guidance to all personnel on social and charity events.
Who is intended to benefit from this proposal policy, practice or function? Beneficiaries could including individuals, small community organisations or wider voluntary bodies.	All Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) personnel. Any individual/group/organisation that has an encounter with NFRS.
Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the proposed policy/service/function? (Partners, Community Groups, Commissioned Services etc)	All NFRS personnel
Who implements the proposed Policy/Service/Function and is responsible for it? (Lead officer, Head of service, Director etc)	Area Manager – Community Services

A variety of data sources can be used in Equality Impact Assessments, to provide an overview about the effect of proposed measures on groups of protected characteristics.

Source e.g. statistics, demographics, indicators, partner data, consultation, surveys, customer complaints and comments	Reasons for using
Full consultation to agreed NFRS consultation group	To provide feedback that ensures this policy meets service/personnel needs

In response to the information above, please state whether there are concerns or evidence that the policy/ procedure/ function could have a specific impact on people from the following groups?

	Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?				Can the policy/procedure/function be altered to help mitigate or alleviate a negative impact?			Can the policy/procedure/function be altered to help meet our Public Sector Equality Duty to advance equality?		
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure	Yes	No	Unsure	Yes	No	Unsure
Sex			\square							
Gender Reassignment			\square							
Age			\square							
Disability			\square							
Race & Ethnicity			\square							
Sexual Orientation			\square							
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)			\square							
Pregnancy & Maternity			\square							
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)										
Other Groups (rural isolation etc)			\boxtimes							

Are there any gaps in information and understanding of your policy and services? If yes please include how you intend to fill these gaps in the Action Planning section.

Gaps in data/ understanding	No

4. Action Planning

Analysing equalities should be a continuous process. Where a full assessment is not required, but minor changes or amendments to the planned proposal can be made, please use the action plan template below.

Planned Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe	Success Measure
e.g. Filling gaps in information in time for the EqIA review			

Do stakeholders agree with your findings and proposed response? (Please explain your answer.)

5. <u>Should the policy proceed to a full impact assessment?</u>

Is there is evidence of a disproportionate adverse or positive impact on any groups of protected characteristic? Are there concerns that there may be an impact that cannot be easily mitigated or alleviated through minor alterations? Is there an opportunity to significantly alter your proposal to meet the positive duties? If yes to any of the above then you must answer <u>YES</u> unless you can provide strong justification below.

	Yes	No	No	
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6. Authorisation and Review

Completing Officer (Name):	Area Manager – Community Services
Completing Officer (Signature):	
Authorising Assistant Director (Name):	Chief Fire Officer
Authorising Assistant Director (Signature):	
Date	12 April 2013
Review Date	12 April 2015

Equality Impact Assessment Matrix

From time to time, random sampling of Equality Impact Assessments may occur. They will be scored and assessed for quality assurance in terms of analysing internal and external impact. Internal impact is associated with employees of NCC, and external impact concerns external customers (including community and voluntary groups as well as individuals.) This scoring analyses pre mitigation risk and post mitigation risk.

For more details associated with the Equality Impact Assessment Matrix, as well as specific queries about the general Equality Impact Assessment process, please contact Equalities@Northamptonshire.gov.uk