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Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation

Introductory Information

Reference number

1286

Budget/project proposal name

Consultation for the proposed London Road/Abbeydale Road Selective Licensing.

Entered on Q Tier
 Yes No

Budget/project proposal status

Project

Years

12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
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EIA date

01/06/2017

EIA lead

Louise.Nunn@sheffield.gov.uk

EIA contact

Louise.Nunn@sheffield.gov.uk

Lead corporate plan priority

Thriving Neighbourhoods and Communities

Portfolio, Service and Team

Cross portfolio
 Yes No

Communities
 Yes No

Service

Housing Services

Team

Private Housing Standards

CYPF
 Yes No

Place
 Yes No

Resources
 Yes No

PPC
 Yes No

Health (including Director of Public Health)
 Yes No

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

To undertake a consultation in the London Road / Abbeydale Road / Chesterfield Road area on the proposal to implement a selective licensing scheme for private rented properties in the area. Whilst the consultation itself will not directly address the disadvantage in the area it will provide more information for us to plan any future scheme.

Specialist Provision

Proposal impacts on or relates to specialist provision
 Yes No

Poverty (Financial Inclusion)

Proposal has an impact on poverty or financial inclusion

Yes No

Customer impact

Positive

Level

None/Low

Summary of impact

The reasons for the SL scheme are poor housing condition and poor tenancy management in the area: these are forms of social deprivation and social injustice. The conditions and standards proposed will tackle and reduce these (if the SL scheme goes ahead). The consultation will gather information which will help with the delivery of the SL scheme; the SL scheme itself will have a positive effect on the social deprivation and injustice in the area.

Supporting evidence

The Selective Licensing scheme extends across 12 Lower Super Output Areas; 8 of these 12 are in the 50% most deprived LSOAs in the country.

Action plan bring drawn up

Yes No

After mitigation, there a residual medium/high impact

Yes No

Health

Proposal has significant impact on health and well-being (including effects on the wider determinants of health)

Yes No

Customer impact

Positive

Level

None/Low

Summary of impact

The consultation will gather information which will improve our knowledge of the area, and it is likely to inform the pro-active visits we are already undertaking. Should these visits highlight tenants that are living in unsuitable rented accommodation the team will address this and aim to improve living conditions.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation; additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan bring drawn up

Yes No

Comprehensive health impact assessment being completed

Yes No

Public Health Leads has signed off the health impact(s) of this EIA

Yes No

Health lead

Select...

Age

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Positive

Level

None/Low

Details on impact

The consultation will gather information which will improve our knowledge of the area, and it is likely to inform the pro-active visits we are already undertaking. Should these visits highlight tenants that are living in unsuitable

rented accommodation the team will address this and aim to improve the living conditions.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation, additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan

Yes No

Disability**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Positive

Level

None/Low

Details on impact

The consultation will gather information which will improve our knowledge of the area, and it is likely to inform the pro-active visits we are already undertaking. Should these visits highlight tenants that are living in unsuitable rented accommodation the team will address this and aim to improve the living conditions.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation, additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan

Yes No

Pregnancy/maternity**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Positive

Level

None/Low

Details on impact

The consultation will gather information which will improve our knowledge of the area, and it is likely to inform the pro-active visits we are already undertaking. Should these visits highlight tenants that are living in unsuitable rented accommodation the team will address this and aim to improve the living conditions.

The information that we gather may lead to visits where officers encounter situations which are potentially not safe for small children; if so the team will make recommendations for improvement, and make referrals to the relevant partner services if appropriate.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation, additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan

Yes No

Race**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Negative

Level

Medium/High

Details on impact

A significant number of landlords and tenants in the proposed SL area are from a BME background, with a variety of ethnicities and cultures. People unhappy with the proposed scheme may claim that landlords and tenants from BME groups are being unfairly targeted. This was experienced with the Page Hall Selective Licensing scheme and we mitigated it by ensuring that all landlords are subject to the same process, that work is monitored to ensure consistency and we are open about what we do.

There are a wide variety of community languages in the area and our experience is that some tenants do not speak English very well. We will deal with this by offering to translate materials in to community languages and using community forums to help us reach as many people as possible.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation, additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

To ensure that we are as inclusive as possible and treat landlords and tenants in the consultation area equally, regardless of their ethnicity, and that our subsequent recommendations are fully justified.

Religion/belief**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Sex**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Sexual Orientation**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Transgender**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Carers**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Cohesion

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Neutral

Level

Medium/High

Details on impact

The consultation, and proposed scheme may have divergent simultaneous effects. By reaching out to the local community we will give tenants, residents and businesses a voice, which will improve cohesion, but there may be a negative reaction from landlords which could cause some rifts between them and the Council, and also between some landlords and tenants.

Supporting evidence

Project Officers are being recruited to deliver the consultation, additional staff will be recruited to administer the SL scheme itself, should it go ahead.

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

We will work to minimise negative effects by setting out our case clearly, to show that it is justified and will have benefits, and by being open and inclusive in our approach. Responsible landlords will benefit from the information and support provided.

Partners**Customers**

Yes No

Armed Forces**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Other/Additional**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Supporting Documentation**Summary of Impact****Overall summary of possible impact**

Consultations, by their nature, give the target community(s) a voice, and so can both be empowering but also divisive, if not everybody agrees with the proposals.

Ultimately we are intending to change the power balance between the landlords and tenants in the area, and to improve the local conditions in the way which will benefit everybody. In the process we can anticipate negative responses from some sectors, but that is part of the process of change, and the change itself will be for the greater good overall.

Proposal has geographical impact across Sheffield

Yes No

Which local partnership area will be impacted

All Partnership Areas

Central

South

South West

Proposal has a cumulative impact

Yes No

Year on year Across a community Geographical area Other

Details of cumulative impact**Summary of evidence****Review****Review date**

01/12/2017

Risk rating

Medium

Decision Type**Type of decision**

Individual Cabinet Member

Lead cabinet member

Dunn Jayne (LAB CLLR)

Staff**Staff who may be affected by these proposals are aware** Yes No**Consultation****Consultation required** Yes No**Consultation start date**

07/08/2017

Consultation end date

06/11/2017

Details of consultation**Manager and Approval****Lead officer**

Hughes Catherine

EIA approved Yes No**EIA escalated due to significant poverty impact and sign-off agreed** Yes No

Form incomplete