

PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

Proposal Name: Asylum Dispersal Grant

EIA ID: 2427

EIA Author: Beth Storm (Place)

Proposal Outline:

The policy of local dispersal of those seeking asylum in the UK was introduced by the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. In 2022, the government made provision for an Asylum Dispersal Grant (the Grant) to be paid to local authorities. Discretion is given by government regarding how to disperse the funds, on the basis that the money is 'used to implement and/or bolster services' for the asylum cohort. This EIA accompanies a report to the Communities, Parks & Leisure Committee (Form 2a). Proposals outlined in this paper bolster efforts by SCC to meet the needs of those seeking asylum, the wider sanctuary estate and migrant communities. They also enable the continuation of productive, collaborative relationships with statutory, non-statutory and voluntary partners working towards an integrated, prosperous, inclusive city. This funding will enable Sheffield City Council to respond flexibly to the asylum and migrant community in Sheffield, along with the wider sanctuary cohort, to support their integration.

Proposal Type: Non-Budget

Year Of Proposal: 23/24

Lead Director for proposal: Lorraine Wood

Service Area: Communities

EIA Start Date: 01/11/2023

Lead Equality Objective:

Leading the city in celebrating and promoting inclusion

Equality Lead Officer:

Ed Sexton

Decision Type

Committees:

Policy Committees

- Communities, Parks & Leisure

Portfolio

Primary Portfolio:

Operational Services

EIA is cross portfolio:

No

EIA is joint with another organisation:

No

Overview of Impact

Overview Summary:

Receipt of this funding will advance equality of opportunity by improving opportunities for provision of support for those seeking asylum, refugees and the wider sanctuary cohort. The Sheffield response to asylum, the wider sanctuary estate, and our migrant communities is more vital than ever. Lack of integration and unmet requirements can impact on the ability of people to settle and become socially and economically active. This is likely to impact longer-term, not on only individuals, but the wider city community. This funding will enable Sheffield City Council to respond flexibly to the asylum and migrant community in Sheffield, along with the wider sanctuary cohort, to support their integration. There are no disproportionate equality of opportunity implications arising from this proposal.

Impacted characteristics:

- Health
- Race
- Religion/Belief
- Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors
- Poverty & Financial Inclusion
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Sex
- Gender Reassignment

Consultation and other engagement

Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact: No

Impact areas:

Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required: Yes

Review Date: 01/11/2024

PART B - Full Impact Assessment

Health

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Provision of good quality wraparound services for these groups will have a positive impact on mental wellbeing.

Name of Lead Health Officer:

Comprehensive Assessment Being Completed: No

Public Health Lead signed off health impact(s):

Age

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: There are no disproportionate negative equality of opportunity impacts regarding age. The positive impact of these proposals will be felt across different age groups, including children and young people, subject to the numbers within different groups in the asylum, refugee and sanctuary cohort within the city.

Gender Reassignment

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: There are no disproportionate negative equality of opportunity impacts regarding gender reassignment. The positive impact of these proposals may be felt by people who have faced additional risks associated with their gender identity, subject to the numbers within different groups in the asylum, refugee and sanctuary cohort within the city.

Poverty & Financial Inclusion

Staff Impacted:

No

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

Lack of integration and unmet requirements can impact on the ability of people to settle and become socially and economically active. This work is anticipated to impact positively in respect of this characteristic.

Race

Staff Impacted:

No

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

There are no disproportionate negative equality of opportunity impacts regarding race. The positive impact of these proposals will be felt more across some race groups than others, subject to the numbers within different groups in the asylum, refugee and sanctuary cohort within the city.

Religion / Belief

Staff Impacted:

No

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

There are no disproportionate negative equality of opportunity impacts regarding race. The positive impact of these proposals will be felt more across some race groups than others, subject to the numbers within different faith groups in the asylum, refugee and sanctuary cohort within the city.

Sexual Orientation

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: There are no disproportionate negative equality of opportunity impacts regarding sexual orientation. The positive impact of these proposals may be felt by people who have faced additional risks associated with their sexual orientation, subject to the numbers within different groups in the asylum, refugee and sanctuary cohort within the city.

Voluntary / Community & Faith Sectors

Staff Impacted: Yes

Customers Impacted: No

Description of Impact: VCFS providers occupy a significant space in providing wraparound support to those seeking asylum as well as those arriving via other resettlement and refugee pathways. Therefore, this work is anticipated to impact positively on the voluntary, community and faith sector.

Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

Outline of action plan: No actions beyond those highlighted in the attached document are required at this stage.

Action plan evidence: As a living document, this EIA will remain under continual review and be developed alongside any further work in this area.

Changes made as a result of action plan:

Mitigation

Significant risk after mitigation measures: No

Outline of impact and risks:

Review Date

Review Date:

01/11/2024

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