



APPENDIX
Equality Impact Assessment

What are you assessing? Please tick the appropriate box below.

Function	Strategy	Policy	Project	Other, please specify below
		✓		

Service: Resources	Section: Finance – Internal Audit
Responsible Officer: Ian Corbridge	Name of function/strategy/ policy/ project assessed: Counter Fraud Prosecution & Sanctions Policy
Date of Assessment: 12 th May 2020	
Officers Involved: Ian Corbridge Louise Steele	
1.What is the purpose of the function/strategy/policy/project assessed? <i>(Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the function/strategy/policy/project)</i>	
The lack of a Counter Fraud Prosecution and Sanctions Policy would expose the Council to the risk of not being able to effectively combat fraud and corruption in relation to the activities of the Council. The Policy brings together a range of legislation which provides a full range of sanctions, penalties and prosecution available to council's to support an effective deterrent regime.	

2. Who are the key stakeholders?
Residents of the Borough Members RBC Officers including Counter Fraud, Revenues and Benefits Blue Badge Team, Parking Enforcement, Legal Litigation Team
3. What is the scope of this equality impact assessment? That is, what is included in this assessment.
The scope considers the impact on all key stakeholders which extends to all residents of the Borough and all existing legislation supporting this area.
4. Which needs is this function/strategy/ policy/ project designed to meet?
This Policy supports the need for an effective deterrent regime against fraud which underpins the Council's zero-tolerance culture against fraud.
5. Has a needs analysis been undertaken?
A needs analysis identified the requirement to have a clearly stated policy for all the sanctions available should fraud be identified to act as a deterrent and hopefully prevent frauds occurring to the detriment of the Council and all the residents of the Borough.
6. Who is affected by this function/strategy/ policy/ project?
The effect of this Policy extends to all residents of the Borough as well as all Members and officers and supports the work of the Counter Fraud Team.
7. Who has been involved in the review or development of this function/strategy/ policy/ project and who has been consulted? State your consultation/involvement methodology.
The Policy was drafted in consultation with senior representatives from Revenues and Benefits, Finance and Legal Services and members of the Welfare and Taxation Reform Board, including representatives from adult care, public health and social landlords. The current update by Counter Fraud has included discussions and comments from Legal – Litigation Team, Revenues and Benefits Blue Badge Team, Parking Enforcement and Internal Audit
8. What data have you considered for this assessment and have any gaps in the data been identified. What action will be taken to close any data gaps?
This assessment and the development of this Policy has considered all relevant legislation and other related policies including the following: Local Government Finance Act 1992

<p>Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013</p> <p>Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984</p> <p>The Welfare Reform Act 2012</p> <p>The Social Security Administration Act 1992</p> <p>Social Security (Loss of Benefit) Regulations 2001</p> <p>The Fraud Act 2006</p> <p>Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970</p> <p>Disabled Persons' Parking Badges Act</p> <p>Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984,</p> <p>Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981</p> <p>There are no known gaps in this assessment.</p>
<p>9.Are there any other documents or strategies which are linked to this assessment? If so, please include hyperlinks to these documents below, where available.</p> <p>This Policy forms a key part of the Councils' wider Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy</p> <p>http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/pdf/2019-11-05-anti-fraud-corruption-policy-v2.pdf</p>

<p>10.What impact will this function/strategy/policy/project have on all the protected groups? This includes both positive and potentially negative impacts.</p>
<p>Race Equality</p>
<p>This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of race.</p>
<p>Disabled People</p>
<p>This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of disability.</p>
<p>Carers</p>
<p>This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their role or occupation.</p>
<p>Gender</p>
<p>This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their gender.</p>

Age
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of age.
Armed Forces and Ex-Armed Forces Personnel
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their role or occupation.
Sexual Orientation
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their sexual orientation.
Gender Reassignment
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their gender.
Religion or Belief
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their religion or beliefs.
Pregnant Women or Those on Maternity Leave
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough and all employees of the Council regardless of their situation
Marriage or Civil Partnership
This Policy impacts upon all residents of the Borough regardless of their marital status
11.What are your main conclusions from this analysis?
The Policy impacts upon all employees of the Council and all residents of the Borough regardless of their situation and therefore no actions arise as a result of this assessment.
12.What are your recommendations?
As noted above, no actions arise as a result of this assessment.
13.What actions are you going to take to address the findings of this assessment? Please attach an action plan including details of designated officers responsible for completing these actions.
As noted above, no actions arise as a result of this assessment.

Signed (Completing Officer): Louise Steele

Date: 12 May 2020

Signed (Head of Service): Ian Corbridge

Date: 12 May 2020

Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan 2020/21

Action	Outcome	Target Date For Completion	Resource Implications	Lead Officer
N/A				