

HDC Equality Analysis Statement
ICT Internet Usage Policy - August 2014

Department and section: ICT Services

Name of lead officer: Chris James

Date: 13th August 2014

The ICT Internet Usage Policy - August 2014 is an updated policy which sets out guidelines and requirements for all users of Harborough District Council's (HDC) internet access. The policy is maintained by ICT Services who will work to ensure that internet access remains compliant.

Policy content is largely dictated by the relevant acts; including The Data Protection Act 1998 and The Computer Misuse Act 1990. HDC's continued connection to the Public Services Network (PSN) also mandates certain conditions which also result in policy amendments.

The policy has been reviewed by HDC's Equality and Diversity Officer and comments and suggestions received have been incorporated, where possible.

There is no evidence to suggest that this policy will have a disproportionately negative impact on any of the protected equality groups, so a full Equality Analysis has not been completed.

Individuals within the protected equality groups have been considered to address this policy's impact. The key issue was deemed to be the readability of the policy and this has been addressed by making it as clear and easy to read as possible. The policy is available electronically enabling resizing if required and hard copies can also be provided for those who require them (i.e. without system access) addressing potential accessibility issues. References to the HDC Equality Plan have also been added to the policy.

There may be circumstances where, due to a protected characteristic of a system user, individuals are affected by this policy and their use of the internet. These unique circumstances will be considered sensitively on an individual basis with the protected characteristic taken into account.

HDC currently have 206 staff and 37 Elected Members to whom this policy applies. Application of the policy will be monitored and adaptations made at review time, as necessary, alongside changes in legislation and other policies within the authority.

The policy is reviewed on an annual basis by the ICT Manager and Director - Corporate Services.