

HDC Initial Equality Impact Assessment Form (EIA1)

Service Area/Section	Health & Enforcement Services		Persons undertaking the assessment (please also state name of contact officer)		Elaine Bird – Environment Team Leader
Name of policy or function to be assessed	Dog Warden & Pest Control Tender	Date of assessment	1st November 2007	New or existing policy	Existing
1. Briefly describe the aims, objective or purpose of the policy, or service function.	<p>The Dog Warden service is a statutory function for the collection of stray dogs during office hours and for the enforcement of dog fouling legislation and support for the Environmental Health Officers in the investigation of noise complaints from barking dogs. It also provides an education and advice service for dog owners.</p> <p>The Pest Control service provides treatment for rodents and specific insect control.</p> <p>Both services are provided by external contractors</p>				
2. Are there any associated objectives of the policy/function?	Both services are working towards achieving a cleaner, healthier environment, contributing to a safer, healthier lifestyle and improving the quality of life				
3. Who is intended to benefit from this policy and in what way?	<p>Members of the public – the provision of treatment for pests and in responding to dog fouling and barking dog complaints</p> <p>Dog owners through the provision of advice and information.</p>				
4. What outcomes are wanted from this policy/function and for whom?	<p>The provision of a dog warden fulfils a statutory function for the local authority and whilst the provision of a pest control contract is not a statutory function, it is a statutory function for the authority to carry out action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and this service goes some way in fulfilling the Council's duty under this legislation. In addition, recent changes in legislation, means that insects may be classed as a Statutory Nuisance and the treatment of insects such as wasps and bees may reduce the impact of potential nuisance.</p>				
5. How do these outcomes meet or hinder other policies, values, or objectives of HDC?	<p>Both services are working towards achieving a cleaner, healthier environment, contributing to a safer, healthier lifestyle and improving the quality of life</p>				
6. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the intended outcomes?	<p>Changes in legislation</p> <p>The contractor failing to fulfil the requirements of the contract specification</p>				

7. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to this policy?	Members of the public Ward members			8. Who implements the policy/function and is responsible for the policy?	External contractors over seen by the contract supervisor in Health & Enforcement services
9. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact on racial groups?	Y	N	Yes		
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?			The specification in the contract has been amended to ensure that poison information leaflets could be available in languages other than English and in large print or audio format.		
10. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to gender?	Y	N	No		
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?			The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns		
11. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to disability?	Y	N	Yes		
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?			The specification in the contract has been amended to ensure that poison information leaflets could be available in large print or audio format.		
12. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to sexual orientation?	Y	N	No		
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?			The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns		
13. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to age?	Y	N	Y		
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?			There are either reduced fees or some pest control treatments are free to the elderly		

14. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to religious belief?	Y	N	N
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns		
15. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to people having dependants/caring responsibilities?	Y	N	Y
• What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	There are either reduced fees or some pest control treatments are free to the elderly or those on income related benefits		
16. Could any differential impact identified in 9-15 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this policy?	Y	N	<p>N – there are issues identified in relation to the provision of information in languages other than English and in large print or audio format but this has been incorporated into the service specification for the new contracts which will enhance the current service.</p> <p>The reduced fees for the elderly and those on income related benefit do not create an adverse impact</p>
17. Can any adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one or more groups or any other reason?	Y	N	N
18. Should the policy proceed to a full impact assessment?	Y	N	N
19. If no, are there any recommended changes required to the policy to improve it around the equality agenda?	Areas identified for improvement have been incorporated into the service specification in the contract.		

Additional notes/guidance (Policy Officer)	

Signed (completing officer) Date / /

Signed (completing officer) Date / /

Signed (Head of Service) Date / /