



EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

PART 1 - INITIAL SCREENING

Name of Policy/Function:	X	This is new
Domestic Abuse Policy		This is a change to an existing policy
		This is an existing policy, Function, not previously assessed
		This is an existing policy/function for review

Date of screening	5 th September 2022
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1. Briefly describe its aims & objectives

The Domestic Abuse Policy applies to all tenants, leaseholders and residents of Oadby & Wigston Borough Council as well as any victims of domestic abuse who are seeking assistance from the Council.

The aim of the policy is to set out the approach of Oadby & Wigston Borough Council when identifying and dealing with incidents of domestic abuse. The specific objectives of the policy is to ensure that we provide a consistent and supportive service to anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Policy aims & objectives are to:

- Support the DAHA values, and align our response to incorporate these values
- To increase victim safety, housing safety and hold perpetrators to account for their harm
- To take a harm centred and victim focussed approach to deal with the cases of domestic abuse empathetically, sensitively and in accordance with the victims needs
- To work in partnership to ensure victims of domestic abuse receive the support that they need, when they need it and ensure that services are joined-up and well sign-posted

2. Are there external considerations?

e.g. Legislation/government directive etc

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Crime and Victims Act 2004

Protection from Harassment Act 1997

The Family Law Act 1996

Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003

Human Rights Act 1998

The Data Protection Act 1998

The Equality Act 2010

Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2018

Lone Worker Policy and Procedure 2017

3. Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?

The Council;

- to provide a consistent and supportive service to anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse
- to ensure that all Legal and Regulatory Framework is adhered to when responding to a report of domestic abuse
- to support the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) values & framework and align our response to these
- to recognise that victims with different protected characteristics & intersectionality needs may face additional barrier to seeking support and commit to making the support accessible to all
- to identify associated risks to victims and ensure appropriate referrals to relevant agencies are made i.e. MARAC, Social Services, specialist domestic abuse services
- to take enforcement against our tenants that have been identified as perpetrators of domestic abuse

Tenants, Leaseholders, Residents & Victims;

- to have the right level of support, advice and guidance when reporting incidents of domestic abuse
- to be provided with advice & support regarding housing options where it is unreasonable for the victim to continue to occupy their home

- to be provided with relevant advice & guidance on how to manage tenancies and how to obtain security measures such as additional locks, lighting or sanctuary rooms
- to be signposted to more specialist services where appropriate

4. What outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?

The Council will want:

- to ensure that a consistent and supportive is provided to anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse
- to support the DAHA values, and align our response to these
- to ensure the victims needs and wishes are the key drivers in our response
- to increase the victim's safety and housing safety
- to take necessary and proportionate enforcement action against perpetrators who are OBWC tenants
- to work in partnership with relevant agencies to ensure a coordinated approach is taken
- to deal with the cases of domestic abuse empathetically, sensitively and in accordance with the victims needs
- to signpost victims to services where necessary

5. Has any consultation/research been carried out?

Yes

- research into Domestic Abuse Policies adopted by other local authorities has been completed
- research into the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) Framework has been completed
- a consultation exercise has been completed

6. Are there any concerns at this stage which indicate the possibility of Inequalities/negative impacts?

Consider and identify any evidence you have -equality data relating to usage and satisfaction levels, complaints, comments, research, outcomes of review, issues raised at previous consultations, known inequalities) If so please provide details.

No

7. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?

Positive – *It could benefit*

Negative – *It could disadvantage*

Neutral – Neither positive nor negative impact or not sure.

	Type of impact, reason & any evidence
Disability	Neutral
Race (including Gypsy & Traveller)	Neutral
Age	Neutral
Gender Reassignment	Neutral
Sex	Neutral
Sexual Orientation	Neutral
Religion/Belief	Neutral
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Neutral
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral

8. Could other socio-economic groups be affected?

e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes, homeless?

No

9. Are there any human rights implications?

Yes/No (If yes, please explain)

No

10. Is there an opportunity to promote equality and/or good community relations?

Yes/No (If yes, how will this be done?)

Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the consultation exercise the Council will ensure tenants, local residents, members and relevant agencies are aware of the Domestic Abuse Policy• through creating an awareness of the introduction of a new Domestic Abuse Policy the Council anticipates it will naturally promote equality and good community relations

11. If you have indicated a negative impact for any group is that impact legal?

i.e. not discriminatory under anti-discrimination legislation

N/A

12. Is any part of this policy/service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

No

13. Is a Part 2 full Equality Assessment required?

No

14. Date by which a Part 2 full Equality Assessment is to be completed with actions.

N/A

Please note that you should proceed to a Part 2, the full Equality Impact Assessment if you have identified actual, or the potential to cause, adverse impact or discrimination against different groups in the community.

We are satisfied that an initial screening has been carried out and a full equality assessment **is not required*** (please delete as appropriate).

Completed by: Sunny Basran Date: 5th September 2022
(Policy/Function/Report written)

Screened by:.....Date:.....

Equality Assessments shall be published on the Council website with the relevant and appropriate document upon which the equality assessment has been undertaken.