

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for Policies, Procedures and Services

Proposal name	Walsall Council Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 ("RIPA") and the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 ("IPA") Policy and Procedures		
Directorate	EEC		
Service	Resilient Communities		
Responsible Officer	David Elrington		
Proposal planning start	14/3/2024	Proposal start date (due or actual date)	This is the actual start date of proposal and not the date you completed the EqIA. (dd/mm/yy)
1	What is the purpose of the proposal?	Yes / No	New / revision
	Show which category the proposal is and whether it is new or a revision.		
	Policy	Yes	Revision
	Procedure	Yes	Revision
	Guidance		
	Is this a service to customers/staff/public?		
	If yes, is it contracted or commissioned?		
	Other - give details		
2	What is the business case for this proposal? Please provide the main purpose of the service, intended outcomes and reasons for change?		
	The council is required to comply with the Council Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 ("RIPA") and the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 during the course of its duties specifically with regard to surveillance, covert human intelligence sources and communications data. To this end it has a policy for4 such matters and this policy is due for renewal.		
3	Who is the proposal likely to affect?		
	People in Walsall	Yes / No	Detail
	All	Y	It will mainly affect those who are accused of or under investigation for committing crime.
	Specific group/s		
	Council employees		
	Other (identify)		
4	Please provide service data relating to this proposal on your customer's protected characteristics.		
	There is no major change to the way in which the council will operate it is an update of an existing policy driven by statutory requirements. The correct use of the powers allows the council to set aside certain human rights in the pursuance of criminals however the policy is used sparingly and tightly governed by codes of practice and is subject to judicial scrutiny.		

5 Please provide details of all engagement and consultation undertaken for this proposal. (Please use a separate box for each engagement/consultation).

No consultation (other than internal services) is taking place it is a legal duty and the outcome of any consultation would not change the manner in which the policy is drafted or used.

Consultation Activity

Complete a copy of this table for each consultation activity you have undertaken.

Type of engagement/consultation	e.g. focus group, survey, drop in, local, area panels, local engagement.	Date	dd/mm/yy
Who attended/participated?	e.g. general public, service users (specify if it was for a protected characteristic group e.g. Disability Forum).		
Protected characteristics of participants	Summary of the protected characteristic monitoring data.		
Feedback			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall views and key comments including quotes from participants used to help express sentiments in relation to your proposal; • Views of people with protected characteristics in relation to your proposal; • Avoid using general feedback, unless you can compare it with views of people with protected characteristics. 			

6 Concise overview of all evidence, engagement and consultation

N/A

7 How may the proposal impact each protected characteristic or group? The impact may be positive, negative, neutral or not known. Give reasons and if action is needed.

Characteristic	Impact Yes / No	Reason	Action needed Yes / No
Age	N	It is the persons conduct that decides whether they are subject to investigation or not. There are some safeguards around using children and vulnerable adults to assist in investigations.	N
Disability	N	As above	N
Gender reassignment	N	As above	N

Marriage and civil partnership	N	As above	
Pregnancy and maternity	N	As above	N
Race	N		
Religion or belief	N	As above	N
Sex	N	As above	N
Sexual orientation	N	As above	N
Armed Forces	N	As above	N
Care responsibilities	N	As above	N
Health, Social and economic inequalities	N	As above	N
Other (Give Detail)			

Further information	<p>The policy controls how the council uses its powers to tackle crime and those accused of crime. The only time residents should be impacted is if they are under investigation for crime or they are victims of crime and the council uses these powers to investigate to assist them.</p>
----------------------------	--

8	Does your proposal link with other proposals to have a cumulative effect on particular equality groups? If yes, give details.	(Delete one) No
	N/A	
9	Which justifiable action does the evidence, engagement and consultation feedback suggest you take?	
	A	No major change required When no potential for discrimination or adverse impact is identified and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

Action and monitoring plan				
Action Date	Action	Responsibility	Outcome Date	Outcome

Where the assessment indicates a potential negative impact (B, C or D in question 7), identify how you will reduce or mitigate this impact. The full impact of a proposal will only be known once it is introduced, so always set out arrangements for reviewing the actual impact of the proposals e.g. 6 month or 12 months after implementation.

Identify who the monitoring will be reported to and what it is part of e.g. service monitoring or project monitoring. Then ensure the outcome of each action is added, this is just as important as identifying the potential impact.

Update to EqIA

Date	Detail

Use this section for updates following the commencement of your proposal.

Contact us

Community, Equality and Cohesion
Resources and Transformation

Telephone 01922 655797

Textphone 01922 654000

Email equality@walsall.gov.uk

Inside Walsall: [http://int.walsall.gov.uk/Service information/Equality and diversity](http://int.walsall.gov.uk/Service_information/Equality_and_diversity)