

EQUALITY SCREENING

Equality Impact Assessment guidance should be considered when completing this form.

POLICY/FUNCTION/ACTIVITY	LEAD OFFICER
Voluntary Sector Capacity Building Grant Scheme (funded by Contain Outbreak Management Fund)	Darren Williams/ Chantal Noble

A. What is the aim of this policy, function or activity? Why is it needed? What is it hoped to achieve and how will it be ensured it works as intended? Does it affect service users, employees or the wider community?

A grant scheme is to be delivered by the Council, targeted at the capacity building of voluntary organisations as part of their continued recovery post pandemic, and the sustainability of projects and services that were relied upon during the pandemic. In doing so the intention is to provide small grants that support continued activity by voluntary, community and faith sector organisations in Runnymede.

The function is an opportunity for the VCF Sector in Runnymede, whilst the funding will support services and projects that will be accessible to some, or all, residents of the borough, dependent on the nature of the activity.

B. . Is this policy, function or activity relevant to equality? Does the policy, function or activity relate to an area in which there are known inequalities, or where different groups have different needs or experience? Remember, it may be relevant because there are opportunities to promote equality and greater access, not just potential on the basis of adverse impacts or unlawful discrimination. The Protected Characteristics are; Sex, Age, Disability, Race, Religion and Beliefs, Sexual Orientation, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity.

The Contain Outbreak Management funding provided detail of how funding could be used, and in doing so highlighted the inequality around impact of Covid on specific population groups, such as the BAME community. On the basis that this funding could be used to support ongoing inequality in relation to covid, the function would be relevant to equality relating to race, and potentially other protected characteristics.

As a result, it is intended to specifically include within the grant criteria, opportunities for funding to provide continued support to specific groups who have been disproportionately affected by Covid, so that such an opportunity is highlighted as being available.

If the policy, function or activity is considered to be relevant to equality then a full Equality Impact Assessment may need to be carried out. If the policy function or activity does not engage any protected characteristics then you should complete Part C below. Where Protected Characteristics are engaged, but Full Impact Assessment is not required because measures are in place or are proposed to be implemented that would mitigate the impact on those affected or would provide an opportunity to promote equalities please complete Part C.

C. If the policy, function or activity is not considered to be relevant to equality, what are the reasons for this conclusion? Alternatively, if there it is considered that there is an impact on any Protected Characteristics but that measures are in place or are proposed to be implemented please state those measures and how it/they are expected to have the desired result. What evidence has been used to make this decision? A simple statement of 'no relevance' or 'no data' is not sufficient.

N/A

This screening assessment will need to be referred to the Equality Group for challenge before sign-off. Please submit this form to Emmanuel Alozie and Clare Pinnock via email.

Date completed: 17th May 2023

Sign-off by senior manager: Darren Williams