

Cunninghame Housing Association Ltd

Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EIA)

Assessment Details

Title of policy / practice	Abandoned Policy
Assessment carried out by <i>(name and post)</i>	Jacqueline Cameron Executive Director of Housing & Property Services
What is the purpose of the proposed policy / practice or changes to be made to the policy / practice?	The policy sets out the legal approach Cunninghame Housing Association's will take when repossessing properties owned by Cunninghame Housing Association which are found to be abandoned.
What involvement and consultation has been done in relation to this policy / practice? <i>(e.g. with relevant groups and stakeholders)</i>	There are minimal changes to the principles of the policy, so no consultation has been done on this version.
Who is affected by the policy / practice? <i>(indicate stakeholder / service user groups and any known equality groups)</i>	Tenants of Cunninghame Housing Association. This will include older people, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+, people of different ethnic origins, pregnant women, people with different religious beliefs.

Public Sector Equality Duty – 'Three Key Needs'

Which aspects of the policy / practice eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation?	There are no issues in the policy that will impact on the protected characteristics.
Which aspects of the policy / practice advance equality of opportunity between people which share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not?	Ensuring that vulnerabilities are identified at allocation interviews such as language barriers, literacy issues and those with sight issues. Clear processes should be put in place to ensure the Association is corresponding with tenants appropriately making ensure they understand our correspondence.

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Which aspects of the policy / practice foster good relations between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not?	Policy clearly identifies the legal framework required to be met including the Disability Discrimination Act. There is recourse via the Complaints Policy and through the Courts.
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Impact of the Policy

Protected Characteristic Group	Is there the potential for a positive or negative impact?	Explain the potential impact and give examples of any evidence / data used (e.g. SIMD)	Action taken to address any negative impact (e.g. adjustment to the policy / practice)
Age	No		
Disability	No		
Gender reassignment	No		
Marriage and civil partnership	No		
Pregnancy and maternity	No		
Race	No		
Religion or Belief	No		
Sex	No		
Sexual orientation	No		
Other	Yes	There is the potential that tenants could have been hospitalised or gone into respite care for a prolonged period without the Association being notified.	Robust procedures to ensure all relevant checks have been carried out before a property is repossessed. Staff need to ensure both tenants are aware of the responsibility to notify the Association of these cases.

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			Staff need to gather robust vulnerability information from all tenants. The Association should regularly publicise tenancy requirements through newsletters and social media around tenancy rights.
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Evaluation

Is it possible the proposed policy / practice could discriminate or unfairly disadvantage people?	Legislation dictates that all notices in relation to an abandoned property must be served in writing. This could impact those with learning disabilities, where language is not their first language or those with sight issues.
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Recommended Course of Action	Tick appropriate box	Include any justification / explanation required
Outcome 1 Proceed – no potential for unlawful discrimination, and no adverse impact or breach of human rights articles has been identified.		
Outcome 2 Proceed with adjustments to address discrimination, remove barriers to the advancement of equality of opportunity and fostering good relations, address breaches of human rights.	✓	Clear records keeping recording vulnerabilities for tenants who have learning disabilities, where English is not their first language and those with sight issues. Record the tenant's preferred method of contact which can be used in line with legislative requirements.
Outcome 3 Continue despite having identified some potential for adverse impact or missed opportunity to advance equality and human rights (justification to be clearly set out).		
Outcome 4 Stop and rethink as actual or potential unlawful discrimination or breach of human rights articles has been identified.		

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Completion date	October 2024
Authorisation date	
Authorised by	
Review date	October 2027
Will this EIA be published? (EIAs should be published)	Yes

Change Log

Name	Date	Changes