

Equalities Analysis in Lambeth

Proposal Title *

Covid-19, Launching a new self-isolation support offer to Lambeth residents

Author

Kari Manovitch

Please provide name of lead author and/or those within project team who may be required to contribute to this assessment

Who will sign off the assessment?

Fiona Mcdermott

Please indicate who will be involved in approving this assessment. This will need to be signed off by the Director

Q1a. What is changing?

Helping Lambeth's residents to self-isolate is a vital component of the Council's response to preventing the spread of Covid-19. We are launching a new comprehensive self-isolation support offer intended to operate over the next 6 months initially. The purpose is to reduce the barriers to self-isolation compliance and any hardship that may result. This support offer has three distinct complementary elements: (1) A new Stay Home Safely service run by Age UK Lambeth offering rapid and direct practical and emotional support, (2) a new £500 Stay Home Support Payment for low-income residents excluded from the current Government payment scheme, and (3) the offer of hotel accommodation where that would make a real difference in preventing transmission and harm from Covid-19. The main target groups are anyone who has to self-isolate due to having Covid or being in close contact with someone with Covid, and anyone caring for someone who has to self-isolate.

What is the most significant or key change taking place? Can you indicate the type of change in your response (e.g. policy/decision/strategy/ service/procedural/ geographic/procurement etc.) so it is clear what is being equalities assessed? Why is this change happening? What do you aim to achieve? Can you clearly indicate what decision-makers are being asked to take a decision on?

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Q1b. Who will be involved in approving this decision?

Silver & Gold boards; Fiona Mcdermott; Ruth Hutt; Cllr Wilson; Cllr Dickson; Cllr Adilypour

Who else will be involved in signing-off this decision?

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Q2a. What do we know about the people who will be impacted by this change?

This will have a positive impact on all residents of Lambeth who need support to self-isolate or care for people self-isolating. It will particularly benefit low-income residents who were excluded from the Government test and trace support scheme, and all those disproportionately negatively affected by self-isolation - those who are low-income, those who are carers, those who live alone and those who co-habit with many others in one home with shared facilities and limited personal space.

Data tells us that people from BAME backgrounds have been more likely to contract Covid-19 than others, and that older people and those with significant health issues or disabilities will have been more likely to experience serious illness and death from Covid-19. The more rapid support we can offer at the start of the infection period, the better the outcome for the individual and the community.

What does your information tell you about the people who will be affected by this change? Are protected groups impacted? What information do you hold on the protected characteristics of the people affected by the change? (Age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race/ethnicity, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation, health, socio-economic, language) Are there any gaps or missing information?

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Q2b. How will they be impacted by the change?

1. **Practical & emotional support:** A new Stay Home Safely support service, offering rapid proactive practical and emotional support for anyone who needs to self-isolate, addressing challenges like the need for shopping, food, medicines, help with caring responsibilities, help applying for benefits, and someone to talk to
2. **Money:** A new £500 Stay Home Support Payment to all those earning less than London Living Wage who can evidence exposure to Covid
3. **Accommodation:** Catered hotel stays to residents do not have the space to safely isolate from other members of the household.

Would you assess the impact as positive, adverse, neutral? Do you have any uncertainty about the impact of your proposal? Is there a likelihood that some people will be more impacted than others? Can you describe the ways in which they will be affected? How might this change affect our 'general duty'?

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Q3a. How do you plan to promote and deliver any positive impacts of the proposal?

Residents will be referred directly from the Lambeth Contact Tracing service and by other professionals working in the borough.

There will also be extensive communication across a diverse range of communications channels and aimed at different audiences, to encourage take-up of the service by all. This will include: • Print and out-of-home advertising: the service will be promoted at testing sites (leaflets, posters, banners) and through the borough's out-of-home advertising locations. • Letters, SMS messages and emails to people who have tested positive, and their contacts, will explain the enhanced offer to residents and encourage them to take it up. • Information about the service online and in-print is being prepared, with a focus on ensuring it is easily located, clear and accessible to all. • Targeted communications will aim to reach key audiences, both through Council communications channels and through our partners, including local VCS services, schools, employers and community and faith groups. We will provide translated and tailored information as required. • The promotion of the service through social media and in the press will aim to reach a wide and diverse range of audiences. • We will adapt our communications approach based on insight from the service, paying particular attention to any demographics who are under-represented

How might the principles of fairness, equality of opportunity and positive relationships be further promoted as a consequence of this proposal? How do you propose to measure your positive outcomes and the benefits outlined to find out if these have been achieved?

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Q3b How do you plan to address and mitigate any negative impacts of the proposal?

There are no negative impacts anticipated.

What impact has this evidence had on what you are proposing? What can you do differently that might lessen the impact on people within the timeframes i.e. development-implementation? Who can help you to develop these solutions?

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Q4. How will you review/evaluate your proposal, mitigating actions and/or benefits? Who will be responsible for this?

We will monitor the take up and feedback on the services offered and act rapidly to address any concerns identified.

The responsible officers in the first instance are Kari Manovitch and Fiona Mcdermott.

Who will you be accountable to for the above actions/outcome? How will those responsible know these actions have worked? What performance indicators will you use to demonstrate this? Are there any other forms of evidence you can use to support this assessment of their effectiveness?

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Section to be completed by Sponsor/Director/Head of Service

Outcome of equality impact assessment

- No adverse impact, no change required
- Low adverse impact, minor adjustment required
- Significant adverse impact, further action required
- Significant impact identified unable to mitigate fully
- Unlawful in/direct discrimination, stop and rethink

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Comments from Sponsor/Director/Head of Service

Submit for approval

Submit for approval

Executive Approval

Approved

Attachments

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