

**Harborough District Council Initial Equality Impact Assessment**

Service Area/Section	Health & Enforcement Services	Persons undertaking the assessment (please also state name of contact officer)		Elaine Bird, Team Leader	
Name of policy or function to be assessed	<b>Pest Control and dog warden Contract</b>	Date of assessment	<b>7<sup>th</sup> March 2011</b>	New or existing policy	<b>Existing</b>
1. Briefly describe the aims, objective or purpose of the policy, or service function.	<p>The Pest Control service provides treatment for rodents and specific insect control through an external contractor.</p> <p>The dog warden collects stray dogs, deals with dangerous or aggressive dogs, investigates complaints of noise and dog fouling incidents and provides general advice.</p>				
2. Are there any associated objectives of the policy/function?	<b>The service is are working towards achieving a cleaner, healthier environment, contributing to a safer, healthier lifestyle and improving the quality of life</b>				
3. Who is intended to benefit from this policy and in what way?	Members of the public – the provision of treatment for pests and dealing with stray dogs and complaints.				
What outcomes are wanted from this policy/function and for whom?	<p>Whilst the provision of a pest control service is not a statutory function, it is a statutory function for the authority to carry out action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and this service goes some way in fulfilling the Council's duty under this legislation. In addition, recent changes in legislation, means that insects may be classed as a Statutory Nuisance and the treatment of insects such as wasps may reduce the impact of potential nuisance.</p> <p>The collection of stray dogs is a statutory function along with the investigation of noise complaints and dog fouling incidents.</p>				
4. How do these outcomes meet or hinder other policies, values, or objectives of HDC?	The service is working towards achieving a cleaner, healthier environment, contributing to a safer, healthier lifestyle and improving the quality of life				
5. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the intended outcomes?	<b>Changes in legislation</b> <b>The contractor failing to fulfil the requirements of the contract specification</b>				
6. Who are the main	<b>Members of the public</b>	7. Who implements the	External contractors over seen by the		

stakeholders in relation to this policy?	Ward members		policy/function and is responsible for the policy?	contract supervisor in Health & Enforcement services
8. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact on racial groups?		N	Yes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			<b>The specification in the contract has been amended to ensure that poison information leaflets could be available in languages other than English and in large print or audio format.</b>	
9. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to gender?	No	N	No	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns	
10. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to disability?	Yes		Yes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			<b>The specification in the contract has been amended to ensure that poison information leaflets could be available in large print or audio format.</b>	
11. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to sexual orientation?	No	N	No	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns	
12. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to age?	Y		Y	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			There are either reduced fees or some pest control treatments are free to the elderly	
13. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to religious belief?	N	N		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			The customer satisfaction survey's previously carried out have not highlighted any concerns	

14. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to people having dependants/caring responsibilities?	Y		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			There are either reduced fees or some pest control treatments are free to the elderly or those on income related benefits
15. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to people having an offending past?		N	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			<b>The service is available to all sectors of the community</b>
16. Are there any concerns that the policy/function could have a differential impact due to people being transgendered or transsexual?		N	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?</li> </ul>			<b>The service is available to all sectors of the community</b>
17. Could any differential impact identified in 10-19 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this policy?		N	<p><b>N – there are issues identified in relation to the provision of information in languages other than English and in large print or audio format but this has been incorporated into the service specification for the new contracts which will enhance the current service.</b></p> <p><b>The reduced fees for the elderly and those on income related benefit do not create an adverse impact</b></p>
18. Can any adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one or more groups or any other reason?		N	
19. Should the policy proceed to a <b>partial</b> impact assessment?		N	
20. Should the policy proceed to a <b>full</b> impact assessment?		N	

21. If no, are there any recommended changes required to the policy to improve it around the equality agenda?			
Additional notes/guidance (Policy Officer)			

Signed (completing officer) ..... Date   /  /  

Signed (Head of Service) ..... Date   /  /