

**Harborough District Council Equality Statement** **APPENDIX C**  
**Establishing a Local Authority Building Control Partnership – January 2018**

**Department and section:** Building Control

**Name of lead officer:** David Atkinson-Head of Planning and Regeneration

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

The Building Control service undertakes both statutory and non-statutory work to implement and enforce Building Regulations. Over the last two years the Harborough District Council Building Control Team has lost key members of staff to either the Private Sector or other Local Authorities. This has resulted in the need for the Council to employ agency managers and Building Control Surveyors on a temporary basis which is not economically sustainable as the service needs to be run on a cost neutral basis.

The establishment of a Local Authority Building Control Partnership, led by Blaby District Council, will provide the opportunity to deliver a more robust, resilient and competitive commercial Building Control service, that is able to operate more effectively in an increasingly competitive environment. The use of external contracted staff within Harborough District Council's Building Control section will be phased out and associated savings made relating to staff costs. This will also lead to a more motivated, accountable and committed Building Control Team.

Equality impacts have been discussed as part of the consideration process and there is no evidence to suggest that joining this partnership will have a disproportionately negative impact on any protected equality groups for the following reasons:

- There will be no adverse effect on any employees of Harborough District Council as their existing employment terms and conditions will remain unchanged if the Council join the Blaby led Building Control Partnership.
- There will be no adverse effect on the accessibility of Harborough District Council's Building Control Service to customers or residents if the Council join the Building Control Partnership as full Building Control services will still be provided from the headquarters of Harborough District Council, and will be accessed in the same way.

For these reasons an extended equality analysis has not been considered necessary.

Should further considerations be raised, the equality impacts will be reviewed and adaptations made as necessary.