



# Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.9]

Title: Heat Network Asset Transfer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: Growth and Regeneration	Lead Officer name: David White
Service Area: Energy, City Leap, Management of Place	Lead Officer role: Service Manager

## Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment is to assist decision makers in understanding the impact of proposals as part of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed guidance to support completion can be found here [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) early for advice and feedback.

### 1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

The purpose of the July 2022 Cabinet Report is to seek authorisation of the transfer of all heat network assets currently owned by the Council to its wholly owned company, Bristol Heat Networks Limited. This follows a decision at the April 2022 Cabinet for the Council to set up the City Leap Partnership, a 20 year joint venture with Ameresco with the aim of delivering up to £1bn of investments in low carbon energy to support the aim of Bristol becoming a carbon neutral city by 2030.

In order to affect this transaction, the heat network assets that have been built by the Council to the point that City Leap contract award takes place, need to be transferred to Bristol Heat Networks Limited (BHNL), a wholly-owned company of the Council. The Council will then sell 100% of the shares in Bristol Heat Networks Limited to the City Leap Strategic Partner.

### 1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments: There will be no impact on the provision of services through the transfer of the asset from BCC to BHNL.		

### 1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by Equality and Inclusion Team.


If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment, or if you plan to complete the assessment at a later stage please state this clearly here and request review by the Equality and Inclusion Team.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	[please select]
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There will be no impact on the provision of services through the transfer of the asset from BCC to BHNL: tenants will not be financially affected in cost terms, than if their heat had been generated using communal gas boilers supplied via BCC's corporate gas contract, i.e. the current situation pre-City Leap. BHNL is signed up to the Heat Trust standard, ahead of the establishment of the national Heat Regulator. In December 2021, government announced that OFGEM will be appointed as the Heat Networks regulator. Both the Heat Trust standard and the new role for OFGEM will protect customers through 'ensuring fair treatment for all consumers, especially the vulnerable'.

### Step 5: Review

The Equality and Inclusion Team need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your EqIA. EqIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) before requesting sign off from your Director<sup>1</sup>.

<b>Equality and Inclusion Team Review:</b> <i>Reviewed by Equality and Inclusion Team</i>	<b>Director Sign-Off:</b>  Peter Anderson Acting Director, City Leap
Date: 26/4/2022	Date: 05/07/202

<sup>1</sup> Review by the Equality and Inclusion Team confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely equality impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.