

# Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.12]



Title: Acceptance of Single Homeless Accommodation Programme grant funding	
<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: Andrew Linton
Service Area: Housing Options	Lead Officer role: Commissioning 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.

**This proposal seeks Cabinet approval to authorise the Executive Director of Growth and Regeneration in consultation with Cabinet Member for Housing Delivery and Homes, to take all steps required to accept and spend the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme grant funding of up to £783,255 as outlined in the attached Cabinet report.**

#### 1. Summary

The Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) offered the opportunity to secure grant funding to increase the supply of high-quality supported accommodation which is needed to help individuals recover from the root causes of homelessness and reduce rough sleeping in Bristol. This accommodation is targeted at single people who would normally be owed a full homelessness duty and would therefore provide a cost-effective alternative to privately managed unsupported temporary accommodation.

#### 2. Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) - overview

The Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC) launched SHAP: a £200 million programme offering grant funding to increase the supply of high quality, specialist supported accommodation to address gaps in the existing homelessness pathways and achieve a sustainable reduction in rough sleeping.

The programme was targeted at two cohorts:

1. Single adults with a long history of rough sleeping or with complex needs;
2. Young people (aged 18-25) at risk of experiencing homelessness or rough sleeping.

The programme offered:

1. Capital grant funding to deliver additional accommodation (specifically, blocks of supported housing or dispersed Housing First units).
2. Revenue grant funding to provide intensive support to tenants in the accommodation.

#### 3. SHAP – bid process

There were five rounds for submitted bids to SHAP (February, April, June, September, and November 2023).

Bids followed a two-step process:

1. Local authorities submitted a Strategic Gap Analyses to DLUHC outlining the services needed in the locality for each target cohort. In Bristol, these documents were completed with input from commissioners in Homelessness, Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Children’s Services.
2. Eligible organisations then submitted a bid directly to DLUHC for grant funding. Bids were assessed by reference to the Strategic Gap Analyses completed by the local authority to ensure that funding requested will go towards services that are needed locally.

#### 4. BCC bids for SHAP funding

Approval was given previously for a number of successful BCC bids to SHAP:

1. Approval was granted in September 2023 to submit a bid on behalf of ARA for capital and revenue grant funding to provide 15 units of Housing First accommodation. Please see [05 September 2023 Cabinet Report, ‘Single Homeless Accommodation Programme \(SHAP\) Funding Bid’](#).
2. A bid in partnership with St Mungo’s to increase the level of support offered across 37 units of supported accommodation, spread across 5 buildings. Capital funding was not needed for this proposal as the units were already fit for purpose. This bid was approved via the exceptional approval process, owing to the short deadline for its submission. Please see [09 September 2023 Officer Executive Decision](#).
3. Approval was granted in November 2023 to submit a bid for capital and revenue grant funding to provide up to an additional 30 units of Housing First accommodation. Please see [07 November 2023 Cabinet Report, ‘Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme \(SHAP\) Funding Bid \(Expansion of Housing First\)’](#).

#### 5. Places for People SHAP bid

BCC Officers additionally encouraged Places for People, who currently deliver commissioned homelessness accommodation in Bristol, to apply to SHAP for revenue grant funding to increase the level of support across a total of 38 units of supported accommodation. Places for People bid directly for the funding and were successful in securing a total of £783,255 in revenue grant funding, as set out in the following table:

Bid name	Total units	Revenue award (RDEL)				Total
		23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	
L4 to L2 units	31	£13,578	£162,941	£172,554	£182,735	£531,808
Stonebridge Park Modular	7	£ -	£79,059	£83,724	£88,664	£ 251,447.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>£ 13,578.00</b>	<b>£ 242,000.00</b>	<b>£ 256,278.00</b>	<b>£ 271,399.00</b>	<b>£ 783,255.00</b>

This funding would supplement Local Authority core funding to allow Places for People services to work with clients with higher support needs than they are able to currently, helping to meet a strategic need for more ‘medium support’ accommodation. Places for People were due to start providing the new service on 1 April 2024, however SHAP bid awards were delayed by around 6 weeks so it is likely that the new service will start in 2024-25.

As Places for People bid for SHAP funding directly, it was understood that any awards would be paid to them directly.

However, it has emerged that revenue-only grant funding must go through local authorities and so BCC officers are seeking authority to accept and spend the above grant funding. BCC is not required to contribute any funding. BCC would be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding outlining its responsibilities for ensuring grant funding was used for the purposes for which it was granted, including preparing an annual return confirming expenditure against grant funding received. BCC is already committed to these processes for other SHAP grant funding which has already been approved by Cabinet.

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments:		

### 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]
-------------------------------------	---	-----------------

This proposal is requesting Cabinet's approval to accept a grant award on behalf of a commissioned provider of supported accommodation in Bristol (Places for People); BCC will then transfer the award to Places for People via a grant agreement, if this proposal is approved. The process of accepting the award and transferring the funds to Places for People will not have an equality impact. Places for People submitted the application for the award directly, and it was granted on the basis that it would be used for the purpose outlined above.

### 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> 
Date: 13/3/2024	Date: 13/3/24

<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.