

Equality Impact Assessment Form

[screentip-sectionA](#)

1. Document Control

Control Details:

Title:	Allocation of DEFRA Emergency Assistance Grant
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Department:	Community Protection
Service Area:	Nottingham Catering
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Strategic Budget EIA: Y/N (Does this EIA have an impact on the budget)	No
Exempt from publication: Y/N (All EIA's are published on Nottingham Insight for public viewing unless specified. Exemption criteria is available on the EIA section on the Intranet)	No

2. Document Amendment Record:

Version	Author	Date	Approved
1.0	Lee Kimberley	27/10/2020	

3. Contributors/Reviewers (Anyone who has contributed to this document will need to be named):

Name	Position	Date

4. Glossary of Terms

Term	Description

[screentip-sectionB](#)

5. Summary

(Please provide a brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed)

On 10 June the Government announced an emergency fund of £63 million to be distributed to local authorities in England. The purpose of the grant is to help authorities to continue to support those struggling to afford food and other essentials over the coming months due to COVID-19. The funding is a one-off contribution to the 2020-21 financial year and is made under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Through the DEFRA Emergency Assistant Grant the council will be inviting community organisations to bid for funding in order to deliver the objectives and principles, summarised below:

- (a) Use discretion to identify and support those most in need
- (b) Use the funding to meet immediate need and help those who are struggling to afford food and essentials due to Covid-19
- (c) Use the funding for existing schemes and other support which delivers the same outcome and where the need is greatest

Organisations which meet the criteria will have the opportunity to apply for this grant, see attached guidance.

The total amount of funding allocated to community grant applications is subject to change and may potentially increase or decrease in accordance with need and priorities, as determined by the council. This will not impact on the amount for any agreed award to successful applications.

[screentip-sectionC](#)

6. Information used to analyse the effects on equality:

(Please include information about how you have consulted/ have data from the impacted groups)

The grant will be open to any community organisation that can meet the requirements of the application process and if their proposed bid is in compliance with the terms for the grant itself. The grant therefore is intended to support those most impacted by COVID-19 through bidding organisations and therefore will not negatively impact on any groups with protected characteristics, but provide a positive support to organisations providing additional assistance. The council has not placed any specific criteria or limitations in accepting applications from different organisations and welcomes all applications.

It is therefore anticipated that this decision will provide positive benefits to the people of Nottingham and not adversely affect any specific group. Information that has been used as reference in compiling this EIA is below:

A study by ukri.org is currently underway:

<https://www.ukri.org/our-work/tackling-the-impact-of-covid-19/researching-the-impact-of-coronavirus/covid-19s-impact-on-our-lives/>

ESRC Centre for Society & Mental Health, King's College London has also provided an evidence briefing, the key findings of which are:

- Mental health problems are more common in vulnerable and disadvantaged groups following individual or community-wide periods of social isolation in the context of public health crises.

- The disproportionate impact among vulnerable and disadvantaged groups extends to other interrelated outcomes, such as income, employment, access to food, and discrimination.
- These disparities are especially pronounced at the intersections of multiple vulnerabilities and disadvantages (e.g. low income, insecure employment, and minority ethnic group status).
- Social restrictions that confine people to their homes for extended periods increase risk of abuse and exploitation, particularly among girls and women.
- Further inequalities are evident in people’s capacity to comply with social distancing measures, with this being most difficult for those on low incomes, in insecure employment, and living in overcrowded homes.

<https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/evidence-briefings/impacts-of-social-isolation-among-disadvantaged-and-vulnerable-groups-during-public-health-crises/>

Publications on Gov.uk including:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/930624/Easy_Read_Sholding_Guidance_October_2020.pdf

7. Impacts and Actions:

screentip-sectionD	Could particularly benefit X	May adversely impact X
People from different ethnic groups.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled people or carers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy/ Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People of different faiths/ beliefs and those with none.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Younger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g. marriage/ civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/ good relations, vulnerable children/ adults).		
Those most affected by the impacts of COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please underline the group(s) /issue more adversely affected or which benefits.</i>		

<p style="text-align: right;"><u>screeentip-sectionE</u></p> <p>How different groups could be affected (Summary of impacts)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><u>screeentip-sectionF</u></p> <p>Details of actions to mitigate, remove or justify negative impact or increase positive impact (or why action isn't possible)</p>
<p>Provide details for impacts / benefits on people in different protected groups.</p>	

In providing this additional funding to community based organisations in Nottingham, the council is seeking to meet the criteria of the grant itself by providing positive financial support to those most adversely impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic. The council has been using the its Golden Number or through referrals via community organisations and the NDO's (Neighbourhood Development Officers) during and after shielding to identify those that were struggling and need assistance.

As this grant will not be directly awarded to people within the community by the council, its benefits will be to provide the opportunity for those existing organisations that are within the city and communities to propose the most appropriate forms of support to those most in need.

Local charities, Food Banks and Social Eating Projects, sports clubs, faith/church groups and other community organisations within the city have provided direct and much needed support to their local communities and are best placed to have identified local needs and the necessary response to them during this Pandemic.

Links to relevant guidance and information is included in this EIA in section 6, which identifies those most likely to get very poorly from Coronavirus.

The council is not able to directly influence the bids that are received from community based organisations as this process has been open to all who qualify.

The grants will be assessed by a Decision Panel facilitated by Voluntary and Community Sector Partnerships Manager, consisting of HoS Nottingham Catering (COVID-19 Food Lead), Senior Cohesion Manager, Neighbourhood Development Operations Manager, VCS representation from NCVS Deputy CEO and Vice Chair of Nottingham Together Board

Organisations will have to provide monitoring and impact information as part of the award to clearly identify how successfully they have delivery on their proposed objectives.

Organisations will need to provide information to support their application, including an equality and diversity statement.

8. Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service:

- Formal monitoring will be in place for all grant awards issued and this will be used to assess the performance of each organisation against its original aims and objectives in meeting the grant criteria.
- DEFRA will undertake monitoring will be in proportion to the grant amount received. Authorities will be asked to participate in monitoring and may also be approached to participate in additional evaluative research through a named contact.

9. Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No major change needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adjust the policy/proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adverse impact but continue	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stop and remove the policy/proposal

10. Approved by (manager signature) and Date sent to equality team for publishing:

<p>Approving Manager: The assessment must be approved by the manager responsible for the service/proposal. Include a contact tel & email to allow citizen/stakeholder feedback on proposals.</p>	<p>Date sent for advice: 29/10/2020 Send document or Link to: equalities@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</p>
<p>Approving Manager Signature: Lee Kimberley – Head of Nottingham Catering & MCS food Lead eatculture@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</p>	<p>Date of final approval: 30/10/2020</p>

Tel: 0115 8765432

Before you send your EIA to the Equality and Employability Team for advice, have you:

1. Read the guidance and good practice EIA's
<http://intranet.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/media/1924/simple-guide-to-eia.doc>
2. Clearly summarised your proposal/ policy/ service to be assessed.
3. Hyperlinked to the appropriate documents.
4. Written in clear user-friendly language, free from all jargon (spelling out acronyms).
5. Included appropriate data.
6. Consulted the relevant groups or citizens or stated clearly, when this is going to happen.
7. Clearly cross-referenced your impacts with SMART actions.

PLEASE NOTE: FINAL VERSION MUST BE SENT TO EQUALITIES OTHERWISE RECORDS WILL REMAIN INCOMPLETE.