

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Pest Control - Introduction of a contributory charge for rat treatments

Reference: EIA000227



 **RESET**

 **RESHAPE**

 **RESTART**

**EIA Form – About your EIA**

Reference number	EIA000227
Date Submitted	22/01/2024
Subject of the EIA	Pest Control - Introduction of a contributory charge for rat treatments
Brief description of the policy, service or function covered by the EIA	Currently BCC provides a free at the point of service treatment for rats at domestic premises. This may be in the house or within the garden. The service is available to all and is regardless of ownership or tenancy status. The proposal is to implement a charge of £24 to assist with the overall pest control service budget and thereby minimise the impact on residents whilst still being an affordable service.
Equality Assessment is in support of...	["Amended service"]
How frequently will you review impact and mitigation measures identified in this EIA?	Every two years
Due date of the first review	2026-03-31

**Directorate, Division & Service Area**

Which directorate(s) are responsible for this EIA?	["City Operations"]
Division	Regulatory Services
Service area	Pest Control
Budget Saving	Yes

**Officers**

What is the responsible officer's email address?	Mark Croxford
What is the accountable officer's email address?	Sajeela Naseer

**Data Sources**

Data sources	["Birmingham City Observatory data and insight", "Departmental Computer System "]
Data source details	Birmingham Area /Ward profiles Treatments by Wards



**Protected Characteristics**
**Protected Characteristic – Age**

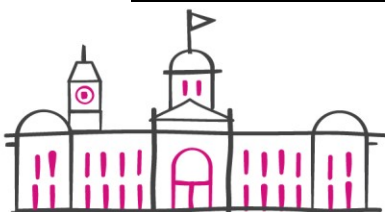
Does this proposal impact people due to their age as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
What age groups are impacted by your proposal?	["0-9 years", "10-19 years", "80-89 years", "90 years or over"]
Please describe the impact to the age characteristic	The service would not be open to children. however we would not use rat poisons unless there were adults present to ensure safety of baiting. The charge has a potential to affect those who are elderly more than between 20 and 69. Those in the older age groups are more likely to be less mobile and are therefore less able to chose whether to incur the cost or undertake self treatment themselves. There is a potential that those in the higher age groups are less able to meet the cost of the work required.
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the age characteristic?	The treatment costs are being kept to a contributory cost of £24 rather than a full cost which would likely to be £60 to £100. Residents can choose to purchase rat poisons from hardware stores and self treat.

**Protected Characteristic – Disability**

Does this proposal impact those people with a disability as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
Please describe the impact to the disability characteristic	It is likely that those with physical disabilities are more likely not to be able to self treat rodent problems.
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the disability characteristic?	The treatment costs are being kept to a contributory cost of £24 rather than a full cost which would likely to be £60 to £100. Residents can choose to purchase rat poisons from hardware stores and self treat.

**Protected Characteristic – Sex**

Does this proposal impact citizens based on their gender as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
What genders will be impacted by this proposal?	N/A
Please describe the impact to the gender characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the gender characteristic?	N/A



**Protected Characteristic - Gender Reassignment**

Does this proposal impact people who are proposing to undergo, undergoing or have undergone a process to reassign one's sex as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
Please describe the impact to the gender reassignment characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the gender reassignment characteristic?	N/A

**Protected Characteristic - Marriage and Civil Partnership**

Does this proposal impact people who are married or in a civil partnership as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
What legal marital or registered civil partnership status will be impacted by this proposal?	N/A
Please describe the impact to the marriage and civil partnership characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the marriage and civil partnership characteristic?	N/A

**Protected Characteristic - Pregnancy and Maternity**

Does this proposal impact people covered by the Equality Act 2010 under the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity?	No
Please describe the impact to the pregnancy and maternity characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the pregnancy and maternity characteristic?	N/A



**Protected Characteristic - Ethnicity and Race**

Does this proposal impact people due to their race as per the Equality Act 2010?	Yes
What ethnic groups would be impacted by this proposal?	["All"]
Please describe the impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic	<p>Rodents are most likely to be more prevalent within areas of the highest population density. They are also more likely to be present where the Housing stock is older and more likely to be "porous" to rodents gaining access to the property. Yardley, Hodge Hill and Perry Barr have the highest requests for assistance over the last 5 years and Sutton Coldfield, Erdington and Selly Oak the lowest.</p> <p>A study of demand for service against the breakdown of ward ethnicity data and ward deprivation index does not show a clear correlation. However it is likely that the most deprived households are most likely to be in the poorest housing and therefore most porous to rat infestation. We recognise that there is an over-representation of people from black and minority ethnic groups in the deprivation statistics and therefore we have to conclude there is likely to be an impact on people due to their race.</p>
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the ethnicity and race characteristic?	The treatment costs are being kept to a contributory cost of £24 rather than a full cost which would likely to be £60 to £100. Residents can choose to purchase rat poisons from hardware stores and self treat.

**Protected Characteristic - Religion or Beliefs**

Does this proposal impact people's religion or beliefs as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
What religions could be impacted by this proposal?	N/A
Please describe the impact to the religion or beliefs characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the religion or beliefs characteristic?	N/A



**Protected Characteristic - Sexual Orientation**

Does this proposal impact people's sexual orientation as per the Equality Act 2010?	No
What sexual orientations may be impacted by this proposal?	N/A
Please describe the impact to the sexual orientation characteristic	N/A
How will you mitigate against any negative impact to the sexual orientation characteristic?	N/A

**Monitoring**

How will you ensure any adverse impact and mitigation measures are monitored?	We will continue to compare year on year statistics to see if the trends remain the same for each ward/Constituency. Where residents chose to self treat or take no action then the demand for service will drop in that area. We will also monitor levels of complaints about neighbouring properties and potential; rat infestations.
Please enter the email address for the officer responsible for monitoring impact and mitigation	Lisa Callow

