



Equality Screening Assessment

The Equality Screening Assessment form must be completed to evidence what impact the proposal may have on equality groups within our community or workforce. Any proposal that identifies a negative impact must have a full Equality Impact Assessment completed before the proposal progresses further.

1: Proposal

Requirement	Detail
Title of proposal	Introduction of non-immediate Article 4 Direction under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015, for a defined area of Kingswood, Corby
Type of proposal: new policy / change to policy / new service / change to service / removal of service / project / event/ budget	New policy
What is the objective of this proposal?	<p>The introduction of a non-immediate Article 4 Direction within a defined area of Kingswood, Corby will withdraw specific permitted development rights to convert dwelling houses (planning use class C3) to small Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO, planning use class C4) without planning permission.</p> <p>Local planning authorities have the power to introduce Article 4 Directions to remove certain permitted development rights in all or part of their area if it is considered appropriate to do so and there is sufficient evidence. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, paragraph 53) considers the removal of permitted development rights through Article 4 should be limited to situations where it is necessary to protect local amenity or the well-being of the area, be based on robust evidence and apply to the smallest geographical area</p>

Requirement	Detail
	possible. The rationale for introducing Article 4 is documented fully in the HMO Investigation and Evidence Paper.
<p>Has there been/when will there be consultation on this proposal? (List all the groups / communities, including dates)</p>	<p>A wide variety of evidence, including public consultation and intelligence across multiple Council service areas, has been collated to justify the making of the Article 4 Direction, including both its purpose and extent.</p> <p>The making of the Article 4 Direction is a two-stage process requiring local consultation before the Direction can be confirmed by the local authority.</p> <p>The first stage involves the Council making the Direction and carrying out local consultation within the area it is proposed the Direction will take effect. The Council is required to publish and display local advertisements, site notices and other media. This will provide an opportunity for the residents, property owners, property agents and stakeholder groups to make comments on the proposal.</p> <p>The Council is required to notify the Secretary of State of the proposal.</p> <p>The consultation period is expected to be carried out in April/May 2023 for a period of six weeks. The Article 4 Direction will be published on the Council's website via the consultation and engagement hub and be accessible to all. This involves notifying members of the North Northamptonshire Consultation Register and the North Northamptonshire Residents' Panel, which includes all individuals and organisations that have requested to be notified of new Council consultation and engagement activities.</p> <p>Notification emails and letters will be sent to all contacts on the Council's planning policy consultation database; all HMO landlords, tenants and agents known to the Council; elected Members and the Secretary of State.</p>

Requirement	Detail
	<p>A local advertisement will be placed in the Evening Telegraph and notices will be displayed in local libraries and in the area of the proposed designation.</p> <p>Consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI, 2022) and the Council's Consultation and Engagement Framework 2021.</p> <p>Any representations received during the consultation period will be taken into consideration in determining whether to confirm the Direction. The Council will be required to reconsult if this involves any material change to the Direction; however, if there are no issues with the original proposal then the Council can proceed to confirm the date on which the Direction becomes effective.</p>
<p>Did the consultation on this proposal highlight any positive or negative impact on protected groups? (If yes, give details)</p>	<p>Not yet applicable; however, this equalities screening assessment will be reviewed where necessary following consultation on the proposal.</p>
<p>What processes are in place to monitor and review the impact of this proposal?</p>	<p>Existing processes and systems are in place to gather information on HMO from a range of Council sources for their respective functions, including licensing, planning and Council tax information. Alongside the introduction of the Article 4 Direction, the HMO Investigation and Evidence Paper recommends a package of complementary measures including improvements to monitoring systems and processes, to improve data sharing and ensure the proposal is effectively implemented and monitored. The recommended package of measures link to the Council's wider ambitions for transformation and ongoing work to improve service delivery.</p>
<p>Who will approve this proposal? (Committee, CLT)</p>	<p>A report is due to be presented to Members of Planning Communities Executive Advisory Panel on 27 March 2023 to endorse the proposal and recommend this be authorised by Members of Executive on 20 April 2023.</p>

2: Equality Consideration

In turn, consider each protected group to ensure we meet our legal obligations of the Equality Act (2010).

Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations	Changes	Impact
<p>Age</p> <p>Different age groups that may be affected by the proposal in different ways.</p>	<p>The HMO Investigation and Evidence Paper includes population age profiles for the six wards that have been identified as having the highest number and concentration of HMO in North Northamptonshire.</p> <p>The proposal is to introduce an Article 4 Direction for a defined area within Kingswood, Corby, which has a relatively young population in comparison to North Northamptonshire as a whole.</p> <p>It is considered there is potential to advance equality of opportunity and offer general benefit to all age groups.</p> <p>'Bodies which represent the interests of the elderly in the authority's area' and 'Local schools in the authority's area' are included within the Statement of Community Involvement general consultation bodies for planning purposes and will be notified of the publication of the Article 4 Direction.</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>
<p>Sex</p> <p>Is one sex affected more than another or are they affected the same?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of gender, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis. Such planning controls will also</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>

Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations	Changes	Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	<p>Delete as appropriate.</p> <p>There can be more than one answer per protected group.</p>
<p>Disability</p> <p>It is likely to have an effect on a particular type of disability? Why?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, including those with disabilities, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis, which may need to take into account the particular accommodation needs of those with disabilities. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those with a disability.</p> <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on whether they have a disability. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process offers all members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development.</p> <p>'Bodies representing disabled persons in the authority's area' are included within the Statement of Community Involvement general consultation bodies for planning</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>

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<p>Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Will there be an impact on trans males and/or trans females?</p>	<p>purposes and will be notified of the publication of the Article 4 Direction.</p> <p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of whether they have undergone or are undergoing gender reassignment, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those within this protected group.</p> <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on their assigned gender. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process may help reduce the likelihood of discrimination that may be experienced by the trans community and offers all members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development.</p>		Positive Neutral Negative
<p>Race</p> <p>Are people from one ethnic group affected more than people from another ethnic group?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of their ethnic group, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those within this protected group.</p>		Positive Neutral Negative

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on their ethnicity. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process may help reduce the likelihood of discrimination that may be experienced by different ethnic groups and offers all members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development.</p> <p>'Bodies representing racial, ethnic or national groups in the authority's area' are included within the Statement of Community Involvement general consultation bodies for planning purposes and will be notified of the publication of the Article 4 Direction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	<p>Delete as appropriate.</p> <p>There can be more than one answer per protected group.</p>
<p>Sexual Orientation</p> <p>Are people of one sexual orientation affected differently to people of another sexual orientation?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of their sexual orientation, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those within this protected group.</p> <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on their sexual orientation. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process may help reduce the likelihood of discrimination that may be experienced by people based on their sexual orientation and offers all</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group.
<p>Marriage & Civil Partnership</p> <p>Are people in a Marriage or Civil Partnership treated less favourably?</p>	<p>members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development.</p> <p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of whether they are married or in a civil partnership, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those within this protected group.</p> <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on their marriage or civil partnership status. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process offers all members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development.</p>		Positive Neutral Negative
<p>Pregnancy & Maternity</p> <p>Are people who are pregnant, or have a baby of 6 months old or younger, effected by this proposal?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of pregnancy or having young children, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis, which may help to consider the specific requirements of members of the community with these protected characteristics. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity</p>		Positive Neutral Negative

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	<p>Delete as appropriate.</p> <p>There can be more than one answer per protected group.</p>
<p>Religion or Belief</p> <p>Does the proposal effect people differently depending on whether they have or do not have a religion or a belief?</p>	<p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of whether or not they have a religion or belief, and the introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis, which may help to consider the specific requirements of members of the community with religious beliefs. Such planning controls will also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include those within this protected group.</p> <p>The proposal does not differentially impact people based on their religion or beliefs. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process offers all members of this equality group the opportunity to positively shape the areas where they live with respect to HMO development as part of the statutory planning process.</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group.
<p>Health & Wellbeing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health behaviours (E.g. diet, exercise, alcohol, smoking) 2. Support (E.g. community cohesion, rural isolation) 3. Socio economic (E.g. income, education). 4. Environment (E.g. green spaces, fuel poverty, housing standards). 	<p>'Bodies representing the interests of different religious groups in the authority's area' are included within the Statement of Community Involvement general consultation bodies for planning purposes and will be notified of the publication of the Article 4 Direction.</p> <p>Information gathered as part of the HMO Investigation and Evidence Paper has helped to build a socio-economic profile for the six wards identified as having the highest number and concentration of HMO in North Northamptonshire. This information includes crime data and the index of multiple deprivation rank.</p> <p>The evidence shows correlation between areas with high concentrations of HMO and those experiencing social issues, such as noise complaints and antisocial behaviour and local environmental issues, such as car parking, refuse storage and noise.</p> <p>A wide variety of evidence, including public consultation and intelligence across multiple Council service areas, has been collated to justify the making of the Article 4 Direction, including both its purpose and extent, which includes a defined area within Kingswood, Corby.</p> <p>HMO provide for the accommodation needs of all members of the community, irrespective of their health behaviours, levels of community support, socio economic experience and environmental considerations. The introduction of an Article 4 Direction for the designated area will allow planning controls to determine the appropriateness of small HMO developments on a case-by-case basis to take account of these issues as part of the planning process. Such planning controls will</p>		<p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p>

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	also take account of the amenity interests of those living near to HMO which will include people with diverse characteristics. Public participation as part of the statutory planning process offers significant potential to make a positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of those living in the area where the Article 4 Direction will be introduced.		

3: Equality Impact

Question	Response
What overall impact does the proposal have on the protected groups? If a negative impact is identified anywhere in section 2, the response will be Negative Impact.	Positive Impact
Does an Equality Impact Assessment need to be completed? (Yes, if any negative impact is found.)	No
Copy attached to relevant report?	Yes
Is this document going to be published with the relevant report?	Yes

4: Ownership

Question	Response
Directorate	Place and Economy
Service area	Planning Policy

Question	Response
Lead officer's name	Bernice Turner
Lead officer's job title	Senior Planning Officer (Local Plans)
Lead officer's contact details	Bernice.Turner@northnorthants.gov.uk
Lead officer's signature	B Turner [Signature removed]
Date completed	10 March 2023

Completed forms must be sent to Equalities@northnorthants.gov.uk