

## FULL EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM B

Function being assessed:

Support to People with No Recourse to Public Funds Guidance 2011

Is this a new function or a review of an existing function?

This is a review of an existing policy

What are the aims/purpose of the function?

The aims of this guidance is to ensure that : -

- We treat all people who approach us with respect and dignity
- There is fairness and consistency in the discharge of our statutory duties towards those who are subject to immigration control and have no recourse to public funds.
- That the trigger for assessment for support under this guidance continues to be very low to ensure that we do not disadvantage any specific group or community
- That assessments and decisions are made in a timely and transparent way.
- That advice and support given by Council staff is within a clear framework based on relevant legislation, national and local research and best practice

Is the function designed to meet specific needs such as the needs of minority ethnic groups, older people, disabled people etc?

There are two parts to an eligibility assessment for support from Adult Services.

Firstly , an individual must meet the eligibility criteria under statutory immigration legislation law and therefore come within the definition of a person with no recourse to public funds.

Once this has been established then:-

Secondly an individual must meet the eligibility threshold of need through statutory community care legislation and/or Human Rights legislation.

Once an individual meets the first eligibility criteria, this guidance cuts across all equality strands. Moreover the threshold for assessment has specifically been made very low so that access is maximised for all groups and communities..

What information has been gathered on this function? (Indicate the type of information gathered e.g. statistics, consultation, other monitoring information)? Attach a summary or refer to where the evidence can be found.

National research has shown that in 2009/10 there were approximately 6.500 who were

supported people with no recourse to public funds by 51 Local Authorities. The findings from national research recommended that

- there are local policies and procedures in place
- that records are kept
- cases monitored and reviewed to facilitate resolution and safeguarding risks
- that Council should work across departments, and regionally and nationally to share expertise.

[http://www.islington.gov.uk/DownloadableDocuments/CommunityandLiving/Pdf/equalitydocs/NRPF\\_national\\_picture\\_final.pdf](http://www.islington.gov.uk/DownloadableDocuments/CommunityandLiving/Pdf/equalitydocs/NRPF_national_picture_final.pdf).

Existing data for RBK Adult Services currently only details those who have approached RBK and have received or currently receive support. We do not have statistics on those who have approached RBK where a decision has been made not to offer such support.

The numbers we currently support in Adult Services is (1) ,

- on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 (2)
- on the 31/3/2010 (5).

This figure however does not take account of those who we support in mental health services.

Does your analysis of the information show different outcomes for different groups (higher or lower uptake/failure to access/receive a poorer or inferior service)? If yes, indicate which groups and which aspects of the policy or function contribute to inequality?

There is insufficient local data to make a proper analysis at this time because we currently only collect data on those we have, or we currently support.

In general the numbers RBK have or currently support is low.

There is also a reduction in the number of people who RBK supports over the past eighteen months.

Are these differences justified (e.g. are there legislative or other constraints)? If they are, explain in what way.

There is insufficient local information to make a proper analysis at this time.

However one of the possible reasons for the reduction in the number of people who RBK supports could be attributed to changes to legislation and as result of legal judgements.

What action needs to be taken as a result of this Equality Impact Assessment to address any detrimental impacts or meet previously unidentified need? Include here any reasonable adjustments for access by disabled people. Include dates by which action will be taken. Attach

an action plan if necessary.

1. Better data collection of those who approach RBK for assessment and support so that we can analyse whether there is a differential access to this service by different groups and communities.

**Action**

Indicators to be developed to collect data regarding numbers and equality strands to enable a proper analysis of those who access the service and those who receive support and those who do not.

**Person responsible**

Performance manager

2. Awareness training for staff, with targeted training for the customer contact, the short term team and the Adult Emergency Team Service who are the front door to Adult Services. This will ensure that staff provide up to date correct information and advice about the Councils responsibilities.

**Action.**

Training to be organised and delivered following the release of the revised policy Equality and Diversity training to continue to be provided alongside this training to support best practice.

**Person responsible**

Workforce development manager  
No Recourse to Public Funds lead

3. People who we supported by RBK under this guidance are monitored and reviewed at least annually and more often if there are significant risks or safeguarding concerns.

**Action**

All cases to be reviewed and monitored at least annually in line with a needs and risks assessment.

**Person responsible**

Service managers and team managers

4. Implementation of the Human Rights assessment form to aid a consistent and fair approach

**Action**

New form to be introduced alongside the revised guidance

**Person responsible**

Practice lead

5. No recourse to Public Funds Lead to keep Adult Services up to date with current national research and best practice,

**Action**

Appoint a No Recourse to Public Funds lead  
Lead to feed back to DMT regarding up to date research and best practice to ensure service continues to deliver an excellent service

**Person responsible**

DMT and No recourse to Public Funds Lead

6. Upload NRCPF internet link to staff pages

[http://www.islington.gov.uk/community/equalitydiversity/refugees\\_migrants/nrpf\\_network/default.asp](http://www.islington.gov.uk/community/equalitydiversity/refugees_migrants/nrpf_network/default.asp)

When will you evaluate the impact of action taken? Give review dates.

At regular intervals via the bi monthly through the Equalities Steering Group.

Assessment completed by:

**NAME** Simon Pearce

**SERVICE** Adult Services

**DATE** October 5<sup>th</sup> 2011

Please send your completed assessment to your service head. A copy should then be sent to the Equality Adviser.