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**Ref No:** EQ517047903

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**Officer Name:** Paul Pledger

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**Title of report:** Housing – Fire Safety – Appointment of a Consultant

**Report :** The Building Safety Act was granted Royal Assent on 28 April 2022 and was quickly followed up in August 2022 with new regulations under Article 24 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (Fire Safety Order). Combined, these place a number of new or enhanced duties and responsibilities on social housing landlords, as well as setting deadlines to meet some of the new requirements.

To assist the Council in assessing and achieving fire safety compliance, as set out in the legislation, it is necessary to appoint a multi-disciplinary consultancy with fire safety expertise.

**What evidence/data is being used to support this equality analysis? Please select all that apply.:** Findings from surveys, focus groups & consultations, Information from statutory partners (e.g police), Analysis of service data (e.g I-card)

**Service area:** Maintenance & Contracts

**Corporate Manager:** Gavin Fisk

**Corporate Manager email:** Gavin.Fisk@ipswich.gov.uk

**Links to supporting documents where available:**

**Please upload any supporting documents:**

**What is proposed?:** To appoint a multi-disciplinary consultancy with fire safety expertise to assist the Council in assessing and achieving fire safety compliance, as set out in the legislation.

**Why are the changes being introduced?:** This is a new piece of work that is required as set out in The Building Safety Act and new regulations under Article 24 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (Fire Safety Order).

**What evidence is being used to support this Equality Impact Assessment, and how is it being used?:** A range of evidence is used, but primarily the level of work needed is yet to be defined, which will develop as the surveys and design develop. The current Fire Risk Assessments forms the basis of the evidence.

**How will this change be implemented?:** The appointment of the specialist fire engineering consultant will lead the change needed to meet the legislation.

**Age:** Positive

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Disability:** Positive

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Marriage & Civil Partnership:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Race:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Pregnancy & Maternity:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Religion or Belief:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Gender Reassignment:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Sex:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**Sexual Orientation:** No impact

**Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or**

**further promote positive impact.:** The works needed will be based on a the condition of the property and the occupants circumstances in relation to mobility

**I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives:**I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives

**The report helps us to 'elminate unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation' in the following way(s)::** The report indicates that there are no unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation issues resulting from the works that will be carried out through this procurement

**The report helps us to 'advance equality of opportunity...' in the following way(s): :**The procurement and the works treat all tenants with protected characteristics equally. Age and disability are aspects that need to be incorporated as fire safety must take account of means of escape in the event of an emergency.

**The policy helps us to 'foster good relations...' in the following way(s)::**Works are completed to a high standard ensuring tenants are living in a safe and decent home

**The new provisions will be reviewed in the following way(s)::**Tenant engagement and customer satisfaction / complaints as well as independent audits from Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service.

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