Equality Analysis Form / EqIA

By completing this form you will provide evidence of how your service is meeting Stroud District Council's General Equality duty:

The Equality Act 2010 states that:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;
(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The protected characteristics are listed in Question 9

Stroud District Equality data can be found at:
https://inform.gloucestershire.gov.uk/equality-and-diversity/

Please see Appendix 1 for a good example of a completed EIA.

Guidance available on the HUB

1. Persons responsible for this assessment:

Name(s): Emma Keating Clark	**Telephone:**
	E-Mail:emma.keatingclark@stroud.gov.uk
Service: Community Services	**Date of Assessment: 11-05-26**

2. Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function:

Crisis & Resilience Fund – Delivery Plan 2026-27

Is this new or an existing one?

New

3. Briefly describe its aims and objectives

The Crisis & Resilience Fund (CRF) Delivery plan 2026-27 outlines the budget allocation for Stroud District's cost of living funding that comes from Department of Work Pensions (DWP) to Local Authorities. This funds community partners and specialist support agencies to help residents cope with cost of living pressures.

4. Are there external considerations? (Legislation / government directive, etc)
The funding come from the DWP and must be used to support cost of living pressures in Stroud District following criteria set by Gloucestershire County Council.

5. Who is intended to benefit from it and in what way?

Stroud District Council administer the fund at our discretion within the funding criteria of 1. developing financial resilience or 2. community coordination of cost-of-living support. Any residents impacted by cost-of-living pressures can be supported.

6. What outcomes are expected?

Support to deal with cost-of-living pressures as follows: **1. Access to in person and telephone support with financial challenges and ongoing budget management.** **2. Access to low cost/free pantry supplies, community café meals.** **3. Access to Foodbank parcels and related support** **4. Access to advice on fuel poverty or other crisis payments.** **5. Support to access free / low cost transport options.**

7. What evidence has been used for this assessment?: (eg Research, previous consultations, Inform (MAIDEN); Google assessments carried out by other Authorities)

The partnership delivery model for cost-of-living support in Stroud has been developed for the last 5 years. The model reaches communities who have few services in their locality by working through the network of 15 Community Hubs. It also promotes telephone support for those with no local Hub.

8. **Has any consultation been carried out? See list of possible consultees**

This delivery model has been co-produced with front line partners in the Stroud District Community Hubs Network and the Stroud Financial Inclusion Partnership of specialist advice partners and the Foodbank. Different approaches have been piloted, and learning has gone into the development of the 26/27 plan.

9. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?
(Negative – it could disadvantage and therefore potentially not meet the General Equality duty;
Positive – it could benefit and help meet the General Equality duty;
Neutral – neither positive nor negative impact / Not sure)

Protected Group	Type of impact, reason and any evidence (from Q7 & 8)
Age	All ages could receive cost of living support if needed but support is likely to be most needed by families and older adults on low incomes. Transport support is also likely to be targeted at young people.
Disability	People with disabilities on low incomes will be supported by the fund. The Citizens Advice specialise in supporting people with disabilities to access the benefits to which they are entitled

Gender Re-assignment	No evidence of impact.
Pregnancy & Maternity	Cost of living support is delivered via Hubs pregnancy, baby and parents groups, both in vouchers and food support and with money advice and free money management courses.
Race	No evidence of impact
Religion – Belief	No evidence of impact
Sex	No evidence of impact
Sexual Orientation	No evidence of impact.
Marriage & Civil Partnerships (part (a) of duty only)	No evidence of impact
Rural considerations: Ie Access to services; transport; education; employment; broadband;	Yes – the delivery model of Stroud's cost of living support was developed to reach communities who have few services in their locality by working through the network of 15 Community Hubs. It also promotes telephone support for those with no local Hub. This partnership model provides access to services for money, food, health, education, employment, digital inclusion and transport.

10. If you have identified a negative impact in question 9, what actions have you undertaken or do you plan to undertake to lessen or negate this impact?

Please transfer any actions to your Service Action plan on Excelsis.

Action(s):	Lead officer	Resource	Timescale

Declaration

I am satisfied that an Impact Assessment has been carried out on this policy, service, strategy, procedure or function * (delete those which do not apply) and where a negative impact has been identified, actions have been developed to lessen or negate this impact.

We understand that the Equality Impact Assessment is required by the District Council and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment

Completed by: Emma Keating Clark	**Date: 11th May 2026**
Role: Community Health & Wellbeing Manager	
Countersigned by Head of Service/Director: Ange Gillingham	**Date: 27 May 2026**

Date for Review: Please forward an electronic copy to policy@stroud.gov.uk