

Initial equality impact assessment screening form

This form is an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to an activity, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.

Directorate:	People Group
Service Area:	The DFG sits within Adult Services responsibility but includes children due to Occupational Therapy and DFG function also covering children services)
Activity being screened:	Disabled Facilities Grant process and approval changes
Officer(s) carrying out the screening:	Barbara Beadle
What are you proposing to do?	Introduce a new pathway with governance which and apply a risk assessment which evidence risk and impact on the person awaiting for a DFG. This is due to the increased demand for DFG and needing to support and progress those at highest need, risk and urgency. This will lead to longer waits and delays for people who are identified as lower priority due to risk and impact analysis.
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	DFG The demand for DFG has increased significantly across the last 10 months. There is the need for a revised governance process to manage the demand, risk and urgency. Desired outcome - to progress with DFG for major works for those people evidencing the highest risk and impact following OT assessment.
Does the activity involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details	There is no removal of resource. The new pathway once fully embedded will align to the current governance structure of adult social care via discussion/ supervision/ practice support forum and DFG forums – no additional resource required.

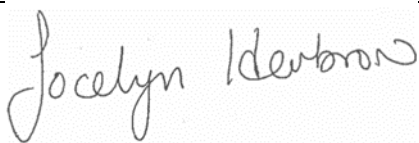
Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or any other socially excluded groups?

As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:

- To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?
- Does the activity relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?
- Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the activity relates to?

If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate.

Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/ Info not available
Age		x	
Disability		x	
Sex (gender)		x	
Race		x	
Sexual Orientation		x	
Religion or belief		x	
Gender reassignment		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
Other			
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		x	
Low Income		x	
Rural Location		x	
Does the activity relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	Please note although DFG major work delays will impact on people living with a disability and their carers, the pathway is determined solely by risk and impact on the person and therefore those at highest risk and impact will be processed ahead of those of lower risk and impact following application of a screening tool. This screening is focused solely on the individual's ability to meet needs within their property and to support carers where appropriate and not based on any protected characteristics.		
Will the activity have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No impact on other organisations This conclusion has been reached from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where people have increased needs resulting in a Package of Care (POC) or increased POC whilst awaiting a DFG to meet needs this will be identified in the risk prioritisation screening and prioritised. - Home improvement Agency activity aligns to demand and works across Durham and Darlington therefore activity can flex around demand fluctuations. 		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	x	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for Decision	There was no clear governance or risk management approach to the administration of DFG. The introduction of this process ensures that those with the greatest risks and		

	needs are prioritised. Whilst there will be an impact on people with disabilities and their carers these risks will be minimised through assessment to identify alternative support or arrangements whilst awaiting a decision on DFG applications. The implementation of the process will not deliver a significant adverse impact.
Signed (Assistant Director)	
Date	24/10/2024 (reviewed and revised 23/05/2025