

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal	T19 Trading Standards Transformation Programme
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Department	Culture, Communities and Business Services
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Description of Service / Policy

Trading Standards is a law enforcement body. The service provides professional advice to businesses and investigates non compliances in relation to more than 200 pieces of legislation. The authority to take such action with powers granted within the legislation that is balanced alongside the delivery of discretionary services. The service supports vulnerable adults in conjunction with Adult Services particularly around reducing the impact of doorstep crime and financial abuse, and has a number of statutory responsibilities to deliver against national, regional and local needs.

Geographical impact* All Hampshire

Description of proposed change

Increase income generation by creating new income streams and enhancing current income generation activities

- Focus on preventative activities by working with volunteers and local communities to help provide support and information
- Reduce 1:1 support of vulnerable adults
- Digitalisation of consumer education activities
- Stop some/all non statutory activities
- A different service delivery model and associated staff restructure

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

On going engagement with Adult Services with respect to the delivery of non statutory services.

Staff consultation will take place once a clearer picture emerges of what should be delivered and how.

No specific Hampshire wide consultation has been carried out on this proposal, however, the County Council carried out a major public consultation exercise over the Summer 2017 on a range of options for finding further budget savings including increasing council tax, using reserves and making changes to the way in which services are delivered, which may mean reducing or withdrawing certain services. The outcome of this consultation will be presented to Cabinet in September 2017. When decisions are made to pursue the options, further

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specific Hampshire wide consultation will be carried out with stakeholders on the detailed options where required.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Statutory considerations

Age

Impact

Impact

Low

The victim profile for doorstep crime and financial abuse is typically individuals aged over 60. Changing the delivery model will disproportionately impact on older people. As the Service engages with a very small number of vulnerable adults compared to the population as a whole, the impact is expected to be low.

Disability

Impact

Low

The victim profile for doorstep crime and financial abuse is typically individuals with reduced mental capacity. Changing the delivery model will disproportionately impact disabled people. As the Service engages with a very small number of vulnerable adults compared to the population as a whole, the impact is expected to be low.

Sexual Orientation

Neutral

Race

Neutral

Religion and Belief

Neutral

Gender Reassignment

Neutral

Gender

Impact

Low

The victim profile for doorstep crime and financial abuse is typically individuals who are female. Changing the delivery model will disproportionately impact on females. As the Service engages with a very small number of vulnerable adults compared to the population as a whole, the impact is expected to be low.

Marriage and civil partnership

Neutral

Pregnancy and Maternity

Neutral

Other policy considerations

Poverty
Impact

Positive

A move to preventative work will help increase resilience of the population and therefore reduce the incidences of doorstep crime and financial abuse. By digitalising consumer education materials will enable the service to reach a larger number of young people to help reduce the chances of being ripped off. Lessons learned early to help prevent being caught out later in life.

Rurality

Neutral

Additional Information

The impact on the population as a whole is expected to be positive as the Service moves towards prevention focussed measures. This is considered to be more effective at reducing vulnerability to doorstep crime and financial abuse over the longer term rather than picking up the pieces after the event. The creation of and use of a volunteer network extends the reach of core staff employed by the authority and builds on a self help model of delivery where feasible.