

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal	T19 Asbestos Management Services
Originator	Cobley, Arran
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Department	Culture, Communities and Business Services
Date of Assessment	23 May 2017

Description of Service / Policy

The Asbestos Management Service forms part of Hampshire Scientific Service and delivers United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accredited asbestos testing and inspection services (asbestos surveys, air monitoring, analysis of samples and safety inspections) to Hampshire County Council and other public sector clients. Services also include the management of the asbestos database which contains details of around 90,000 asbestos items across around 800 sites. The database is not able to meet forthcoming changes to the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE's) asbestos requirements.

Geographical impact* All Hampshire

Description of proposed change

To replace existing asbestos management software with a system that allows users to access information about asbestos in our buildings via the internet, even to those working remotely. The new system will also improve how certificates are issued following asbestos removal, as per the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE's) new requirements, and will improve the efficiency of how asbestos data is collected and reported and, therefore, reduce costs. Current risks around software development and support will also be addressed by replacing the software.

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

Consultation conducted with end users of asbestos information (including schools, Property Services colleagues and Constructions Contractors).

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 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

Impact

Age

Neutral

Disability
Impact

Positive

Positive impact on some disability groups – Web access to data is expected to benefit those with poor eyesight and the format of data is expected to make data easier to understand for those with a preference for visual information through greater use of annotated plans and photographs.

Sexual Orientation

Neutral

Race

Neutral

Religion and Belief

Neutral

Gender Reassignment

Neutral

Gender

Neutral

Marriage and civil
partnership

Neutral

Pregnancy and
Maternity

Neutral

Other policy considerations

Poverty

Neutral

Rurality

Neutral

Additional Information