

Name of proposal/policy	Very Sheltered Homes	Budget number (if applicable)	
Service area responsible	Adults Commissioning NASS	Cabinet meeting date	08/05/18
Name of completing officer	Tom Grozdoski	Date EqIA created	27/06/18
Approved by Director / Assistant Director	Ken Fairbairn	Date of approval	28/06/18

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'Due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advancing equality of opportunity
- Fostering good relations

We do this by undertaking equality impact assessments (EqIAs) to help us understand the implications of policies and decisions on people with protected characteristics – EqIAs are our way of evidencing this.

All assessments must be published on the NCC equalities web pages. All Cabinet papers where an EqIA is relevant **MUST** include a link to the web page where this assessment will be published. If you require assistance in getting your EqIA published, please contact equalities@northamptonshire.gov.uk

PART 1

Description of current provision/policy and main beneficiaries/stakeholders

Very Sheltered Housing provides care for older people as well as for younger adults where occupants have specific tenure rights to occupy self-contained dwellings and where they have agreements that cover the provision of care, support, domestic, social, community or other services. Very Sheltered Housing offers a range of care and support services to support people to live within the community for as long as possible and divert people from entering long term residential care. This concept of care provision enhances personal perception of security and reduces the likelihood of admission to hospital through the provision of a range of care and support services including a night response service for Older people, people with Dementia and people with Learning and Physical Disability as well as people with Mental Health.

Currently NCC financially pays for care for 5 larger Very Sheltered schemes within the county and a number of other smaller schemes which mainly provide care for younger adults, which is within the scope of Very Sheltered Housing concept. The larger schemes include Imperial Court, Sunley Court, St Crispins, Rosewood Court and Langdale. The Very Sheltered Housing services currently are being provided through two different frameworks; one for older people which expires end of March 2018 and the other one for younger adults and this expires end of March 2020.

The main beneficiaries of these services include adults and younger adults who have a health and/or social care need, and have been assessed as needing care to facilitate independent daily living and to enable them to live as long as possible within their own homes.

Description of proposal under consideration/development

The proposal is to re-procure the Very Sheltered Housing Framework and the Supported Living Framework through open tender with the new service being in place 1 April 2019. The new contract will be up to 4 years with a possible 1 year extension to allow a relationship to be built with the provider over the medium term to deliver ever more efficient services and to allow for innovation and creativity.

NCC is facing a significant risk in terms of delivering a balanced budget within the Medium Term Financial Plan. It is therefore critical that services are delivered in the most appropriate and cost effective way, in this instance by moving away from a reliance on residential care towards a new mix of services to be provided through a single framework. This will enable a greater emphasis on services to support independence through the delivery of a proactive and preventative model of care centred on improved well-being, with greater choice and control for individuals.

In addition to the main provision of domiciliary related care the service will also provide night response service, on-call service, sleeping and waking night service as well as providing information, advice and support to people to maintain health and well being for as long as possible and reducing the likelihood of admission to hospital or long term institutional care.

The proposal will provide reliable, care and support that helps service users increase control over their daily lives, achieve and maintain possible independence and prevent social isolation. The key outcomes to be delivered through this new Framework for Very Sheltered Housing will include:

- Improved health and emotional wellbeing
- Improved quality of life
- Increased choice and control

- Freedom from discrimination and harassment
- Social and Emotional wellbeing
- Personal dignity and respect
- Making a positive contribution

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Data Source (include link where published)	Please summarise what the data tells us
<p>http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/health/health-and-wellbeing-board/northamptonshire-jsna/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Demography JSNA 2017</p>	<p>Over the years there have been significant population changes in the county. In the last 30 years the population of Northamptonshire has increased by just over 30% compared to a 16.8% England average. By 2024 it is projected that the population of Northamptonshire will have grown by approximately 9%; faster than the projected 7.5% increase for England. This includes increasing numbers of older people with higher levels of need, including long-term physical health conditions, dementia and social isolation. In addition to the increasing population there is an increase in the number of people living alone as well as there are more people with complex needs and long term conditions.</p> <p>The service currently provides support to over 516 people within Northamptonshire. The service will generally be for older people or younger adults who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have Mental health needs (includes those with dementia) • have Physical or/and Learning disability • have Severe visual or/ and Sensory impairments • are Chronically sick or Terminally ill

Tick the relevant box for each line by using a capital 'P' to make a <input type="checkbox"/>	Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?			
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Sex			X	
Gender Reassignment			X	
Age	X			
Disability	X			
Race & Ethnicity			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)			X	
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)			X	
Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc)	X			

Initial impact	
Explain your findings above	Actions identified to mitigate, advance equality or fill gaps in information
<p>The new services will ensure that the needs of all customers are identified and addressed regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief or sexual orientation. There will be a positive impact on people with disabilities, older people and other groups such as rural communities.</p> <p>While the impact on people with other protected characteristics is being identified as neutral because they are unlikely to gain additional benefits of the service, it is anticipated that the new contract will be a positive step forward for accessing the service by everyone that needs it in line with the service eligibility.</p>	<p>The new Framework is aimed at providing improved services to older people of the 65+ age group. The overall aim of the proposals is to reform and modernise services for older people and younger adults to enable them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.</p> <p>As part of the tender process, Commissioners will ensure the need for specialist provision in the very Sheltered Housing schemes is incorporated to ensure the increasing need for dementia, mental health and services for people with Physical and Learning Disabilities are met.</p> <p>No specific issues have been identified in relation to religion or Belief, Sex, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Pregnancy and Human Rights. The service will be provided to people irrespective of protected characteristics, and this will be taken into consideration through the contract and specification for the service.</p>

	<p>The service proposals will ensure that socially excluded people in particular those living in the rural areas are not disproportionately disadvantaged as a result of the new tender. Also, integrating people into communities wherever possible will enable them to access universal services and make links with their own communities.</p>
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Do you need to undertake further work (e.g. consultation, further equality analysis) based on the impact and actions identified above? If yes, set this out below and then carry out the work and complete Part 2

It is anticipated that customers will benefit from the proposed service. The competitive procurement will be followed to secure effectively this service. The key procurement dates include:

- Tender to be publicised in August 2018
- Award notice published in December 2018 with the view to commence the service 1 April 2019

This EqIA will be revisited if required to ensure the equality impacts remains current however at this stage no further work is required to be undertaken.

PART 2 – if required

Consultation, follow up data and information gathered from actions identified above	
	What does this information tell us?

Final impact analysis (taking the findings from Part 2 into account) – including review date if required