

First Quarterly Report (2016/2017) on the Implementation of the Equality Scheme

1.0 Compliance Issues

1.1 Equality Screening/Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA)

Screening

From 1st April 2016 – 30th June 2016 the following policies have been screened:

- Rental Maximisation Strategy
- Garage Rent Policy

EQIA

There were no EQIAs completed during this quarter.

1.2 Training

Safeguarding Training

As the formal programmes of Child Protection and Adult Safeguarding training are now completed a combined Safeguarding Training course has been developed and commenced in April 2016. Between April and June 2016 3 courses were held and 38 members of staff attended over the 3 courses.

1.3 Access to Information and Services

Communication Support (Translation & Interpreter Services)

A total of 836 telephone based interpreting sessions were held from 1st April 2016 to 30th June 2016. The number of languages that required interpretation totalled 27. The top 3 most requested languages are listed below:

- Polish
- Slovak
- Arabic

Translation tasks totalled 61 and face to face interpreter sessions totalled 24.

1.4 Monitoring

Equality Monitoring waiting list and allocations data is available up to the 30th June 2016.

1.5 Consultation

The Consultative Forum Steering Group on Equality met on 29th June 2016.

2.0 Key Equality/Good Relations Programme

2.1 Traveller Project Team:

An update from the Traveller Project Team will be included in the 2nd Quarterly Report for 2016/17.

2.2 Community Cohesion

Community Cohesion Strategy

The Community Cohesion Strategy 2015-2020 was launched on 19th February 2016.

Flags, emblems, sectional symbols - Re-imaging

Communities are continuing to develop re-imaging projects with NIHE support. The NIHE has been working in Shankill estate, Falls Road, Village, Clonard, Twaddel, Omagh, Derry, Lower Shankill, Mid Shankill, Newtownabbey, Portadown and East Belfast.

Segregation/Integration

BRIC2 programme

Phase 2 of the BRIC2 programme is ongoing and a further 26 BRIC 2 areas have been identified in collaboration with the area managers. Bespoke good relations plans will now be implemented in each area and will include good relations training and the signing of the social charter.

Together Building a United Community (TBUC) Shared Housing

A programme of 10 TBUC shared neighbourhood schemes in social housing is being supported by OFMDFM TBUC strategy and NIHE are currently working with the Department for Communities to develop further projects to support shared new build and existing NIHE estates.

Interfaces

Interface Normalisation Policy

The Community Cohesion delivers an Interface Normalisation Policy on behalf of DOJ. The policy highlights that NIHE will undertake works within its area of responsibility at interfaces giving tenants the comfort to allow the interfaces to be removed/remodelled or reimaged. See the link below for further information:

[community-celebrates-peace-wall-removal](#)

Communities in Transition

Areas at Risk

The Areas at Risk programme was established in 2006 to identify and intervene in areas at risk of slipping into a spiral of decline. The Community Cohesion Unit is co-ordinating and delivering the programme in North Belfast (Greater Whitewell and Glenbank).

Race Relations

75 Staff trained have been trained in Hate Crime awareness.

Hate Harassment tool kit - This support pack has been developed to help those who are experiencing or know someone who is experiencing harassment, and in particular hate harassment. The Tool Kit highlights the Housing Executives commitment to dealing quickly and positively with any hate harassment within our estates whether it amounts to a crime or not and will use the full range of remedies available to take action against perpetrators.

2.4 Key Documents

The following documents can be viewed and downloaded by accessing the links below:

NIHE Equality Scheme

http://www.nihe.gov.uk/equality_scheme.pdf

15th Annual Report to the Equality Commission

http://www.nihe.gov.uk/fifteenth_annual_progress_report_to_the_equality_commission.pdf

Mapping Foreign Nationals Living in N.I. 2016 Update (formerly known as the Black Minority and Ethnic (BME) and Migrant Worker Report Update)

<http://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/strategies/equality.htm>

NIHE Traveller Accommodation needs Assessment

http://www.nihe.gov.uk/traveller_accommodation_needs_assessment_2014_published_march_2015.pdf

If you require any further information on any of topics discussed in this report or if you require the report in an alternative format please contact:

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