

Third Quarterly Report (2018/2019) on the Implementation of the Equality Scheme

1.0 Compliance Issues

1.1 Equality Screening/Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA)

Screening

From 1st October – 31st December 2018 the following policies have been screened:

- Safeguarding Policy & Procedures
- Corporate Plan 2017/18 – 2020/21
- Furniture Storage

Screening reports are available on request.

EQIA

There were no EQIAs completed during this quarter.

1.2 Training

Safeguarding Training

Since 2010 over 200 training sessions have been completed with over 2,500 members of staff attending child safeguarding courses, adult safeguarding courses or both. In addition the Equality Unit Manager has facilitated safeguarding policy awareness sessions with 10 contractor firms and other organisations including Supporting Communities and the House Conditions Survey Team.

A new programme of safeguarding training began in October 2018 and is scheduled to conclude in April 2019. 3 safeguarding sessions were held from the period of the 1st October 2018 to the 31st December 2018.

Equality Awareness Training

A new programme of Equality Awareness training began in October 2018 and is due to finish in April 2019. A total of 4 training sessions were held during the 1st October 2018 to the 31st December 2018.

1.3 Access to Information and Services

Communication Support (Translation & Interpreter Services)

A total of 764 telephone based interpreting sessions were held from 1st October to 31st December 2018. The top 3 most requested languages are listed below:

- Polish
- Arabic
- Somali

Translation tasks totalled 54 and face to face interpreter sessions (including Sign Language) totalled 18. There were no requests for alternative formats.

1.4 Monitoring

Equality Monitoring waiting list and allocations data is available up to the 31st December 2018.

1.5 Consultation

The NIHE's full Consultative Forum on Equality was held on 10th October 2018. The forum was opened by Clark Bailie (NIHE Chief Executive) and included presentations on:

- NIHE Community Involvement Strategy 2018 -2023
- NIHE Corporate Plan
- Countering Hatred Presentation by the Committee on the Administration of Justice
- NIHE Equality Monitoring Policy

The minutes of the forum are available on request.

2.0 Key Equality/Good Relations Programme

2.1 Traveller Project Team:

The next Traveller Project Team update will be in the 4th Quarterly Report on the Implementation of the Equality Scheme 2018/19.

2.2 Community Cohesion

Flags, emblems, sectional symbols - Re-imaging

Communities are continuing to develop re-imaging projects with NIHE support in West Belfast, East Belfast, Shankill, Omagh, Derry/L'Derry, Ballybeen, Newtownabbey, North Down, Larne, Ballyclare, Coleraine, Carrickfergus and Mid Ulster.

Segregation/Integration

Estate Based Cohesion Funding

The NIHE has delivered a number of projects across its 13 areas. Working closely with local communities to support and assist them on their journey of Good relations.

Together Building a United Community (TBUC) Shared Housing

A programme of 10 TBUC shared neighbourhood schemes in social housing is being supported by the TBUC strategy. 8 of the 10 TBUC developments are completed (Felden in Newtownabbey, Global Crescent & Ballynavoy Close in Belfast, Burn Road in Cookstown Manse Court in Saintfield, Ballynahinch and Market Road in Ballymena and Brunel View in Dundrum).

A further 2 are onsite (Embankment in Belfast and Dromore Street in Banbridge)

Further funding to support the development of shared housing has been made available via the draft Programme for Government, with a commitment of Supporting 200 units per annum.

Interfaces

Interface Normalisation Policy

The Housing Executive continues to deliver the 'normalisation programme' in conjunction with the Department of Justice providing alternative security work to NIHE and private properties at interface locations where walls are being re-modelled.

Following on from the successful interface removal work at the Ardoyne Road, Phase 2 of Crumlin Road Woodvale is on site.

Communities in Transition

Areas at Risk

The Community Cohesion Unit is co-ordinating and delivering the programme in North Belfast (Greater Whitewell and Glenbank).

Race Relations

Race Relations continues to be a key theme of the Housing Executive's work in community cohesion which is in line with the organisation's Race Relations Policy.

The Area Offices and Good Relations Officers continue to support the work on the ground across all areas to promote and support race relation programmes.

Strategic Cohesion Forum

The Strategic Cohesion forum continues to work together in partnership, to influence, shape and inform the Housing Executive's Community Cohesion Strategy and Policies.

<http://www.nihe.gov.uk/news-new-cohesion-forum>

2.3 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

Black Minority and Ethnic (BME) and Migrant Worker Report

https://www.nihe.gov.uk/bme_migrant_worker_mapping_report_2016.pdf

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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