SSA EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Directorate	Housing and Regeneration
Service Area	Housing and Homelessness Strategy
Service/policy/function being assessed	Housing and Homelessness Strategy
Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to	Wandsworth
Staff involved	Michael Shearon Weller
Date approved by Directorate Equality Group (if applicable)	N/A
Date approved by Policy and Review	11/10/2018
Manager	
All EINAs must be signed off by the Policy	
and Review Manager	
Date submitted to Directors' Board	ТВС

SUMMARY

Please summarise the key findings of the EINA.

Positive:

- The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, improving standards for private renters, tackling homelessness and rough sleeping and supporting vulnerable residents.
- According to the Census, Wandsworth has a younger population than the national average with 29% of residents aged between25 and 34 (in comparison to 13.5% nationally). Younger people are less likely to be owner occupiers and therefore may find it harder to access homeownership. The strategy sets out how it plans to make homeownership more accessible to Wandsworth's young population.
- Lone parents with dependent children made up 49% (45% female and 4% male) of accepted homeless cases in 2017/18, despite only representing 6.1% of the borough profile. The measures in the strategy will ensure that there is a greater emphasis on prevention of homelessness. The revised New Generation Scheme in particularly is targeted towards assisting loan parents being evicted by family members.
- 25% of all Council tenants are aged 65 or over, compared to the borough profile of 9%. The
 Council has taken steps to ensure the comfort, security and safety of all residents but fire
 safety measures such as the removal of cladding and the installation of sprinklers in high
 rise blocks and sheltered schemes will especially ensure the safety of the Council's older
 residents.
- 9% of homelessness acceptances in 2017/18 were found to be in priority need as the household included a pregnant woman and there were no dependent children in the household. The increased emphasis on prevention in the Homelessness Reduction Act, including the revised New Generation Scheme which encourages family not to evict relatives with the promise of social housing after one year will help meet the need of pregnant women.

Compared with the borough demographic in 2011, households made homeless in 2017/18
from a BAME background were overrepresented with 59% going into temporary
accommodation compared to the 30% residing in the borough. The new measures
introduced under the Homelessness Reduction Act will help BAME households particularly.

Negative:

Data on sexual orientation and religion has not historically been collected in relation to
housing and homelessness. The Homelessness Reduction Act now requires local authorities
to provide information to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government
(MHCLG) on the religion and sexual orientation of applications presenting as homeless (HCLIC data). This came into force in April 2018, therefore it is too early to use this data to
inform this strategy, but the data will be available to inform future policy and decision
making.

1. Background

Briefly describe the service/policy or function:

The draft strategy sets out the Borough's plans for housing and homelessness services for the period 2019-2022. For the first time, the housing and homelessness strategies have been combined into one plan.

The strategy sets out how we will help our residents meet their housing needs and ambitions. It covers how we will work to improve social and private sector housing in the Borough, prevent homelessness and support our vulnerable residents, including rough sleepers.

The strategy follows five proposed themes, each of which plays an essential part in providing housing for the Borough:

- Building More Homes: Wandsworth will deliver over 14,000 homes over the next five
 years including affordable homes for Wandsworth residents and workers, such as low-cost
 ownership and new Council homes. The emphasis is to provide a range of housing options
 for our 314,000 residents who live in Wandsworth as well as those who work in the
 Borough.
- **Proud of our Council Housing:** As a landlord of some 32,000 homes we will maintain our housing and estates to beyond the Decent Homes Standard and ensure these are safe places to live. We will look to improve our services and empower our residents to ensure that the wider resident voice is heard.
- Improving Standards for Private Renters: We will work to ensure high standards in private rented housing and take action with landlords where required. We will fully utilise additional powers that the Government has given councils to tackle poorly performing landlords and license houses in multiple occupation, and continue financial support to bring empty properties back into use.
- Tackling Homelessness and Rough Sleeping: We will work with those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness to prevent or relieve this at the earliest point, whilst also looking to liaise with, support and fund local rough sleeping agencies.
- **Supporting Vulnerable Residents:** We will deliver a range of options to help residents live safely and independently, including sheltered and supported housing schemes, as well as

Protected

group

adaptations and telecare services. Working with Adult and children's services we want to provide more housing options and opportunities for the Borough's more vulnerable residents to thrive.

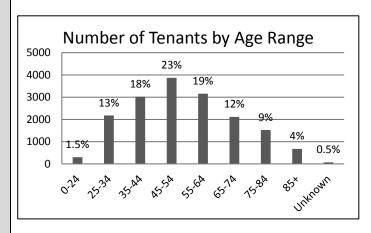
2. Analysis of need and impact

Findings

Age	Borough	Borough population (2011 Census):			
	Age	No.	%		
	0-15	48,765	16%		
	16-24	36,102	12%		
	25-34	88,957	29%		
	35-44	52,063	17%		
	45-54	32,188	10%		
	55-64	22,009	7%		
	65-74	14,455	5%		
	75-84	8,763	3%		
	85+	3,693	1%		

Wandsworth has a significantly higher percentage of young people residing in the borough than the national average. 29% of the population are aged between 25 and 34, compared with 13.5% nationally.

Council tenant profile:

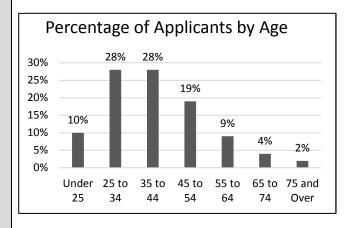


Age Range	Amoun	%
	t	
0 - 24	296	2%
25 – 34	2176	13%
35 – 44	3020	18%
45 – 54	3869	23%
55 – 64	3158	19%
65 – 74	2114	13%
75 - 84	1522	9%
85+	673	4%
Unknown	69	0%

Wandsworth Council tenants have a significantly higher representation of people over the age of 45 (67.5%) than compared to the borough profile (26%). This is even more true of tenants over the age of 65 who represent a quarter of all Council tenants whilst only making up 9% of the borough demographic. As life expectancy is expected to rise in the borough, it is possible that this percentage will also continue to rise.

Queues/Allocations population by age:

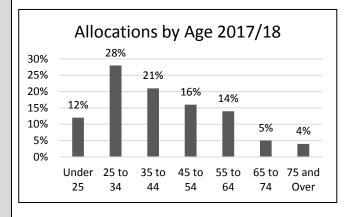
Applicants (number of households on the Housing Register 2017/18) by age:



Applicants:			
Age	Amount		
Under 25	644		
25 – 34	1,870		
35 – 44	1,890		
45 – 54	1,282		
55 – 64	631		
65 - 74	248		
75+	161		

Despite there being significantly more residents in the borough between the ages of 25 and 34 than those aged 35 to 44, there are roughly the same number of applicants on the Wandsworth Housing Register in both age groups (28%). This suggests that people in there mid to late thirties/ early forties are more likely to be either unsatisfied with their accommodation (for example due to overcrowding) or made homeless.

Allocations (number of offers made to the Housing Register 2017/18) by age:

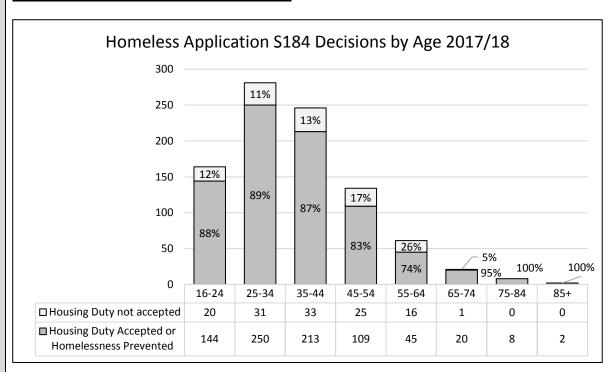


Allocations:			
Age	Amount		
Under 25	106		
25 – 34	243		
35 – 44	182		
45 – 54	141		
55 – 64	125		
65 - 74	46		
75+	37		

Despite consisting of 28% of the housing register, 21% of settled offers are made to tenants aged 34-45. There is a higher percentage of offers made to applicants aged 55-64 (14%) compared to the age split on the housing register (9%). This is likely due to sheltered housing offers (only available to households over the age of 55).

Housing Advice

Homeless Decisions by age 2017/18:



In 2017/18, 55-64 year olds had the lowest percentage of positive S184 decisions (including homeless prevention cases) out of all age groups (74%). This is possibly because households in this age group are less likely to have dependent children or as serious a health condition as people in an older age bracket.

97% of S184 decisions for people aged 65 or over had a positive outcome, whilst 16-44 year olds had positive S184 decisions in 87-89% of cases.

Age	Accepted Housing Duty	% of Accepted Cases
16-24	139	18.5%
25-34	236	31.5%
35-44	206	27.5%
45-54	107	14%
55-64	39	5%
65-74	17	2%
75-84	7	1%
85+	2	0.5%

Of the total number of households whom the Council accepted a housing duty towards, the most represented age group for 2017/18 was 25-34 (31%). In fact, only 22.5% of applicants who had a housing duty accepted by the Council were over the age of 44.

Disability

Borough population (2011 Census):

2011 Census: Adults not in employment and dependent children and persons with long-term health problems or disability	Number (total population: 306,995)
One person in household with a long-term health problem or disability: with dependent children	4,276 (1.4%)
One person in household with a long-term health problem or disability: no dependent children	18,177 (5.9%)

In 2011, 7.3% of households in the borough contained at least one person with a long-term health problem or disability. These figures are mirrored by Wandsworth Council's 19,500 tenants, where 7.5% are registered as having some kind of disability. This suggests that there is a significant number of households with at least one person with a long-term health problem or disability living in private accommodation.

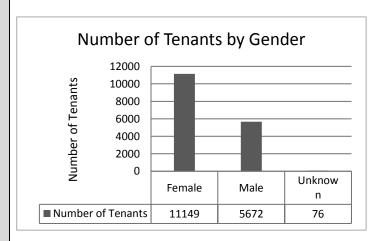
Gender (sex)

Borough population:

Census 2011 – Population Estimates for 2018 (GLA):

Gender	Accepted Housing Duty
Female	168,352
Male	156,048

Council tenant profile 31 March 2018:



Based on the 2011 census, the GLA estimates that the current population in the borough is 324,400. This is divided 48/52% between male and females. In

comparison, Wandsworth Council has a significantly higher percentage of female tenants (61%) to male (36%) with the gender of 3% unknown.

Queues/Allocations population:

Applicants (number of households on the Housing Register 2017/18) by gender:

Gender	No.	%
Female with children	2424	36%
Female without children	1494	22%
Male with children	414	6%
Male without children	1296	19%
Joint with children	855	13%
Joint without children	242	4%

Allocations Applicants (number of offers made to the Housing Register 2017/18) by gender:

Gender	No.	%
Female with children	347	39%
Female without children	172	20%
Male with children	43	5%
Male without children	203	23%
Joint with children	93	11%
Joint without children	22	3%

The gender breakdown of offers made to the Housing Register largely mirrors the gender breakdown of the register itself. The biggest change is offers made to females with children (36% on the housing register and 39% offers made) and male without children 19% on the housing register and 23% offers made).

Housing Advice:

Homeless applications by gender 2017/18:

		Female with childre	Female without childre	Male with	Male without	Joint with	Joint without
		n	n	children	children	children	children
Cases	No.	427	182	37	257	189	17
interviewed	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Cases	No.	421	161	35	230	185	15
admitted							
into TA	%	98.5%	88.5%	94.6%	89.5%	97.9%	88.2%
Cases not	No.	51	43	5	74	15	3
accepted							
(Total)	%	11.9%	23.6%	13.5%	28.8%	7.9%	17.6%
Cases not	No.	1	2	0	2	1	0
accepted (Not							
eligible)	%	0.2%	1.1%	0.00%	0.8%	0.5%	0.00%
Cases not	No.	37	24	4	38	10	2
accepted	140.	07	_	7		10	
(Not							
homeless)	%	8.7%	13.2%	10.8%	14.8%	5.3%	11.8%
Cases not	No.	4	16	1	32	1	1
accepted							
(No priority							
need)	%	0.9%	8.8%	2.7%	12.5%	0.5%	5.9%
Cases not	No.	9	1	0	2	3	0
accepted							
(Intentionall							
y							
homeless)	%	2.1%	0.5%	0.00%	0.8%	1.6%	0.00%
Cases	No.	369	87	32	153	168	13
accepted	%	86.4%	47.8%	86.5%	59.5%	88.9%	76.5%

Of the different gender groups making homeless applications with the Council, the lowest percentage of cases accepted is female without children (47.8%). This is significantly lower than male without children (59.5%) suggesting that single male applicants are more likely than female single applicants to have some other recognised category of priority need such as serious physical/ mental health issue or institutionalisation.

The highest gender group for accepted cases was joint with children (88.9%), followed closely by male with children (86.5%) and female with children (86.4%).

Accepted homeless cases by gender 2017/18:

Gender	No.	%
Female with children	369	45%
Female without children	87	11%
Male with children	32	4%
Male without children	153	19%
Joint with children	168	20%
Joint without children	13	2%

45% of accepted homeless cases in 2017/18 were households comprising of a single female with children, 20% of accepted cases were of couples with children and a small percentage (4%) were single male with children. Therefore, only 31% of applications did not have a child as part of the household.

These figures significantly differ from the borough profile where only 6.1% of households consist of single parents with dependent children. 49% of accepted homeless cases in 2017/18 consisted of a single parent with dependent children, strongly implying that loan parents are significantly more at risk of becoming homeless than other household compositions.

Domestic Violence

7.5% of accepted homeless cases had domestic violence as the recorded reason for homelessness. This equates to 57 acceptances in 2017/18 and has an impact on the disproportionately high number of single parents applying as homeless.

Gender reassignment

There is no reliable data collected for this protected characteristic.

Marriage and civil partnership

Borough population:

2011 Census: Martial and Civil Partnership status	No.	%
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	138,76 7	54%
Married	83,428	33%
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	1,500	1%
Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex partnership)	6,311	2%
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	16,527	6%

Widowed or surviving partner from a same- sex civil partnership	9,456	4%
Total:	255,98	100 %

There is no reliable housing data for tenants who are married of in civil partnership. However, 73.5% of homeless applicants were single in comparison to 54% boroughwide in 2011.

Pregnancy and paternity.

Housing Advice:

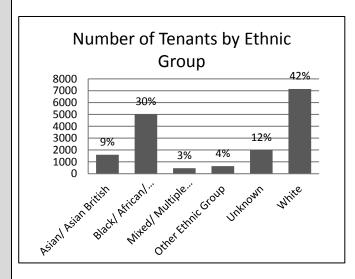
9% (69) of accepted homelessness cases in 2017/18 were found to be in priority need as the household included a pregnant woman where there were no other dependent children in the household. This is higher than 6% in London.

Race/ ethnicity

Borough population (Census 2011):

Ethnicity	No.	%
Asian/Asian British	37,053	11%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black		
British	34,982	11%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	19,443	6%
Other Ethnic Groups	5,131	2%
White	227,789	70%
Total	324,398	100%

Council tenant profile 31 March 2018:



Ethnicity:	No.
Asian/Asian	1,605
British	
Black/African/C	5,030
aribbean/Black	
British	
Mixed/Multiple	470
Ethnic Groups	
White	7,155
Other Ethnic	636
Groups	
Unknown	2,001

There is a significantly higher percentage of Council tenants belonging to a black ethnic group (30%) than in the borough as a whole (11%). Despite being the most represented ethnic group in Council properties, there is a lower percentage of people of a white ethnic group in Council housing (42%) than in the borough (70%). People

of an Asian ethnic group are slightly underrepresented in Council housing with 9% as opposed to borough wide (11%). It is worth noting, however, that 12% of Council tenants have an ethnic group recorded as 'unknown'. This is most likely due to ethnicity not being recorded when this group became Council tenants.

Queues/Allocations population:

Applications (number of households on the Housing Register 2017/18) by ethnicity:

Ethnicity	No.	%
White	2,395	36%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic	357	5%
Black/Caribbean/Black British	2,100	34%
Asian/Asian British	1049	15%
Other Ethnic Group	365	5%
Unknown	325	5%

Applicants (number of offers made to the Housing Register 2017/18) by ethnicity:

Ethnicity	No.	%
White	331	38%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic	36	4%
Black/Caribbean/Black	97	32%
British		
Asian/Asian British	285	12%
Other Ethnic Group	66	7%
Refused to disclose	24	3%
Not asked	38	4%
Not known	3	0%

There are marginal differences between the ethnic representation of households on the housing register and actual housing offers made. The biggest difference is that 3% less offers are made to Asian households (15% on the housing register and 12% offers made). Otherwise, 2% more offers are made to white households (36% on the housing register and 38% offers made) and 2% less offers are made to black households (34% on the housing register and 32% offers made).

Housing Advice:

Admitted into Temporary Accommodation 2017/18:

Ethnicity	No	%	Censu s 2011
White	328	32%	70%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic	49	5%	6%
Black/Caribbean/Black British	257	25%	11%
Asian/Asian British	191	18%	11%
Other Ethnic Group	116	11%	2%
Refused to disclose	16	2%	n/a
Not asked	77	7%	n/a

Compared with the borough demographic in 2011, households made homeless in 2017/18 from a BAME background were overrepresented with 59% going into temporary accommodation compared to the 30% residing in the borough. Black households in particular were overrepresented with 25% of all households admitted into temporary accommodation compared with 11% of the borough's population. This is in stark contrast to white households made homeless, which only accounted for 32% of households admitted into temporary accommodation, despite making up 70% of the borough demographic.

Homelessness cases 2017/18:

			B 41 1		D			
			Mixed		Black /			
			/		African			
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			e etheric	Asian	Caribbe			Refus
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		\//b:4a	group	Asian	Black	Othor	Not	disclo
	N	White	S	British	British	Other	asked	se
Cases		344	52	205	270	122	96	18
presented	0. %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
-	% N	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Cases		328	49	191	257	116	88	16
admitted	0. %		94.2%	93.2%		95.1%	91.7%	
Cooperat	% N	95.4%	94.2%	93.2%	95.2%	95.1%	91.7%	88.8%
Cases not		60	11	29	48	23	15	5
accepted (Total)	0. %	17.4%	21.2%	14.1%	17.8%	18.9%	15.6%	27.8%
Cases not	N	17.4/0	21.2/0	14.1/0	17.070	10.9 /0	15.0 /	21.0/0
accepted (Not	0.	4	0	0	1	0	1	0
eligible)	%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Cases not	N	1.2/0	0.076	0.076	0.470	0.076	1.0 /0	0.076
accepted (Not	0.	41	4	19	24	13	11	3
homeless)	%	11.9%	7.7%	9.27%	8.9%	10.7%	11.5%	16.7%
Cases not	N	11.370	1.1 /0	3.21 /0	0.370	10.7 70	11.570	10.770
accepted (No	0.	13	6	6	17	8	3	2
priority need)	%	3.8%	11.5%	2.9%	6.3%	6.6%	3.1%	11.1%
Cases not	N	0.070	11.070	2.070	0.070	0.070	0.170	111170
accepted	0.	2	1	4	6	2	0	0
(Intentionally	<u> </u>			•				
homeless)	%	0.6%	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%
,	N	01070	11070			11070	01070	01070
Cases	0.	250	43	165	204	93	50	17
accepted	%	72.7%	82.7%	80.5%	75.6%	76.2%	52.1%	94.4%
Average time								
(in days) to								
serve S184	N							
(year to date)	0.	82	77	52	77	61	73	69

There is not much discrepancy between different ethnic groups with regard to homeless applications being accepted, with there being no more than a 10% difference across all ethnicities. White households were the ethnic group with the lowest percentage of cases accepted in 2017/18 with 72.7% and mixed/ multiple ethnic groups having the highest percentage of acceptances with 82.7%.

Religion and belief, including non-belief

Borough population: Census 2011:

Faith	No
Buddhist	2,574
Christian	162,590
Hindu	6,496
Jewish	1,617
Muslim	24,746
Sikh	832
Other Religion	1,283
No Religion	82,740
No Response	24,117

Wandsworth Council has not historically collected data on the religious beliefs of homeless applicants or applicants to the housing register.

Sexual orientation

Borough population: Census 2011:

<u>Heterosexual</u>	Lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB)	Don't know/refuse/other
221,000	6,000	24,000

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics 2013 – 15

Wandsworth Council has not historically collected data on the sexual orientation of homeless applicants or applicants to the housing register.

3. Impact

Protected group	Positive	Negative
Age	The 25-44 age group is	None identified
	overrepresented in homelessness	
	acceptances in Wandsworth (59%)	
	compared with the borough	
	demographic (46%). The strategy	
	clearly sets out measures to tackle	
	homelessness and implement the	
	Homelessness Reduction Act to	

maximum effect. This includes: investing in preventative measures such as the Rent Deposit Scheme and the revised New Generation Scheme; working with partners to improve pathways and access to advisory services; and providing alternative housing solutions. This focus of additional resources will help fulfil the new homelessness duties which will have a positive effect on younger homelessness people.

Younger people are also less likely to be owner occupiers and are more likely to be privately renting. Therefore, they may find it harder to access homeownership and are more at risk of homelessness. The Council has identified the need for more affordable housing, including shred ownership, and has set out its plan to meet this need in the borough.

The strategy sets out a range of measures which will help residents in all age groups. It aims to improve the standards for private renters such as implementing legislation to help tackle rogue landlords and improve conditions in the private sector.

Council tenants over the age of 65 represent 25% of all Council tenants compared to the borough profile of 9%. The Council has taken steps to ensure the comfort, security and safety of all residents but fire safety measures such as the removal of cladding and the installation of sprinklers in high rise and sheltered schemes will especially ensure the safety of the Council's older residents.

The Council's waiting list is overrepresented by applicants aged between 35 and 54. Despite making up 47% of the waiting list, this age group only consists of 37% of offers made to the waiting list. This is likely due to the prioritisation of the homeless queue,

	which has a younger representation and overcrowding of Council tenants as children grow older. The Council will review and consider approaches which increase mobility in and around the social housing stock in the borough. Carry out a survey of under occupied larger social rent properties to help inform approaches and initiatives. In addition, the impact of the measures taken to implement the homelessness Reduction Act should see a reduction in the number of households going into temporary accommodation and	
	subsequently free up more lets to the housing register such as to the Transfer queue and the General Needs queue. These measures would particularly help both Council and private tenants on the housing register.	
Disability	7.5% of the Council's tenants are registered as having some kind of disability, which mirrors the borough profile of 7.3%, suggesting that there are a significant number of private tenants who have some kind of disability. The Council has taken measures to ensure that not only are its Council residents supported but also disabled people in the private sector. These measures include: the implementation of a Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant and Housing Adaptations Policy which will allow for DFG funding to be used more flexibly to help more private residents remain living in their home independently; working with Planning Services to identify the need for privately developed assisted living schemes for older residents, helping meet the local need for housing for those with care and support needs.	None identified
Gender (sex)	Lone female parents with dependent children made up 45% of accepted homeless cases in 2017/18. The measures in the strategy place a greater emphasis on prevention, with	None identified

	the aim of reducing the number of households going into temporary accommodation which often displaces families away from family, friend and professional support. These measures will especially help loan parents who are often especially reliant on support. The strategy also sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.	
Gender Identity	The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.	Information is limited on the transgender population in the borough in relation to housing and homelessness. The Council will improve its collection of data to ensure that better information is collected in the future, so that accurate equalities information is held to identify the impact on gender identity.
Marriage and civil partnership	The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents. Joint applicants made up only 22% of total accepted homeless households. Therefore, it is likely that the percentage of married and civil partnerships approaching as homeless	None identified

	is lower than the borough profile (24.7%) as not all joint applicants who approach the Council are married.	
Pregnancy and maternity	9% of homelessness acceptances in 2017/18 were found to be in priority need as the household included a pregnant woman and there were no dependent children in the household. The increased emphasis on prevention in the Homelessness Reduction Act, including the revised New Generation Scheme which encourages family not to evict relatives with the promise of social housing after one year will help meet the need of pregnant women.	None identified
	There is also not an issue in Wandsworth with pregnant women or households containing dependent children being in B&B for longer than six weeks. This shows that temporary accommodation is appropriate for these households.	
	The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.	
Race/ethnicity	Compared with the borough demographic in 2011, households made homeless in 2017/18 from a BAME background were overrepresented with 59% going into temporary accommodation compared to the 30% residing in the borough. Black households in particular were overrepresented with 25% of all households admitted into temporary accommodation compared with 11% of the borough's population identifying as Black. Asian households moving into	None identified

temporary accommodation were also overrepresented with 18% as opposed to the 11% demographic.

The measures being implemented as a result of the Homelessness Reduction Act will therefore particularly help households from BAME background, especially black ethnic group households.

The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.

Religion and belief, including non belief

The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.

Historically, information has been limited on religion and belief in relation to housing and homelessness. The Homelessness Reduction Act now required local authorities to provide information on the religious beliefs of applications presenting as homeless (H-CLIC data). This came into force in April 2018, therefore it is too early to use this data to inform this strategy, but the data will be available to inform future policy and decision making.

Sexual orientation

The strategy sets out a range of measures which will improve the housing offer to residents by delivering additional affordable housing, increase new supply and redevelopment of social housing. It also seeks to address the housing market pressures and homelessness, ensure good quality homes of both Council and private tenants and support the need of vulnerable residents.

Historically, information has been limited on sexual orientation in relation to housing and homelessness. The Homelessness Reduction Act now required local authorities to provide information on the sexual orientation of applications presenting as homeless (H-CLIC data). This came into force in April 2018, therefore it is too early to use this

	data to inform this strategy, but the data will be available to inform future policy and decision making.

4. Data gaps

Data gap(s)	How will this be addressed?	
Sexual orientation, religion, disability and gender identity.	The changes will be monitored across all groups and recording of tenants protected characteristics have been improved by the redesign of the online housing and homeless application forms. HRA 2017 compliant H-CLIC data is collected for homeless applicants – as of April 2018. This includes religion, sexual orientation and disability.	
	The new Housing IT system, taken effect in May 2019, will allow tenants and their household members to record any protected characteristics against their profile.	
	The Council does not currently have any plans to collect data on gender identity for housing and homeless applications.	

5. Actions

Action	Lead Officer	Deadline
Measure the impact of changes to homelessness across	Michael Shearon	Each Year
protected characteristics.	Weller	

6. Consultation

This EINA will be subject to a public consultation alongside the Housing and Homelessness Strategy from Friday 12th October.