



Equality Impact Assessment

Question	Response
1. Name of policy/funding activity/event being assessed	Mobility Vehicle Policy
2. Summary of aims and objectives of the policy/funding activity/event	<p>The draft policy includes information on the health and safety implications of mobility vehicles (mobility scooters; e-bikes and e-scooters), the safe storage and charging of them and introduces a Mobility Vehicle Registration Scheme, which requires tenants and leaseholders (both new and existing) to request permission to keep a mobility vehicle at a council-owned property.</p> <p>The implementation of the policy and the Registration Scheme will be undertaken in a phased approach. The Mobility Vehicle Registration Scheme will be introduced with sheltered housing corridor scheme residents first. In regard to the provision of new storage and charging outdoor facilities, this will be explored first for Witham Place, Grantham; Hilary Close, Stamford; Stanton Close, Bourne.</p>
3. Who is affected by the policy/funding activity/event?	South Kesteven District Council tenants and leaseholders.
4. Has there been any consultation with, or input from, customers/service users or other stakeholders? If so, with whom, how were they consulted and what did they say? If you haven't consulted yet and are intending to do so, please complete the consultation table below.	<p>Yes -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tenants living in sheltered housing "corridor" schemes flats. • A sample of tenants living in sheltered housing "non- corridor" schemes. • A sample of tenants and leaseholders living in general needs housing. Specifically, those tenants who have informed the Council they have a mobility-related disability and/or are eligible for the assisted garden maintenance scheme and /or the assisted refuse and recycling collection scheme.
5. What are the arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the actual impact of the policy/funding activity/event?	The policy will be reviewed in 6 -12 months time from the date of approval. The timescale will be dependent upon the progress of the implementation and if any changes are needed to the policy. The policy review will be led by the Housing Strategy team with input from relevant officers.

Protected Characteristic	Is there a potential for positive or negative impact?	Please explain and give examples of any evidence/data used	Action to address negative impact e.g. adjustment to the policy <i>(The Action Log below should be completed to provide further detail)</i>
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Age	Yes	<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on an older person because an older person is more likely to need a mobility scooter.</p> <p>If there are not safe storage and charging provisions for a mobility scooter where they live.</p>	<p>Additional scooter storage is being provided at some of the sheltered housing schemes and where this is not available or all spaces have been allocated, consideration for a move to an alternative property will be given, where appropriate, if all other options have been considered.</p> <p>For general needs housing (all housing that is not sheltered housing), the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.</p>
Disability	Yes	<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on someone with a disability.</p> <p>If there are not safe storage and charging provisions for a mobility scooter where they live.</p>	<p>Additional scooter storage is being provided at some of the sheltered housing schemes and where this is not available or all spaces have been allocated, consideration for a move to an alternative property will be given, where appropriate, if all other options have been considered.</p> <p>For general needs housing, the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.</p>
Gender Reassignment	No	<p>This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.</p>	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No	<p>This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.</p>	
Pregnancy and Maternity	No	<p>This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.</p>	
Race	No	<p>This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.</p>	
Religion or Belief	No	<p>This protected characteristic is not relevant to the</p>	



		implementation of this policy.	
Sex	No	This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.	
Sexual Orientation	No	This protected characteristic is not relevant to the implementation of this policy.	
Other Factors requiring consideration			
Socio-Economic Impacts	Yes	The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on a person if the tenant is in general needs housing and on a lower income. This could be if they need provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.	For general needs housing, the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter. The tenant may be eligible for a Disabled Facilities Grant to assist with any alterations. The Council will consider rehousing into a different property, where possible and if the tenant wishes to.
Carers (those who provide unpaid care to a family member, friend or partner)	Yes	The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on someone who is carer. This is because they may need to spend more time caring for someone if the person who relies on their mobility scooter cannot use it and are less independent to do things for themselves.	The Council will facilitate someone having a mobility scooter, where possible or rehousing into a different property, where possible and if the tenant wishes to.

Consultation

Negative impacts identified will require the responsible officer to consult with the affected group/s to determine all practicable and proportionate mitigations. Add more rows as required.		
Group/Organisation	Date	Response
A full consultation was undertaken with tenants and leaseholders most likely affected by this policy – see consultation report attached.	Consultation report – Autumn 2021	The people who will be most affected by the policy are tenants living in our sheltered housing corridor schemes. It is within these schemes where the fire risk is most prevalent. The majority were supportive of the principles of the policy.



Further consultation took place with all sheltered housing scheme tenants and leaseholders and a sample of other tenants and leaseholders during August/September 2025.		The consultation survey has received a mix response of positive support and some negative feedback. In-person consultation meetings also took place at three of the sheltered housing schemes (Witham Place, Grantham; Hilary Close, Stamford and Stanton Close, Bourne), where mobility vehicles are most used. The response from these was also mixed and residents were encouraged to complete the survey (both paper survey and online survey options were available).
Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee	24 th March 2025 meeting	The Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the contents of the report and discussed the draft Mobility Vehicle Policy. The draft Mobility Vehicle Policy was unanimously recommended to Cabinet.

Proposed Mitigation: Action Log

To be completed when barriers, negative impact or discrimination are found as part of this process – to show actions taken to remove or mitigate. Any mitigations identified throughout the EIA process should be meaningful and timely. Add more rows as required.				
Negative Impact	Action	Timeline	Outcome	Status
<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on an older person because an older person is more likely to need a mobility scooter.</p> <p>If there are not safe storage and charging provisions for a mobility scooter where they live.</p>	<p>Additional scooter storage is being provided at some of the sheltered housing schemes and where this is not available or all spaces have been allocated, consideration for a move to an alternative property will be given, where appropriate, if all other options have been considered.</p> <p>For general needs housing (all housing that's not sheltered housing), the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard</p>	<p>The implications of the policy will be reviewed in 6 -12 months time from the date of approval.</p>		



	standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.			
<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on someone with a disability.</p> <p>If there are not safe storage and charging provisions for a mobility scooter where they live.</p>	<p>Additional scooter storage is being provided at some of the sheltered housing schemes and where this is not available or all spaces have been allocated, consideration for a move to an alternative property will be given, where appropriate, if all other options have been considered.</p> <p>For general needs housing, the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.</p>	<p>The implications of the policy will be reviewed in 6 – 12 months time from the date of approval.</p>		
<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on a person if the tenant is in general needs housing and on a lower income. This could be if they need provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.</p>	<p>For general needs housing, the Council will not unreasonably withhold permission for alterations to a property to allow the provision of storage facilities, ramp, access path or hard standing to facilitate a mobility scooter.</p> <p>The Council will consider rehousing into a different property, where possible and if the tenant wishes to.</p>	<p>The implications of the policy will be reviewed in 6 – 12 months time from the date of approval.</p>		
<p>The implications of the policy potentially could impact negatively on someone who is carer.</p>	<p>The Council will facilitate someone having a mobility scooter, where possible or rehousing into a</p>	<p>The implications of the policy will be reviewed in 6- 12</p>		



This is because they may need to spend more time caring for someone if the person who relies on their mobility scooter cannot use it and are less independent to do things for themselves.	different property, where possible and if the tenant wishes to.	months time from the date of approval.		
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Evaluation Decision

Once consultation and practicable and proportionate mitigation has been put in place, the responsible officer should evaluate whether any negative impact remains and, if so, provide justification for any decision to proceed.		
Question	Explanation / justification	
Is it possible the proposed policy or activity or change in policy or activity could discriminate or unfairly disadvantage people?	<p>Yes there is a possibility but mitigations are being put into place and each person's situation will be considered on a case by case basis.</p> <p>The implications of the policy will be reviewed in 6 – 12 months time from the date of approval.</p>	
Final Decision	Tick	Include any explanation/justification required
1. No barriers identified, therefore activity will proceed		
2. Stop the policy or practice because the data shows bias towards one or more groups		
3. Adapt or change the policy in a way that will eliminate the bias		
4. Barriers and impact identified , however having considered all available options carefully, there appear to be no other proportionate ways to achieve the aim of the policy or practice (e.g. in extreme cases or where positive action is taken). Therefore you are going to proceed with caution with this policy or practice knowing that it may favour some people less than others, providing justification for this decision	✓	On the balance of the fire risk to residents and the equality impact, it is proposed that the policy is implemented with a planned review of the policy in 6 -12 months time to evaluate.



Did you consult with an Equality Ally prior to carrying out this assessment?

Yes – met with Carol Drury – 16th December 2024

Sign off

Name and job title of person completing this EIA	Celia Bown – Senior Housing Policy and Strategy Officer
Officer Responsible for implementing the policy/function etc	Alison Hall-Wright – Director of Housing
Date Completed	20/01/2025
Line Manager	Emma-Jayne Abbott
Date Agreed <i>(by line manager)</i>	01/10/2025
Date of Review <i>(if required)</i>	6 – 12 months after policy Cabinet approval

Completed EIAs should be included as an appendix to the relevant report going to a Cabinet, Committee or Council meeting and a copy sent to equalities@southkesteven.gov.uk.

Completed EIAs will be published along with the relevant report through Modern.Gov before any decision is made and also on the Council's website.