



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Equality Impact Assessment

This form is intended to help you carry out an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA). An EIA is a useful tool for reviewing policies and processes to identify how they impact on people. As such it is a valuable part of the process of policy development and process improvement.

EIA is required to help the University comply with our legal obligations under the Equality Act, including our 'Public Sector Equality Duty' to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Throughout this form the word 'Policy' is used to cover written policies, procedures, guidance strategies, services, activities, practices, projects, processes, actions, functions, criteria or decision making.

The meaning of "impact" in this context is how the policy, process or proposed action may affect people from diverse backgrounds either adversely or beneficially. This includes both direct effects and any indirect consequence of the policy. This is to ensure that the policy or process is not discriminatory and is making a positive contribution to the University's duty to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity.

All new Policies must be assessed as well as any existing policies and processes that are being changed or re-designed. EIAs will be published, or available for scrutiny, so it is important that you have a good record of your considerations.

It is recommended that you visit our online training on Impact Assessment before you undertake this exercise which can be found at: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/equality-diversity/training-resources/e-diversity-training>

The EIA form is in three parts:

Part 1 is an overview of the Policy, who it affects and who is responsible.

Part 2 is an Initial Equality Impact Assessment. This should be carried out if you are unsure whether a Full EIA will be required, or if you think it is unlikely to be needed. It will enable you to assess the possible impact of the policy on those within the protected characteristic groups with a view to ascertaining whether a full assessment is required.

Part 3 is a “full” impact assessment, which should be carried out if you believe from the outset that there is a need for in-depth consideration of the Policy’s equality impact, e.g. where the policy has a significant impact on large numbers of people, or where a full EIA is indicated by the Initial Equality Impact Assessment in Part 2.

For assistance if required, including requesting this document in an alternative format, please contact Equality and Diversity at 650 6303 or e-mail equalitydiversity@ed.ac.uk

Part 1 - Policy Overview and Responsibilities

Please describe briefly the Policy being assessed: *Guidance and Support To Students: A Framework of Proposals for an Enhanced Approach*

Is this Policy : Existing: **New:** **Being updated or changed**

Please explain why the Policy is being introduced or changed or an action is being undertaken.

A wide-spread Enhancing Student Support project, which includes replacing the DoS system with the Personal Tutor Scheme. The purpose is to enhance and provide a consistent level of student support across the University.

Outline the main stakeholder groups and their contribution to the Policy.

Students: Consultation with groups of students and EUSA involvement on working groups and the project committee.

Staff: Consultation with academic and support staff in Schools and central services.

Management: Project committee led by senior staff. Project delegated by the Principal.

Who will be affected by this Policy? (e.g. staff, students, only women, visitors, disabled people)

In the first year of implementation will primarily affect all undergraduate students, who will have Personal Tutors. Other students will also benefit from the introduction of new support arrangements, IT tools and

resource materials. From 2012/13, the new PT system will be developed for postgraduate and postgraduate research students.

Staff: Directly those carrying out specific roles within the scheme and central areas such as Student Services. Indirectly the scheme will impact on all staff engaged in the delivery of teaching, support for teaching or student support.

Please explain any potential risks (of any kind) either from implementing or failing to implement the Policy

Implementing: Staff dissatisfaction in regards to workload and/or recognition.

Failing to implement: Student dissatisfaction levels in some areas will remain at the same level, or deteriorate further. Poor publicity and impact on attracting students.

Initial EIA undertaken by: Brian Connelly, Academic Services and Lindsey Miller, Senior HR Partner, UHRS (for the Personal Tutoring aspect) and Sara Welham, Academic Services, for the Framework	Date: 14 May 2012 and 1 August 2012
Full EIA undertaken by: N/A	Date:
On behalf of: (Title and/or Dept):	
EIA signed off by Line Manager/Head of Department : Professor Ian Pirie, Assistant Principal Learning and Development	Date: 1 August 2012

Can this EIA be published? **Yes:** **No:** If no, please indicate which of the reason below would justify it not being published.

Its disclosure would substantially prejudice a programme of research		Its disclosure would substantially prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs	
Its disclosure would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of any person or organisation		Its disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence actionable in court	

Its disclosure would constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act		Other, within terms of Fof legislation (please give further details)	
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Part 2 - Initial Equality Impact Assessment

Using the table below, please consider the potential impact of the Policy on the following groups and provide an explanation. Please also consider whether you think the Policy could help the University meet its Public Sector Equality Duty.

Consider what information you will need to make an initial assessment of the potential impact e.g. feedback from stakeholders, relevant staff/students data; external evidence/benchmarking; expert advice. University wide staff and student data is available at: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/equality-diversity/monitoring-statistics/overview>

If you know at the outset that you want to carry out a full impact assessment, e.g. because the Policy has a significant impact on a large number of people, you may proceed directly to Part 3, without completing Part 2.

Protected Characteristic Groups	Is there likely to be a positive or negative impact on any of the groups. Is this likely to be significant or minor? Provide an explanation of this assessment	Is there an opportunity to reduce discrimination for any of the protected groups?	Is there an opportunity to advance equality of opportunity for any of the protected groups?	Is there an opportunity to foster good relations between people in a protected group and those who are not?
Race (including ethnic origin and nationality)	Positive in terms of nationality as provides formal opportunity for overseas students to raise any issues relating to isolation.	Potentially if all staff undertaking roles are required to complete E&D training.	Not directly but does provide students with an opportunity to raise any issues.	Yes, one of the aims is to foster a sense of belonging and common identity.
Sex	For staff consider gender balance of those undertaking roles and whether participation has	As above.	As above.	As above.

	any indirect link to barriers to promotion. For students wholly positive.			
Disability	For students, should be wholly positive as provides an opportunity to raise any issues.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Sexual Orientation	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Religion or belief	As above. May need a procedure document relating to procedures for 121 meetings and the possible need for cultural sensitivity.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Age	For students, should be wholly positive as provides an opportunity to raise any issues.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Pregnancy/Maternity	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Gender Reassignment	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Marriage or Civil Partnership	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.

<u>INITIAL EIA OUTCOME</u>	<u>Mark X below as appropriate</u>	What level of priority would you give this Policy and what other action will be taken?
No impact identified		(e.g. Low : No further EIA action required for 3 years)

Beneficial impact only identified	X	Will explore how to feedback through student committees e.g. Disability Committee.
Minor negative impact	-	No, negative impact on staff with specific protected characteristics identified, however, future monitoring should occur to assess trends particularly in relation to sex/gender.
Potential significant negative impact (take account of the impact itself; the scale of the policy; and the potential for reputational damage)		Full EIA required as soon as possible or before the Policy is approved. Proceed to Part 3 - Full Impact Assessment
If a Full Assessment is required:		
Consider the timescale for conducting a Full Assessment, e.g. in relation to external factors such as Committee meetings or other deadlines?		
Record the details of those carrying out the Full EIA in Part 1.		
If no Full Assessment is required:		
How will this Policy be monitored?	The roles should be reviewed after 2 years to consider impact on staff carrying them out and students. Gender pay considerations regarding staff are monitored as part of other equality work, therefore no separate monitoring required.	
When will the EIA be reviewed?	Date: 2 years after implementation, June/July 2014.	
If you do not require a full EIA and so have not used Part 3 of the form, you may delete Part 3. Once completed, send this EIA Form to equalitydiversity@ed.ac.uk		