University of St Andrews: Human Resources - Equality & Diversity Inclusion

EIA Toolkit: Guide to when to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Stages for EIA?	Who do I involve?	Steps to take:
When Creating a new a Policy, Practice, Procedure, or Service	 Lead Officer from School/Unit Critical Equality Guide (Equality & Diversity Officer) 	 Gather relevant feedback, research, data profile of staff/service users affected. Work through the 'EIA Toolkit' to complete the 'Initial Screening EIA Stage 1 Form'. Implement recommendations and further actions or assessment.
When Changing an existing Policy, Practice, Procedure, or Service	 Lead Officer from School/Unit Critical Equality Guide (Equality & Diversity Officer) 	 Gather relevant feedback, research, data profile of staff/service users affected. Work through the 'EIA Toolkit' to complete the 'Initial Screening EIA Stage 1 Form'. Implement recommendations and further actions or assessment.
When Withdrawing a Policy, Practice, Procedure, or Service	 Lead Officer from School/Unit Critical Equality Guide (Equality & Diversity Officer) Consulting staff/service users that could be affected. 	 Gather relevant feedback, research, data profile of staff/service users affected. Work through the 'EIA Toolkit' to complete the 'Initial Screening EIA Stage 1 Form' plus the 'Full Assessment EIA Stage 2. Implement recommendations and further actions or assessment.

Business benefits of EIAs:

- 1. Internal customers (staff) and external potential and existing customers (students and users of services) experience a better quality of service.
- 2. Minimises the risk of costly discrimination claims and a negative affect on the University branding/reputation.
- 3. Diverse customer needs are met across the equality strands and 'protected characteristics'.

Legal benefits of EIAs:

- 1. Compliance with the Single Equality Act (2010) and our legal duties: the Public Sector Equality Duty (2011) and the Scottish Specific Duties (2012).
- 2. Minimises the risk of potential discrimination and adverse impact throughout the University at strategic and operational levels.
- 3. Complying with a required process by equality agencies, auditors, bodies, funding institutions, trade unions and tribunals.

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