

## Appendix 1 – Equalities Initial Impact Assessment

<p><b>Under the Equality Act 2010 Protected characteristics</b> are Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity. Page 6 of guidance. Other areas to note see guidance appendix 1</p>	
<p><b>Name of policy, service or function. If a policy, list any associated policies:</b></p>	<p>Community Energy Switching Scheme</p>
<p><b>Name of service and Directorate</b></p>	<p>Asset Management, Regeneration and Environment</p>
<p><b>Lead manager</b></p>	<p>David Rhodes</p>
<p><b>Date of Equality Analysis (EA)</b></p>	<p>13/08/19</p>
<p><b>Names of those involved in the EA (Should include at least two other people)</b></p>	<p>David Rhodes &amp; Paul Maplethorpe</p>
<p><b>Aim/Scope</b> (who the Policy /Service affects and intended outcomes if known) See page 7 of guidance step 1</p> <p>A community energy switching scheme aims to reduce the cost of living for people by getting a fair price on gas and electricity.</p>	
<p><b>What equality information is available? Include any engagement undertaken and identify any information gaps you are aware of. What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?</b> See page 7 of guidance step 2</p> <p>Ofgem has reported that around 57% of non-prepayment meter consumers remain on poor value standard variable rates, which can be as much as £300 a year more expensive than the cheapest deals on the market. However, more than one in five households across the UK now get their energy from small/medium-sized suppliers, leaving the largest six suppliers with a record-low market share. During 2017, 5.1 million electricity consumers and 4.1 million gas consumers switched supplier, which was the highest number for almost a decade. Many of the customers switched for the first time.</p>	
<p><b>Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)</b> See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>No engagement has been undertaken with potential customers. This will be carried out during the development phase if sanctioned.</p>
<p><b>Engagement undertaken with staff about the</b></p>	<p>Engagement carried out with Housing / Voids Team.</p>

**implications on service users (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)**

See page 7 of guidance step 3

### The Analysis

**How do you think the Policy/Service meets the needs of different communities and groups?** Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity. Rotherham also includes Carers as a specific group. Other areas to note are Financial Inclusion, Fuel Poverty, and other social economic factors. This list is not exhaustive - see guidance appendix 1 **and** page 8 of guidance step 4

The scheme will be open to all communities and groups.

**Analysis of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service:**

See page 8 of guidance step 4 and 5

**Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Group?** Identify by protected characteristics **Does the Service/Policy provide any improvements/remove barriers?** Identify by protected characteristics

The scheme aims to improve access to cheaper tariffs for communities to reduce fuel poverty; there are no known problems or barriers.

**What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations?** Identify by protected characteristics

Positive financial impact.