

OFFICIAL NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Equality Impact Assessment Tool

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement as set out in the Equality Act (2010) and the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties)(Scotland) regulations 2012 and may be used as evidence for cases referred for further investigation for compliance issues. Evidence returned should also align to Specific Outcomes as stated in your local Equality Outcomes Report. Please note that prior to starting an EQIA all Lead Reviewers are required to attend a Lead Reviewer training session or arrange to meet with a member of the Equality and Human Rights Team to discuss the process. Please contact Equality@ggc.scot.nhs.uk for further details or call 0141 2014560.

<u> Iar</u>	ne of Policy/Service Review/Service Development/Service Redesign/New Service:
N	IHS Financial Inclusion service
s tl	his a: Current Service Service Development Service Redesign New Service New Policy Policy Review
Des	scription of the service & rationale for selection for EQIA: (Please state if this is part of a Board-wide service or is locally driven).
	What does the service or policy do/aim to achieve? Please give as much information as you can, remembering that this document will be published in the public domain and should promote transparency.
	The NHS Financial Inclusion (FI) service enables community based NHS staff to refer patients facing financial difficulties to dedicated Money Advice providers. The ervice aims to mitigate the high level of poverty experienced by our population, and its negative impact on health, by addressing financial instability for patients.
	The service is delivered in partnership with six Financial Inclusion organisations from Glasgow Advice & Information Network (GAIN). Supports offered include: Welfare Rights; Income Maximisation; Money Advice; Debt Management; Housing Arrears; Financial Capability.
	The majority of referrals are from NHS services which engage with families with young children (Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership and Midwifery) and thus the ervice contributes to mitigating the risk of child poverty.
	Vhy was this service or policy selected for EQIA? Where does it link to organisational priorities? (If no link, please provide evidence of proportionality, elevance, potential legal risk etc.). Consider any locally identified Specific Outcomes noted in your Equality Outcomes Report.
a e h	The service links to Priority 1 (Prevention, early intervention and well-being) in Glasgow HSCP's Strategic Plan (2023-26): 'Develop and deliver a range of programmes cross the HSCP to reduce and mitigate the impact of poverty and health inequalities in the city, focusing on child poverty, financial support, welfare rights and mployability.' It also links to NHSGGC's Public Health Strategy (Turning the tide through prevention, 2018-28): 'Work in partnership with others to mitigate and prevent ealth inequalities which have been caused by poverty (including child poverty), income insecurity (debt, low wages, labour market conditions) and the impact of welfare eforms' (Programme for Action 2).

Glasgow City HSCP (NHSGG&C) has funded access to Financial Inclusion (FI) services for patients referred by community health staff for many years. Funding has come from various fixed term incomes and three years Scottish Government investment to develop the Healthier Wealthier Children project. Health Improvement has managed the annual funding challenges via supplies and other annualised incomes. Funding is dispersed to FI providers as an annual grant via Glasgow City Council.

As a result of financial pressures experienced by the HSCP, consecutive part year funding awards had to be made to the Financial Inclusion providers in both 2023/24 and 2024/25. For 2023/24, a £225k funding shortfall was addressed via a Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (administered by Glasgow City Council) award to sustain the service whilst mainstream funding was secured. For 2024/25, funding for the service was only secure until 31st January 2025, and Glasgow City Council confirmed (in August 2024) that no funding could be made available to sustain delivery until the end of 2024/25, or in future years. Significant effort was undertaken to secure other income for the service, including tabling an update on the funding position at the HSCP Children's Core Leadership Group (September 2024) but no funding intervention was approved, and Health Improvement was unable to reallocate core funding due to budget restrictions. Therefore, the HSCP financial position means that no further resource was available to sustain the service beyond January 2025.

The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the <u>Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24</u>; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.

Who is the lead reviewer and when did they attend Lead reviewer Training? (Please note the lead reviewer must be someone in a position to authorise any actions identified as a result of the EQIA)

Name:	Date of Lead Reviewer Training:
Fiona Moss	2018

Please list the staff involved in carrying out this EQIA

(Where non-NHS staff are involved e.g. third sector reps or patients, please record their organisation or reason for inclusion):

Douglas O'Malley, Carol McGurin, Shogufta Haq, Melih Caner Inancli, Joan McDonald, Andrew Ferguson, Sherrin Esmail, Donna MacLean, Afton Hill

		Example	Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
1.	What equalities information is routinely collected from people currently using the service or affected by the policy? If this is a new service proposal what data do you have on proposed service user groups. Please note any barriers to collecting this data in your submitted evidence and an explanation for any protected characteristic data omitted.	A sexual health service collects service user data covering all 9 protected characteristics to enable them to monitor patterns of use.	In 2023/24, of the 3,696 patients who engaged with the service, 3,309 (89%) provided data on protected characteristics via routine equalities monitoring: - Age - Disability - Gender reassignment - Marriage and civil partnership - Pregnancy and maternity - Race - Religion or belief - Sex - Sexual orientation	N/A
	,	Example	Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
2.	Please provide details of how data captured has been/will be used to inform policy content or service design. Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes).	A physical activity programme for people with long term conditions reviewed service user data and found very low uptake by BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) people. Engagement activity found promotional material for the interventions was not representative. As a result, an adapted range	All service users are requested to complete NHSGGC equalities monitoring, administered by the 6 Financial Inclusion providers which deliver the service. Responses are anonymous. We have not systematically explored profiles of service users in relation to protected characteristics and used the findings to inform service design. However, we have used the data to broaden service access options to be more inclusive: Access to interpreting support is provided Tailored telephone appointments for families with young children or families with a disability Evening appointments, telephone and video appointments are offered to accommodate work patterns	N/A

			011100/12	
	2) Promote equality of opportunity	of materials were introduced with ongoing monitoring of uptake. (Due regard promoting equality of opportunity)		
	3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics.			
	4) Not applicable			
		Example	Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
3.	How have you applied	Looked after and	Evidence in relation to experience / risk of poverty, financial	·
	learning from research	accommodated care	worries and access barriers to services for groups with protected	
	evidence about the	services reviewed a	characteristics is summarised below.	
	experience of equality	range of research		
	groups to the service or	evidence to help	Age - Older adults are more likely to experience digital exclusion	
	Policy?	promote a more	(lack of technological literacy) and physical accessibility issues	
		inclusive care	(e.g. ATM / bank branch access) (FCA). Evidence indicates found	
	Your evidence should	environment. Research	that around 40% of people aged 60+ in Scotland are not confident	
	show which of the 3 parts	suggested that young	in using digital banking or online financial services, contributing to	
	of the General Duty have	LGBT+ people had a	their financial exclusion.	
	been considered (tick	disproportionately		
	relevant boxes).	difficult time through	Blog: 'Digital by default' – what a digital society might mean for	
	,	exposure to bullying	<u>older people</u>	
	1) Remove discrimination,	and harassment. As a	Younger adults are more likely to have a limited credit history and	
	harassment and	result staff were trained	a lack of financial literacy or knowledge about financial products.	
	victimisation	in LGBT+ issues and	(FCA 2024).	
	2) Duamata assellts of	were more confident in		
	2) Promote equality of	asking related	Disability - People with disabilities in the UK face a higher poverty	
	opportunity	questions to young	rate compared to the national average, with 49% of those in	
		people.	poverty living in households that include a disabled person or	

3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics 4) Not applicable	(Due regard to removing discrimination, harassment and victimisation and fostering good relations).	being disabled themselves. Multiple factors hinder disabled people from obtaining qualifications, securing employment, and earning a stable income leading to exclusion from economic opportunities and increasing financial vulnerability [1]. Living with a disability often brings higher and additional costs that reduce disposable income. The cost-of-living crisis has amplified both the prevalence and severity of poverty for disabled people.	
		People with disabilities also encounter significant challenges accessing financial inclusion services. Digital and physical inaccessibility limit their engagement, consequently, many are forced to rely on intermediaries, family, or friends for support which can make it harder to navigate financial systems or seek assistance. Complex and bureaucratic benefit application processes deter those with limited financial literacy or understanding of eligibility criteria. For individuals with invisible disabilities, stigma and fear of judgment often lead to reluctance to disclose their condition, creating yet another barrier to accessing vital support.	
		iihttps://www.npi.org.uk/files/3414/7087/2429/Disability_and_poverty_MAIN_REPORT_FINAL.pdf iihttps://www.jrf.org.uk/uk-poverty-2019-20 iiiwww.jrf.org.uk/report/ iiw Harkins C, Burke T, Walsh D. The impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on disabled people: a case for action [Internet]. 2023 [cited 2024 Dec 9]. iiihttps://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/challenges-faced-by-people-with-disabilities/#heading-5 iiihttps://www.gov.uk/government/publications/barriers-to-accessing-health-support-for-pip-ns-esa-and-uc-claimants/barriers-to-accessing-health-support-for-pip-ns-esa-and-uc-claimants#how-claimants-experience-and-manage-their-health	

[vii

https://www.turn2us.org.uk/T2UWebsite/media/Documents/Benefits-Stigma-in-Britain.pdf

Gender reassignment - Transgender people are significantly more likely to fall behind on rent or mortgage payments, as well as council tax. They are also likely to be in receipt of most main state benefits including income support, housing benefit, disability benefits, and council tax benefits.

https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/files/working-papers/iser/2014-02.pdf

Transgender people report experiencing higher levels of disadvantage in areas such as education, healthcare and access to public services, and this is more likely to contribute to higher rates of poverty. In addition, transgender people experience difficulty in securing and maintaining employment. Additionally, a significant proportion of trans women have reported engaging in sex in exchange for money, goods, food, drugs, or a place to stay.

https://www.equality-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/The-Scottish-LGBT-Equality-Report.pdf

https://www.scottishtrans.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Scottish-Trans-and-Nonbinary-Experiences-Summary-Report.pdf

There is evidence suggesting that homelessness is a significant issue for trans people in Scotland, and Trans masculine individuals are more likely to experience financial difficulties and food insecurity due to a lack of money or other resources.

https://www.scottishtrans.org/wpcontent/uploads/2024/07/Scottish-Trans-and-Nonbinary-Experiences-Summary-Report.pdf

LGBT Health Needs Assessment

Evidence indicates a slightly lower approval rate for benefits for Trans people compared to non-trans clients and difficulty in navigating the benefits system effectively. Many people expressed uncertainty and fear about seeking support from their local community during the cost-of-living crisis.

evidence-review-non-binary-peoples-experiences-scotland.pdf

https://www.scottishtrans.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Scottish-Trans-and-Nonbinary-Experiences-Summary-Report.pdf

Marriage and civil partnership - Married and cohabiting adults are the least likely to be in poverty. Some governments encourage marriage and civil partnerships as a means to alleviate poverty; for example, via tax allowances for couples who are married or in a civil partnership. Poverty can put pressure on relationships and lead to their breakdown. Relationship breakdown can also increase poverty for both parent / carers.

Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2020-23

Pregnancy and maternity - The arrival of a new baby typically results in additional costs incurred and reduced income during maternity leave. Statutory Maternity Pay and Maternity Allowance ('income replacement benefits') often fall far short of women's income levels prior to childbirth. During pregnancy, women may experience time off work due to illness or to attend hospital appointments (with associated costs). There may be a lack of understanding of supports / benefits available and how to apply. Families on low incomes spend more of their income on food hence income reductions, and rising food prices mean, mean that food quality may be compromised. There is also a need for

affordable childcare to support women to return to work (if applicable).

The impact on mothers and families of low maternity payments and the cost of living crisis: a literature review - Maternity Action

Race - In Scotland, people from minority ethnic groups face significantly higher rates of poverty compared to White individuals including deep poverty and are more likely to live in low-income households. Research highlights that Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities experience the highest levels of poverty among minority ethnic groups.

Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) individuals are more likely to be employed in low-paid sectors. Unemployment and underemployment rates are also disproportionately higher among minority ethnic people, particularly amongst minority ethnic women. Workers from minority ethnic backgrounds are about twice as likely as White workers to hold insecure contracts. Additionally, BAME households are more likely to rely on a single earner, amplifying financial vulnerability. Over half (51%) of minority ethnic individuals in poverty live in unaffordable housing, compared to 44% of white individuals.

BAME communities often face significant challenges in accessing financial inclusion services, including linguistic and cultural barriers, distrust in financial institutions and advice providers [vii], lack of knowledge and awareness about financial rights and services [viii], and legal restrictions for migrants in terms of recourse to public funds [ix].

- https://data.gov.scot/poverty/
- https://www.jrf.org.uk/deep-poverty-and-destitution/ethnicity-and-the-heightened-risk-of-very-deep-poverty

https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/uksectoraccou

<u>nts/compendium/economicreview/february2020/childpovertyanded</u> <u>ucationoutcomesbyethnicity</u>

https://www.crer.org.uk/blog/new-research-from-crer-ethnicity-and-poverty-in-scotland-2020

[vi]: https://www.jrf.org.uk/uk-poverty-2022-the-essential-guide-to-understanding-poverty-in-the-uk

[vii] https://www.bristol.ac.uk/media-

library/sites/geography/migrated/documents/pfrc0605b.pdf

Evans JCN, Richardson T, Cross KA, Davies SV, Phiri P, Maguire N et al. The intersecting impacts of mental ill-health and money problems on the financial wellbeing of people from ethnic minority communities. Money and Pensions Service, 2023.

http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/law/research/cces/documents/Too-Many-Hurdles-2011.pdf

Religion or belief - Muslims and Buddhists are the most likely religious groups to have a low income, although this is associated with their young age profile; Jews are likely to have the highest incomes. Roman Catholics are over-represented for residence in deprived SIMD areas. From 2018-23, Muslim adults were more likely to be in relative poverty (61%) than adults overall (19%), after housing costs. Of adults belonging to the Church of Scotland, 16% were in relative poverty after housing costs, compared to 17% of Roman Catholic adults and adults of other Christian denominations (21%).

Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2020-23
Scottish Government Equality Outcomes: Religion and Belief
Evidence Review - gov.scot

Sex - Women are most likely to be in low paid part time employment, earn less than men and are less likely to have

savings. During the pandemic, women represented the majority of furloughed staff. Alongside gendered roles and expectations about who should carry the burden of unpaid/informal care, women's experience of poverty has been compounded by the pandemic and the ongoing cost of living crisis. Their caring responsibilities and limited access to affordable childcare mean they are less able to take on additional work to meet extra costs. The cost of living and gender: Briefing for a new government – Women's Budget Group Item 3 - PSGCPHCOVIDMicroBrief2Women.pdf

Single parent households are predominantly female. Scotland has three in ten families who are lone parents (Glasgow City 40%). 33% of lone parents are unemployed and have a disability or long-standing illness. Lone parents are more likely to be in part time, low paying jobs (Lone parents).

Women, especially those from low-income backgrounds, face barriers in accessing financial services due to income disparities and financial literacy issues (World Economic Forum).

Violence against women and girls sustains poverty. Women experiencing abuse within the home will have difficulty leaving perpetrators if they are living in poverty, this creates barriers to support. Financial abuse is a form of coercion used by perpetrators to control women. Why is Violence Against Women and Girls a problem? - Equally Safe 2023 - preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls: strategy - gov.scot

Sexual orientation - There is limited high quality research in the UK but evidence indicates that gay men and bisexual men and women are more likely to experience poverty than their heterosexual counterparts. Gay men are more likely to be in receipt of income support, housing benefit and council tax benefit. There is some literature suggesting that gay men are overrepresented among homeless populations.

Bisexual men and women are 4% and 3% more likely to experience poverty than heterosexual men and women, respectively. These findings are not statistically significant but are corroborated by other evidence, such as the fact that bisexual men and women both suffer a pay penalty compared with heterosexual men and women.

Lesbians experience similar risks of poverty as heterosexual women. They are significantly more likely to participate in the labour market, and to obtain university degrees. There is a pay premium for lesbians, even when controlling for motherhood. These findings suggest that lesbian experience is less disadvantageous materially than that of gay men, at least compared with heterosexual women.

Poverty and Sexual orientation | Poverty and Social Exclusion

The NHSGGC Health needs assessment of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and non-binary people (2022) indicated that 27% of respondents had financial worries all or most of the time. Final Report (31 May 2022).pdf

There is universal access to the service for any patient referred by NHS community staff in Glasgow HSCP.

Targeted approach with certain groups:

- Age
 - Families with children under 5 years old (via Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership)
 - Pensioners (pension credit specifically)
- Pregnancy & maternity (via Midwifery)
- Disability

4. Can you give details of	Example A money advice service	Services Mental Health Teams Quarterly performance information is collated for 3 (of 6) family groups at high risk of experiencing child poverty (lone parent families, minority ethnic families, families with a disabled person). Monitoring does not capture: families with three or more children, families with a child under 1 year old, families with a mother aged 25 years old or younger. Service Evidence Provided FI Providers delivering the service are required to share several	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required We expect all existing clients to be
how you have engaged with equality groups with regard to the service review or policy development? What did this engagement tell you about user experience and how was this information used? The Patient Experience and Public Involvement team (PEPI)	spoke to lone parents (predominantly women) to better understand barriers to accessing the service. Feedback included concerns about waiting times at the drop in service, made more difficult due to child care issues. As a result the service introduced a home visit and telephone service which significantly increased uptake. (Due regard to promoting equality of opportunity)	case studies per year to highlight client experiences and the impact of FI interventions. These case studies routinely relate to clients with certain protected characteristics (age, sex, disability, pregnancy and maternity, race). Feedback from service users / staff / partners (via comments, complaints, testimonies) is collated to help shape service development / improvement, via quarterly contract performance meetings. We have not actively engaged with equality groups on service closure. We have communicated with NHS staff and partners rather than directly with clients, the majority of whom are not repeat clients. Repeat clients can only be re-referred by NHS staff and receive the same service. There is no further planned communications activity, aside from providing further detail to NHS staff on alternative supports available. Engagement took place with the 6 Financial Inclusion organisations which deliver the service to inform them of the service closure and the associated timeline. The FI organisations did not provide specific suggestions regarding service closure but expressed disappointment as well as their appreciation in relation	processed before service closure but some case work may be outstanding. FI Providers were approached to clarify the expected number of outstanding cases at 31/1/25; only one Provider supplied this information. However, Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.

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	1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation 2) Promote equality of opportunity 3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics 4) Not applicable	* The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 requires organisations to take actions to reduce poverty for children in households at risk of low incomes.	to the sustained efforts over recent years to secure funding for the service. We have not sought their views in relation to the possible impact on equality groups. There has not been engagement with patients / service users / public as only NHS staff can make referrals (no self-referrals) and the lack of flex to change the outcome of the service closure. Furthermore, engagement may create unnecessary confusion and anxiety. NHS staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative support services in the City. Feedback on concerns or for further information has been invited	
			via a named contact at a locality level. Feedback received to date has been minimal.	
	Example		Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
5.	Is your service physically accessible to everyone? If this is a policy that impacts on movement of service users through areas are there potential barriers that need to be addressed? Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes). 1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation	An access audit of an outpatient physiotherapy department found that users were required to negotiate 2 sets of heavy manual pull doors to access the service. A request was placed to have the doors retained by magnets that could deactivate in the event of a fire. (Due regard to remove discrimination,	Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the service engaged with clients via face-to-face appointments in HSCP Health Centres and was physically accessible to all. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the service changed to telephone delivery and this remains the default means for client engagement, with limited in-person appointments on request. Feedback from the vast majority of service users indicates that telephone delivery is the preferred option as it removes access barriers (e.g. travel costs) and is easier to manage childcare responsibilities.	Cannot guarantee that alternative services will be physically accessible. Services are located in a variety of locations across the City to support access in the local community. Expectation that alternative services will include offer of telephone support if required.

	OFFICIAL			
	2) Promote equality of opportunity	harassment and victimisation).		
	3) Foster good relations between protected Characteristics.			
	4) Not applicable			
		Example	Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
6.	How will the service	Following a service	Currently, the service provides access to interpreters.	We cannot guarantee access to
	change or policy	review, an information		interpreting support for alternative
	development ensure it	video to explain new	Engagement took place with the 6 Financial Inclusion	services but all public sector
	does not discriminate in	procedures was	organisations which deliver the service to inform the timeline for	organisations are required to provide
	the way it communicates	hosted on the	service closure. We have not sought their views in relation to the	this support.
	with service users and	organisation's	possible impact on equality groups.	TI 0 (():: : : () ()!!!0
	staff?	YouTube site. This	VIII 100D 1 (C	The Cost of Living guide (NHS
	Varia aridamaa aharild	was accompanied by a	All HSCP staff received an electronic communication to notify	owned) can be translated into
	Your evidence should	BSL signer to explain	them of the service closure (31/1/25), including the date for	alternative languages on request (in
	show which of the 3 parts	service changes to Deaf service users.	closure of the referral pathway (1/11/24) after which no further	accordance with NHS Clear to All
	of the General Duty have been considered (tick	Dear service users.	referrals would be accepted. Staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need	guidance). This will enable the most up-to-date version to be provided (as
	relevant boxes).	Written materials were	and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3	information contained is subject to
	Televant boxes).	offered in other	month notice period. In addition, NHS services which make the	change).
	1) Remove discrimination,	languages and	majority of referrals (Health Visiting, Midwifery, and Family Nurse	onango).
	harassment and	formats.	Partnership) have been engaged via a direct email and at various	
	victimisation		planned meetings.	
		(Due regard to remove		
	2) Promote equality of	discrimination,	The HSCP communication advised that NHS staff are able to	
	opportunity	harassment and	signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow	
	2) Footor good valations	victimisation and	City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 although patients	
	3) Foster good relations between protected	promote equality of	may experience longer waiting times to be seen. The 16 Financial	
	characteristics	opportunity).	Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow	
	Citatacteristics		Advice & Information Network have been notified as these	

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	The British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2017 aims to raise awareness of British Sign Language and improve access to services for those using the language. Specific attention should be paid in your evidence to show how the service review or policy has taken note of this.	services are likely to experience an increase in demand as a result of the service closure. All GAIN organisations offer a universal service. One Provider offers an additional service ('Financially Included') delivered in partnership with Violence against Women. We have communicated with HSCP Primary Care governance structures which oversee Community Link Worker Programme and GP Practices (many of which have the Welfare Advice Health Partnership service), as they may signpost patients. Aside from GAIN organisations (which we anticipate will receive the majority of signposted patients), we have communicated the service closure with other relevant organisations where identified (e.g. all Housing Providers and Registered Social Landlords in the City). There is ongoing engagement with locality forums and networks to raise awareness of CoL guide. There has not been engagement with patients / service users / public as only NHS staff can make referrals (no self-referrals) and the lack of flex to change the outcome of the service closure. Furthermore, engagement may create unnecessary confusion and anxiety. NHS staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative support services in the City. Feedback on concerns or for further information has been invited	
7	Protected Characteristic	via a named contact at a locality level. Feedback received to date has been minimal. Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and
			Additional Mitigating Action Required
(a)	Age Could the service design or policy content have a disproportionate impact on people due to differences in age? (Consider any age cut-offs that exist in the	3,309 out of 3,696 patients who engaged with the service completed equalities monitoring. The age profile is provided below. The percentages in this table represent the proportion of Early Years and Other NHS clients relative to the total combined number of clients (3,309).	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to

service design or policy content. You will need to
objectively justify in the evidence section any
segregation on the grounds of age promoted by the
policy or included in the service design).

Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes).

1) Remove	discrimination,	harassment	and
victimisati	on		

2) Promote	equality	of	opportunity
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3) Foster good	relations	between	protected
characteristics			

4) Not applicable	
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Age	Early Years	Other NHS	Total					
Under 16	12 (0%)	1 (0%)	13 (0%)					
16-25	437 (13%)	57 (2%)	494 (15%)					
26-35	931 (28%)	151 (5%)	1,082 (33%)					
36-45	520 (16%)	189 (6%)	709 (21%)					
46-55	145 (4%)	187 (6%)	332 (10%)					
56-65	34 (1%)	216 (7%)	250 (8%)					
Over 65	1 (0%)	424 (13%)	425 (13%)					
Prefer not to	2 (0%)	2 (0%)	4 (0%)					
say								
Total	2,082 (63%)	1,227 (37%)	3,309					

The service is universal and NHS staff can refer all adults over 16 years old. The service offers tailored advice based on client age, primarily in relation to grant / benefit entitlement.

Over two thirds of clients who completed equalities monitoring were 45 years old or younger. The service closure is more likely to impact families with young children as the majority of referrals originate from NHS services which routinely engage with families with children under 5 years old. These services are actively encouraged and supported to raise the issue of money worries via Universal Child Health pathways, and services may receive feedback on referral volumes generated.

Certain family groups are known to be at higher high risk of experiencing child poverty (lone parent families, minority ethnic families, families with a disabled person, families with three or more children, families with a child under 1 year old, families with a mother aged 25 years old or younger).

respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.

Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services as well as those targeted at families with children. As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of different age and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh.

						FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
(b)	Disability Could the service design or policy content have a disproportionate impact on people due to the protected characteristic of disability?	3,309 out of 3,696 patients who engaged with the service completed equalities monitoring. The disability profile is provided below. The percentages in this table represent the proportion of Early Years and Other NHS clients relative to the total combined number of clients (3,309).				The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to
	Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of	Category	Early Years	Other NHS	Total	respond to those in greatest need
	the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant	Disability	533 (16%)	1038 (31%)	1571 (47%)	and provide appropriate support to
	boxes).	No Disability	1528 (46%)	183 (6%)	1711 (52%)	existing clients during the 3 month
	1) Remove discrimination, harassment and	Prefer not to	21 (0%)	6 (0%)	27 (1%)	notice period given to the six
	victimisation	say				Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
		Total	2082 (63%)	1227 (37%)	3,309	staff have been directed to signpost
	2) Promote equality of opportunity	Almost half of th		patients to local services and		
	3) Foster good relations between protected				service closure is	supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
	characteristics.	more likely to im higher risk of ex		Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24;		
		riigilei fisk of ex	penencing pover	this includes the 16 Financial		
	4) Not applicable	The service take	es referrals from	NHS services (e	e.g. Primary Care	Inclusion support services which are
		& Community M		members of the Glasgow Advice &		
		Child Developme	,	Information Network and offer a		
		disability, includi neurodevelopme		universal service.		
		•		Staff will continue to signpost		
		Referrers are as		patients to alternative provision and		
		so that service d	•	• • • •		will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP
		longer appointm	ents, home visit	s or telephone a	ppointments).	Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24
						which includes information on
						organisations which offer universal

	1	011101112	_
			services as well as those targeted at disabled people.
			As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of disability and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh.
			Cannot guarantee that alternative services will be physically accessible. Services are located in a variety of locations across the City.
			Expectation that alternative services will include offer of telephone support if required.
			FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
	Protected Characteristic	Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
(c)	Gender Reassignment	3,309 out of 3,696 patients who engaged with the service	The service was closed to new
	-	completed equalities monitoring. 2,220 responded to the question	referrals from 1/11/24 after which no
		related to gender reassignment. All respondents selected 'prefer not to say'.	further referrals were accepted. NHS

		OFFICIAL			
Could the service change or policy ha	ve a				staff were asked to prioritise urgent
disproportionate impact on people wit		Transgender	0		referrals to enable the service to
characteristic of Gender Reassignmer	nt?	Transperson	0		respond to those in greatest need
		Prefer not to say	0		and provide appropriate support to
Your evidence should show which of t		Total	2,220		existing clients during the 3 month
the General Duty have been considered	ed (tick relevant			l	notice period given to the six
boxes).		The service is universal. No direct	ct impact identifie	ed but it is	Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
1) Remove discrimination, harassmen	t and	recognised that trans people mo		ience poverty	staff have been directed to signpost
victimisation		(NHSGGC LGBT health needs a	ssessment).		patients to local services and
					·
2) Promote equality of opportunity					supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
2) Factor wood valations between much					Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24;
Foster good relations between protections between protections	ectea				this includes the 16 Financial
Citatacteristics					Inclusion support services which are
4) Not applicable					members of the Glasgow Advice &
i, not approxim					Information Network and offer a
					universal service.
					Staff will continue to signpost
					patients to alternative provision and
					will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24
					which includes information on
					organisations which offer universal
					services.
					As part of the EQIA, a mapping
					exercise was undertaken to identify
					organisations which offer targeted
					support for equality groups. This
					identified additional organisations
					which offer services targeted at trans

						people and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh. FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
	Protected Characteristic	Service Evider	nce Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required		
(d)	Marriage and Civil Partnership			engaged with th . 1,176 responde	e service ed to the marriage	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no
	Could the service change or policy have a disproportionate impact on the people with the protected characteristics of Marriage and Civil Partnership?	and civil partnership question. The percentages in this table represent the proportion of Early Years and Other NHS clients relative to the total combined number of clients (3,309).				further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to
	Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant	Status Married	Early Years 818 (25%)	Other NHS 353 (11%)	Total 1171 (35%)	respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month
	boxes).	Civil Partnership Total	1 (0%)	4 (0%) 357 (11%)	5 (0%) 1,176 (36%)	notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
	1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation 2) Promote equality of opportunity	The service is universal. No direct impact identified.				staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
	3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics			Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are		
	4) Not applicable					members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.

		TIOIAL			Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services. As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This did not identify additional organisations which offer services targeted at people who are married / in a civil partnership. FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
(e) Pregnancy and Maternity Could the service change or policy have a disproportionate impact on the people with the protected characteristics of Pregnancy and Maternity?	3,309 out of 3,69 completed equal and maternity qualithe proportion of the total combination.	lities monitoring uestion. The per f Early Years ar	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need		
Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes).	gave birth in last 26 weeks Pregnant Maternity	499 (15%) 375 (11%)	Other NHS 22 (1%) 6 (0%)	521 (16%) 381 (12%)	and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	3/3 (11/0)	0 (0 /0)	301 (12/0)	

	I - I	OI I IOIAL	ı	1	T
1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Total	874 (26%)	28 (1%)	902 (27%)	staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and
2) Promote equality of opportunity 3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics.	maternity. The support routing prochange in circular and entitlementative for prochamaters.	ure is more likely to ne service is actively ne enquiry for mone egnant / having a cl cumstances which ent to grants / bene egnant women in re	y promoted with ey worries with p nild is considered may impact hou fits. The service	Midwifery staff to patients, as d a significant sehold income offers tailored	supports in the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a
	benefit entitle	ements.			Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services. As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people experiencing pregnancy and maternity and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh. Midwifery staff can continue to refer patients to the NHS Blossom service (if they meet the criteria), which includes a FI service.

						FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
	Protected Characteristic	Service Evidence Prov	ided			Possible negative impact and
						Additional Mitigating Action Required
(f)	Could the service change or policy have a disproportionate impact on people with the protected characteristics of Race? Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes).	3,309 out of 3,696 patier completed equalities mo below. The percentages Early Years and Other I combined number of combined nu	nitoring. The rain this table rowers clients (3,309) is more likely Ethnic Backgrovegians are from the rain to the rain	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month		
	1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation 2) Promote equality of opportunity	impacted. There is a higher prevalence of BME communities living in the most deprived (SIMD) areas of Glasgow, and patients in these areas are more likely to experience poverty and thus be				notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are
	3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics					
	4) Not applicable	Race WHITE SCOTTISH	Early Years 732 (22%)	Other NHS 895 (27%)	Total	members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.
		WHITE IRISH WHITE OTHER BRITISH	5 (0%) 50 (2%)	15 (0% 39 (1%)	(49%) 20 (1%) 89 (3%)	We cannot guarantee access to interpreting support for alternative services but all public sector

TOTAL	2082 (63%)	1227 (37%)	3309
SAY	0000	4007	0000
PREFER NOT TO	25 (1%)	6 (0%)	31 (1%)
BACKGROUND	` ′	` ,	` ′
OTHER	169 (5%)	22 (1%)	191 (6%)
BACKGROUND			
ETHNIC	(1,7)	(· · · ·)	(2.0)
ANY MULTIPLE	242 (7%)	23 (1%)	265 (8%)
BACKGROUND	00 (170)	3 (0 /0)	72 (1/0)
BLACK ANY OTHER	33 (1%)	9 (0%)	42 (1%)
BLACK CARRIBBEAN	4 (0%)	2 (0%)	6 (0%)
BLACK AFRICAN	182 (6%)	33 (1%)	215 (6%)
BACKGROUND	400 (00/)	00 (40/)	045 (00()
ASIAN ANY OTHER	131 (4%)	23 (1%)	154 (5%)
ASIAN CHINESE	20 (1%)	9 (0%)	29 (1%)
BANGLADESHI			
ASIAN	16 (0%)	2 (0%)	18 (1%)
ASIAN PAKISTANI	185 (6%)	71 (2%)	256 (8%)
ASIAN INDIAN	54 (2%)	15 (0%)	69 (2%)
BACKGROUND	()	()	, ,
ANY OTHER WHITE	234 (7%)	63 (2%)	297 (9%)

The service is universal. It provides access to interpreting / translation support for clients.

organisations are required to provide this support.

Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services as well as those targeted services related to race.

The Cost of Living guide (NHS owned) can be translated into alternative languages on request (in accordance with NHS Clear to All guidance). This will enable the most up-to-date version to be provided (as information contained is subject to change).

As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of different race and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh.

FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be

							absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
(g)	Religion and Belief Could the service change or policy has disproportionate impact on the peop protected characteristic of Religion at Your evidence should show which of the General Duty have been considerable boxes).	3,309 out of 3,696 patients who engaged with the service completed equalities monitoring. The religion / belief profile is provided below. The percentages in this table represent the proportion of Early Years and Other NHS clients relative to the total combined number of clients (3,309). The service is universal. A relatively high proportion of clients are Muslim and research indicates that this religious group (and Buddhists) are the most likely to have a low income and experience relative poverty.				The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six	
	victimisation		Religion/Belief	Early Years	Other NHS	Total	Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
	2) Promote equality of opportunity		BUDDHIST CHURCH OF	5 (0%) 163 (5%)	0 (0%) 137 (4%)	5 (0%) 300 (9%)	staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
	3) Foster good relations between procharacteristics.	otected	SCOTLAND HINDU JEWISH	10 (0%)	3 (0%)	13 (0%) 2 (0%)	Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial
	4) Not applicable		MUSLIM NONE	439 (13%) 654 (20%)	86 (3%) 476 (14%)	525 (16%) 1130 (34%)	Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a
			OTHER CHRISTIAN	160 (5%)	46 (1%)	206 (6%)	universal service.
			OTHER PREFER NOT TO ANSWER	82 (2%) 364 (11%)	43 (1%) 237 (7%)	125 (4%) 601 (18%)	Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP
			SIKH ROMAN CATHOLIC	14 (0%) 190 (6%)	4 (0%) 194 (6%)	18 (1%) 384 (12%)	Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal
			TOTAL	2082 (63%)	1227 (37%)	3309	services.

		_				
						As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of different religion / belief and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh. FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
	Protected Characteristic	Service Evide	nce Provided			Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
(h)	Sex Could the service change or policy have a disproportionate impact on the people with the protected characteristic of Sex?	completed equipelow. The per Early Years ar	alities monitoring centages in this t	engaged with the . The gender split able represent the ents relative to the 3,309).	is provided proportion of	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to
	Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of	Gender	Early Years	Other NHS	Total	respond to those in greatest need
	the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant	Female	1,671 (50%)	709 (21%)	2,380 (72%)	and provide appropriate support to
	boxes).	Male	408 (12%)	518 (16%)	926 (28%)	existing clients during the 3 month
	1) Demove discrimination becasement and	Prefer Not	3 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (0%)	notice period given to the six
	1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation	to Say	` ,	, ,	, ,	Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
		Total	2,082 (63%)	1,227 (37%)	3,309	staff have been directed to signpost
	2) Promote equality of opportunity	The majority of	olionto ongosina	with the service a	are wemen and	patients to local services and
		, ,	000	ted by service clo		supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
						Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24;

	3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics. 4) Not applicable	are most likely to be in low paid part time employment, earn less than men and are less likely to have savings. 644 lone parents engaged with service in 2023/24, the majority of whom are women, and they are typically at higher risk of experiencing poverty. Women are also more likely to have unpaid caring responsibilities and experience financial abuse.	this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service. Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services. As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of different gender and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh. FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be
			absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
(i)	Sexual Orientation	3,309 out of 3,696 patients who engaged with the service completed equalities monitoring. The sexual orientation profile is provided below. The percentages in this table represent the	The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent

Could the service change or policy have a disproportionate impact on the people with the protected characteristic of Sexual Orientation?

Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes).

1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation

2) Promote equality of opportunity

3) Foster good relations between protected characteristics.

4) Not applicable

proportion of **Early Years** and **Other NHS** clients relative to the **total combined number of clients** (3,309).

SEXUAL	Early	Other NHS	Total
ORIENTATION	Years		
BISEXUAL	70 (2%)	6 (0%)	76 (2%)
GAY WOMAN /	5 (0%)	5 (0%)	10 (0%)
LESBIAN			
GAY MAN	0 (0%)	7 (0%)	7 (0%)
HETROSEXUAL	1891 (57%)	1006 (30%)	2897 (88%)
/ STRAIGHT			
OTHER	0 (0%)	5 (0%)	5 (0%)
PREFER NOT	116 (4%)	198 (6%)	314 (9%)
TO SAY	,	,	, ,
TOTAL	2082 (63%)	1227 (37%)	3309

The service is universal. No direct impact identified but the NHSGGC health needs assessment (2022) indicates that a high proportion of the LBGT community are likely to experience financial worries.

referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.

Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the <u>Glasgow City HSCP</u> <u>Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24</u> which includes information on organisations which offer universal services.

As part of the EQIA, a mapping exercise was undertaken to identify organisations which offer targeted support for equality groups. This identified additional organisations which offer services targeted at people of different sexual orientation and these will be added to the guide at the next refresh.

						FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.
	Protected Characteristic	Service Evidence P	rovided			Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
(j)	Socio – Economic Status & Social Class	Household income da	ata is available	for 3,401 client	ts who engaged	The service was closed to new
		with the service. The				referrals from 1/11/24 after which no
	Could the proposed service change or policy have a	proportion of Early Y			elative to the	further referrals were accepted. NHS
	disproportionate impact on people because of their	total combined num	nber of clients			staff were asked to prioritise urgent
	social class or experience of poverty and what mitigating action have you taken/planned?	Household	Early Years	Other NHS	Total	referrals to enable the service to
	initigating action have you taken/planned:	income	Larry Tears	Other Milo	Total	respond to those in greatest need
	The Fairer Scotland Duty (2018) places a duty on	0 - £6,000	269(8%)	170(5%)	439(13%)	and provide appropriate support to
	public bodies in Scotland to actively consider how	£6,001-£10,000	341(10%)	235(7%)	576(17%)	existing clients during the 3 month
	they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by	£10,001-£15,000	323(9%)	184(5%)	507(15%)	notice period given to the six
	socioeconomic disadvantage when making <u>strategic</u>	£15,001- £20,000	358(11%)	219(6%)	577(17%)	Financial Inclusion providers. NHS
	decisions. If relevant, you should evidence here	£20,001-£25,000	348(10%)	203(6%)	551(16%)	staff have been directed to signpost
	what steps have been taken to assess and mitigate risk of exacerbating inequality on the ground of	£25,001-£30,000	177(5%)	144(4%)	321(9%)	patients to local services and
	socio-economic status. Additional information	£30,001 -£40,000	117(3%)	94(3%)	211(6%)	supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
	available here: Fairer Scotland Duty: guidance for	£40,001 and over	82(2%)	25(1%)	107(3%)	Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24:
	public bodies - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)	Not relevant	6 (0%)	106(3%)	112(3%)	this includes the 16 Financial
		Total	2,021(59%)	1,380(41%)	3,401(100%)	Inclusion support services which are
	Seven useful questions to consider when seeking to		, , ,		, , ,	members of the Glasgow Advice &
	demonstrate 'due regard' in relation to the Duty:	Service closure is ex				Information Network and offer a
	1. What evidence has been considered in preparing	patients at higher risk				universal service.
	for the decision, and are there any gaps in the evidence?	ability of NHS commi				
	2. What are the voices of people and communities	dedicated FI service.		•		Staff will continue to signpost
	telling us, and how has this been determined	alternative sources o increase in demand (experience an	patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP

(particularly those with lived experience of socioeconomic disadvantage)?

- 3. What does the evidence suggest about the actual or likely impacts of different options or measures on inequalities of outcome that are associated with socio-economic disadvantage?
- 4. Are some communities of interest or communities of place more affected by disadvantage in this case than others?
- 5. What does our Duty assessment tell us about socio-economic disadvantage experienced disproportionately according to sex, race, disability and other protected characteristics that we may need to factor into our decisions?
- 6. How has the evidence been weighed up in reaching our final decision?
- 7. What plans are in place to monitor or evaluate the impact of the proposals on inequalities of outcome that are associated with socio-economic disadvantage? 'Making Fair Financial Decisions' (EHRC, 2019)21 provides useful information about the 'Brown Principles' which can be used to determine whether due regard has been given. When engaging with communities the National Standards for Community Engagement22 should be followed. Those engaged with should also be advised subsequently on how their contributions were factored into the final decision.

Service closure can be expected to create several risks:

- Routine sensitive enquiry for money worries by NHS staff may decrease as staff cannot offer a dedicated service response. Routine enquiry helps reduce stigma in relation to money worries
- Vulnerable patients may be less likely to be identified to access a service, leading to increased risk of poverty and poor health outcomes
- Potential increase in waiting times for patients signposted may result in a delayed response to address priority financial issues within appropriate timescales
- Signposting is generally associated with higher attrition compared to direct referral, particularly for patients facing barriers to engagement. Patients require confidence and skill to navigate a crowded advice service landscape
- Potential digital exclusion for patients if signposted to online support
- Potential increase in patient travel costs to access advice, depending on location of alternative supports and if telephone support is available

Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services.

FI Providers have indicated that all referrals have been processed and that any outstanding cases will be absorbed within their core service provision from 1/2/25.

(k) Other marginalised groups

How have you considered the specific impact on other groups including homeless people, prisoners and ex-offenders, ex-service personnel, people with addictions, people involved in prostitution, asylum seekers & refugees and travellers?

19 people who engaged with the service were homeless (5 **Early Years** and 14 **Other NHS** clients).

Housing Status	Early Years	Other NHS	Total
Homeless	5	14	19

The service does not collect data for the other marginalised groups thus the direct impact of the service closure is unknown.

The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need

		However, these groups are at higher risk of experiencing poverty. Supporting asylum seekers and refugees is not core business for the service given the restricted supports they are eligible to receive (no recourse to public funds).	and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost patients to local services and supports in the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24; this includes the 16 Financial Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service. Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal
8.	Does the service change or policy development include an element of cost savings? How have you managed this in a way that will not disproportionately impact on protected characteristic groups? Your evidence should show which of the 3 parts of the General Duty have been considered (tick relevant boxes). 1) Remove discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Glasgow City HSCP (NHSGG&C) has funded access to Financial Inclusion (FI) services for patients referred by community health staff for many years. Funding has come from various fixed term incomes and 40% from core Health Improvement funding. Health Improvement has managed the annual funding challenges via supplies and other annualised incomes. Funding is dispersed as an annual grant through Glasgow City Council. Without additional incomes the service became unviable with the remaining funds and these will be provided as savings for 2025/26.	services. The service was closed to new referrals from 1/11/24 after which no further referrals were accepted. NHS staff were asked to prioritise urgent referrals to enable the service to respond to those in greatest need and provide appropriate support to existing clients during the 3 month notice period given to the six Financial Inclusion providers. NHS staff have been directed to signpost

	<u></u>	OTTIOIAL	
	2) Promote equality of opportunity	As a result of financial pressures experienced by the HSCP,	patients to local services and
		consecutive part year funding awards had to be made to the	supports in the Glasgow City HSCP
	3) Foster good relations between protected	Financial Inclusion providers in both 2023/24 and 2024/25. For	Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24;
	characteristics.	2023/24, a £225k funding shortfall was addressed via a Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (administered by Glasgow City Council)	this includes the 16 Financial
	4) Not applicable	award to sustain the service whilst mainstream funding was secured. For 2024/25, funding for the service was only secure until 31st January 2025, and Glasgow City Council confirmed (in August 2024) that no funding could be made available to sustain	Inclusion support services which are members of the Glasgow Advice & Information Network and offer a universal service.
		delivery until the end of 2024/25, or in future years. Significant effort was undertaken to secure other income for the service, including tabling an update on the funding position at the HSCP Children's Core Leadership Group (September 2024) but no funding intervention was approved, and Health Improvement was unable to reallocate core funding due to budget restrictions. Therefore, the HSCP financial position means that no further resource was available to sustain the service beyond January 2025.	Staff will continue to signpost patients to alternative provision and will utilise the Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support Guide Oct 24 which includes information on organisations which offer universal services.
		Service Evidence Provided	Possible negative impact and Additional Mitigating Action Required
9.	What investment in learning has been made to prevent discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between protected characteristic groups? As a minimum include recorded completion rates of statutory and mandatory learning programmes (or local equivalen covering equality, diversity and human rights.	Staff completion of mandatory e-learning on equalities and human rights. t)	Completion of equality training will be dependent on each of the organisations signposted to.

10. In addition to understanding and responding to legal responsibilities set out in Equality Act (2010), services must pay due regard to ensure a person's human rights are protected in all aspects of health and social care provision. This may be more obvious in some areas than others. For instance, mental health inpatient care or older people's residential care may be considered higher risk in terms of potential human rights breach due to potential removal of liberty, seclusion or application of restraint. However risk may also involve fundamental gaps like not providing access to communication support, not involving patients/service users in decisions relating to their care, making decisions that infringe the rights of carers to participate in society or not respecting someone's right to dignity or privacy.

The Human Rights Act sets out rights in a series of articles – right to Life, right to freedom from torture and inhumane and degrading treatment, freedom from slavery and forced labour, right to liberty and security, right to a fair trial, no punishment without law, right to respect for private and family life, right to freedom of thought, belief and religion, right to freedom of expression, right to freedom of assembly and association, right to marry, right to protection from discrimination.

Please explain in the field below if any risks in relation to the service design or policy were identified which could impact on the human rights of patients, service users or staff.

Although the discontinuation of this service does not directly impact on Human Rights, it can be recognised that the service did support access to a number of Economic, social and cultural rights, including;

- the right to social security
- the right to an adequate standard of living
- the right to the highest possible standard of physical and mental health
- the right to participate in cultural life

Please explain in the field below any human rights based approaches undertaken to better understand rights and responsibilities resulting from the service or policy development and what measures have been taken as a result e.g. applying the PANEL Principles to maximise Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination and Equality, Empowerment and Legality or FAIR*.

- Facts: What is the experience of the individuals involved and what are the important facts to understand?
- Analyse rights: Develop an analysis of the human rights at stake Identify responsibilities: Identify what needs to be done and who is responsible for doing it
- Review actions: Make recommendations for action and later recall and evaluate what has happened as a result.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 came into force on the 16th July 2024. All public bodies may choose to evidence consideration of the possible impact of decisions on the rights of children (up to the age of 18). Evidence should be included below in relation to the General Principles of the Act. The full list of articles to be considered is available here for information.

No Discrimination: Where the decision may have an impact, explain how the EQIA has considered discrimination on the grounds of protected characteristics for children. You may have considered children in each of the EQIA sections and returned relevant evidence.

The service closure is more likely to impact families with young children as the majority of referrals (approx two thirds) originate from NHS services which routinely engage with families with children under 5 years old. Certain family groups are known to be at higher high risk of experiencing child poverty (lone parent families, minority ethnic families, families with a disabled person, families with three or more children, families with a child under 1 year old, families with a mother aged 25 years old or younger).

UNCRC article 26 (social security): Every child has the right to benefit from social security....including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

Best Interests of the child: Where the decision may have an impact, explain how the EQIA has evaluated possible negative, positive or neutral impacts on children. You may find that a options considered need to be reframed against the best possible outcome for children.

NHS staff will continue to signpost patients, including those with dependent children, to alternative provision and will utilise the <u>Glasgow City HSCP Cost of Living Support</u> <u>Guide Oct 24</u> which includes information on organisations which offer universal services as well as those targeted at families with children.

Life, survival and development: Where the decision may have an impact, explain how the EQIA has considered a child's right to health and more holistic development opportunities.

Clear guidance has been shared with NHS staff, particularly those supporting families, on the process for signposting patients to alternative support services.

Respect of children's views: Where the decision may have an impact, explain how the views of children have been sought and responded to. You need to consider what steps were taken in Q4 in relation to this.

A decision was taken not to engage directly with patients or service users (including those with children) as only NHS staff can make referrals (no self-referrals) and the lack of flex to change the outcome of the service closure. Furthermore, engagement may create unnecessary confusion and anxiety. Staff will continue to signpost to alternative provision.

-	g completed the EQIA template, please tick which option you (Lead Reviewer) perceive best reflects the findings of the assessment. This can be cross-checked Quality Assurance process:
	Option 1: No major change (where no impact or potential for improvement is found, no action is required)
	Option 2: Adjust (where a potential or actual negative impact or potential for a more positive impact is found, make changes to mitigate risks or make improvements)
	Option 3: Continue (where a potential or actual negative impact or potential for a more positive impact is found but a decision not to make a change can be objectively justified, continue without making changes)
	Option 4: Stop and remove (where a serious risk of negative impact is found, the plans, policies etc. being assessed should be halted until these issues can be addressed)

11. If you believe your service is doing something that 'stands out' as an example of good practice - f	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
on sexual orientation, faith etc please use the box below to describe the activity and the benefits the help others consider opportunities for developments in their own services.	ils has brought to the service. This information will
help others consider opportunities for developments in their own services.	

Actions – from the additional mitigating action requirements boxes completed above, please summarise the actions this service will be taking forward.	Date for completion	Who is responsible?(initials)
Health Improvement confirm (with FI Providers) the expected number of outstanding cases at end January 2025, and how these clients will continue to receive support to resolve their cases after the official service closure date.	24.1.25	Carol McGurin
Health Improvement to review the Cost of Living guide every 6 months, and include any new support services targeted at groups with protected characteristics.	30.6.25	Joan McDonald, Shogufta Haq, Melih Caner Inancli
Health Improvement to respond to requests to translate Cost of Living guide into different languages.	Ongoing	Joan McDonald, Shogufta Haq, Melih Caner Inancli
Health Improvement to continue to advocate for access to financial advice through NHS services.	Ongoing	Fiona Moss

Ongoing 6 Monthly Review please write your 6 monthly EQIA review date:

Lead Reviewer: Name Fiona Moss

EQIA Sign Off: Job Title Head of Health Improvement and Equalities

Signature
Date 23rd January, 2025

Quality Assurance Sign Off:

Alastair Low Name

Job Title Planning Manager

A Low Signature Date 27/01/25



NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOL MEETING THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE COMMUNITIES 6 MONTHLY REVIEW SHEET

Name of Policy/Current Service/Service Development/Service Redesign:

	Completed	
	Date In	itial
Action:		
Status:		
Action:		
Status:		
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	ns highlighted in the original EQIA process for this Service/Policy To be Completed	
	To be Completed	
eason for non-completion	To be Completed	l by
eason for non-completion Action:	To be Completed	l by
Please detail any outstanding activity with regard to required action eason for non-completion Action: Reason: Action:	To be Completed	l by

	To be completed by
	Date Initia
Action:	
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Action:	10000101
lease detail any discontinued actions that were originally planned and	reasons.
Reason:	
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Reason: Please write your next 6-month review date lame of completing officer:	
Please write your next 6-month review date	