

# Equality Impact Assessment Form

## Part 1 – Initial Screening

1. Officer(s) & Unit responsible for completing the assessment:

Kerry McClelland – ICV Team, Community Engagement Unit

2. Name of the policy, strategy or project:

Independent Custody Visitors Scheme – Procedures for dealing with poor performance by panels

3. What is the main purpose or aims of the policy, strategy or project?

The purpose of the policy is to clearly set out for ICVs, the MPA's definition of poor performance and, should it occur, what measures will be taken by the MPA to deal with it.

4. Who will be the beneficiaries of the policy/strategy/project?

ICVs, detainees, the police, the MPA and the general public will all benefit

5. Has the policy/strategy/project been explained to those it might affect directly or indirectly?

The policy has been circulated to ICVs via their Panels. It has not been circulated to other beneficiaries, except the Custody Directorate through the ICV Programme Board.

6. Have you consulted on this policy?

Yes. ICVs were consulted via the ICV Programme Board representatives. Comments were received on the policy and changes were made to the policy as a result. Officers from Emerald Custody Directorate and the Lead Member for Custody Visiting also sit on the ICV Programme Board and were consulted as part of this process. The policy has been agreed by SMT (subject to an Equality Impact Assessment).

7. Please complete the following table and give reasons/comments for where:
- (a) The policy/strategy/project could have a positive impact on any of the equality target groups or contributes to promoting equality, equal opportunities and improving relations within equality target groups.
- (b) The policy/strategy/project could have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups, i.e. disadvantage them in any way. If the impact is high, a full EIA should be completed.

Equality Target Group	(a) Positive Impact		(b) Negative Impact		Reason/Comment
	High	Low	High	Low	
Men	x				The impact on all groups listed will be positive. It will be helpful for ICVs to be aware of what the MPA considers to constitute poor performance and what processes the MPA will follow to deal with this with panels. Detainees, the general public and the police will also benefit as the policy will help to ensure that ICV panels carry out their responsibilities appropriately and with due regard to appropriate policies and practices. In particular it should help with detainees receiving a good service.
Women	x				As above
Asian or Asian British people	x				As above
Black or Black British people	x				As above
White people (including Irish people)	x				As above
Chinese people	x				As above
Other racial/ethnic group (please specify)	x				As above
Mixed Race	x				As above
Disabled people	x				As above
Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people	x				As above
Transgender people	x				As above

Equality Target Group	(a) Positive Impact	(b) Negative Impact	Reason/Comment
Older people (50+)	x		As above
Younger people (17-25) and children	x		As above, however young people under the age of 18 are not eligible to become ICVs.
Faith groups (please specify)	x		As above

8. Please give a brief description of how this policy benefits the equality target groups identified in the above table, i.e. promotes equality?

The policy promotes equality through ensuring that all target groups have confidence in service that will be delivered without discrimination through the operation of this policy. It also establishes consistency of practice and guidelines that will be helpful to ICV Panels and the community. By having clear definitions and practices relating to performance, the MPA is helping to ensure that there is equity across ICV panels in London.

9. If there is a negative impact on any equality target group, is the impact intended or legal?

No negative impact identified

***If the negative impact is not intended, discriminatory and/or high in impact, complete part 1 and move on to the full assessment.***

10. What actions could be taken to amend the policy/strategy/project to minimise the low negative impact?

N/A

11. If there is no evidence that the policy/strategy/project promotes equality, equal opportunities or improves relations within equality target groups, what amendments could be made to achieve this?

N/A

12. How will the policy, strategy or project be implemented including any necessary training?

The policy is already in use, but subject to further revision if necessary as a result of the EIA & changes to the administrative arrangements for the ICV Scheme from April 2007. The policy will be re-issued to all ICVs in April 07, as part of the ICV

Handbook.

Full Assessment necessary:  Yes  
 No

Date completed: 25/01/07

Signed by Line Manager: K. McClelland

Signed by Race & Diversity Unit: D. Lewins

Approved by SMT: C. Crawford

Please return a hard copy and electronic copy to the Race & Diversity Unit once completed. The original signed hard copy & an electronic copy should be kept within your unit for audit purposes.