

# Equality Impact Assessments Toolkit EqIA Template

**Digital and Technology Enabled Care Strategy**  
**23/01/2025**



You must consider the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) when completing this template.

The EDI team can provide help and advice on undertaking an EqlA and also provide overview quality assurance checks on completed EqlA documents.

EDI team contact email: [edi\\_team@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:edi_team@sandwell.gov.uk)

Quality Control	
Title of proposal	Sandwell Digital and Technology Enabled Care (TEC) Strategy 2024-2028
Directorate and Service Area	Adult Social Care and Public Health
Officer completing EqlA	To be identified
Contact Details	To be added
Other officers involved in completing this EqlA	To be identified
Date EqlA completed	To be added
Date EqlA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	To be added
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EqlA	To be added
Date EqlA considered by Cabinet	To be added
Where the EqlA is Published  (please include a link to the EqlA and send a copy of the final EqlA to the EDI team)	To be added

## **Section 1.**

The purpose of the project, proposal or decision required

The TEC Strategy outlines the vision and strategic roadmap for integrating technology into care delivery across Sandwell. It aims to improve quality, efficiency, and inclusivity in care services while addressing challenges such as digital literacy and environmental sustainability. The strategy supports Sandwell's Vision 2030 and the national "What Good Looks Like" framework.

## **Section 2.**

Evidence used and considered. Include analysis of any missing data

The TEC Strategy draws on the following evidence:

- The "What Good Looks Like" framework for digital health and social care.
- National digitisation initiatives, such as the NHS Digitising Adult Social Care programme.
- Local demographic data, including Sandwell's ageing population and increasing demand for care services.
- Current TEC adoption rates (20% of care packages) and targets for improvement (70% by 2028).
- Analysis of TEC's potential cost savings (£1.38 million annually) and operational benefits, such as reduced hospital admissions and improved resident independence.
- Consideration of how care leavers and individuals from lower-income backgrounds could benefit from tailored access to TEC tools, supporting social mobility.
- Analysis of potential accessibility challenges to ensure TEC solutions are compatible with a broad range of assistive devices and technologies.

## **Section 3.**

Consultation

Stakeholder engagement played a key role in shaping the TEC Strategy:

- Collaboration with community organisations, healthcare providers, and technology suppliers to ensure relevance and sustainability.
- Co-production initiatives involving residents and carers to tailor TEC solutions to real-world needs.
- Emphasis on digital inclusion and addressing the digital divide through partnerships and targeted outreach.

#### **Section 4.**

Summary assessment of the analysis at section 4a and the likely impact on each of the protected characteristics (if any)

***Section 4a - What are the potential/actual impacts of the proposal on the protected characteristics?***

<b>Reviewed Characteristic</b>	<b>Impact? Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)</b>	<b>Details of impact</b>	<b>Actions to address negative impact or promote positive impact (use section 8 table)</b>	<b>Owner of action/ Timescale</b>
<b>Age</b>	P	The strategy targets older adults, enhancing independence through remote monitoring and assistive technologies.	Provide tailored digital literacy programmes and accessible tools for older residents.	
<b>Disability</b>	P	TEC tools like voice-controlled devices and assistive technologies will support individuals with disabilities.	Ensure TEC solutions are compatible with assistive technologies and promote their use among disabled residents.	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Ne			
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	Ne			
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	Ne			

Reviewed Characteristic	Impact? Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Details of impact	Actions to address negative impact or promote positive impact (use section 8 table)	Owner of action/ Timescale
Care Leavers and Social Mobility	P	Tailored access to TEC tools could support care leavers and individuals from lower-income backgrounds.	Develop affordable access schemes for TEC tools to support social mobility.	To be identified / in progress
Race	P	Tailored outreach will ensure that TEC tools are accessible across diverse cultural and linguistic groups.	Work with cultural and linguistic community groups to improve engagement.	To be identified / Ongoing
Religion or belief	Ne			
Sex	Ne			
Sexual Orientation	Ne			
Could other socio-economic groups be affected?				
Carer Low income groups Veterans/Armed	P	<b>Carers:</b> Positive impact through reduced care burdens. <b>Low Income Groups:</b> Positive impact through affordable access to TEC tools.		

Reviewed Characteristic	Impact? Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Details of impact	Actions to address negative impact or promote positive impact (use section 8 table)	Owner of action/ Timescale
Forces Community Other				

**If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then please move to Sections 6.**

## 5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?

No significant adverse impacts have been identified. Actions will focus on promoting inclusivity and addressing barriers to adoption, such as affordability and digital literacy.

## 6. Section 6: Decision or actions proposed

The TEC Strategy will proceed with a focus on:

- Achieving a 70% TEC adoption rate by 2028.
- Addressing the digital divide through partnerships and training programmes.
- Developing affordable access schemes tailored to care leavers and low-income groups.
- Ensuring TEC solutions are fully compatible with a broad range of assistive devices.
- Continuous monitoring and subgroup-specific evaluation to track inclusivity outcomes.

## 7. Monitoring arrangements

Progress will be tracked using key performance indicators, including:

- Adoption rates of TEC in care packages.
- Cost savings and efficiency gains.
- Resident engagement and satisfaction.
- Subgroup-specific monitoring to assess the impact of TEC adoption on diverse groups.

Monitoring reports will be reviewed quarterly by the TEC Leadership Committee.



**Section 8 Action planning (if required)**

<b>Question no. (ref)</b>	<b>Action required</b>	<b>Lead officer/ person responsible</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b>1</b>	Tailored digital literacy programmes for residents.	To be identified	To be added	Ongoing
<b>2</b>	Develop affordable access schemes for TEC tools.	To be identified	To be added	In Progress
<b>3</b>	Ensure compatibility with a wide range of assistive technologies.	To be identified	To be added	Planned

<b>4</b>	<b>Conduct subgroup-specific monitoring to track inclusivity.</b>	<b>To be identified</b>	<b>To be added</b>	<b>Planned</b>
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If you have any suggestions for improving this process, please contact [EDI\\_Team@Sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:EDI_Team@Sandwell.gov.uk)