

## Business as Usual (BAU) Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

1. Business as Usual Service Activity		
Name of the activity being assessed	Proposed Merger of the Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside Coronial Areas.	
Purpose of activity	To make permanent the interim arrangements concerning the operation of the Coroner's Service across Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside.	
Who is the activity intended to benefit?	All stakeholders and members of the public who will have contact with the Coroner's office.	
Version of EqIA	1	
Date this version created	05/12/2022	
Confidential	no	
Directorate	Resources	
Service	Democratic and Electoral Services	
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service or organisation</b>
Principal author	John Barton	Law and Governance
Additional authors		

2. Groups Impacted		
Does the project impact upon?		If yes, what is the estimated number impacted? And the Level of impact this will have on the group (high, medium, low)
Service Users	no	As the current arrangements for the sharing of the Senior Coroner between Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside will continue without change there is no impact on service users.
Carers or Family of Service Users	no	As above
Residents	no	As above
Visitors	no	As above
Staff	no	As above
Partner Organisations	no	As above

3. Evidence Gathering and Engagement		
	Internal evidence	External Evidence
What evidence has been used for this assessment?	The current arrangements of sharing of the Coroner's service between Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside have been in operation since November 2019.	As stated, the current arrangement of the sharing of the Coroner's service has been in place for over 3 years. During that period of time no quality of diversity issues have been apparent and there have been with no incidents of such

		issues being drawn to the attention of the Coroner or the respective local authorities.
<b>Have you carried out any engagement in relation to this activity?</b>	no	There will be formal consultation with stakeholders as part of the merger process undertaken by the Ministry of Justice.
<b>If yes of what kind and with whom? If no, why not?</b>		
<b>Is there any information you don't have?</b>	no	
<b>If yes, why is this information not available?</b>		

<b>4. Impact on Different Characteristics</b>			
<b>Legally Protected Characteristics</b>	<b>Potential Positive Impact Identified</b>	<b>Potential Negative Impact Identified</b>	<b>Description of the potential impact and evidence used</b>
<b>Age</b>	no	no	
<b>Disability</b>	no	no	
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	no	no	
<b>Marriage &amp; civil partnership</b>	no	no	
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>	no	no	
<b>Race</b>	no	no	
<b>Religion or belief</b>	no	no	
<b>Sex</b>	no	no	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	no	no	
<b>Intersectionality</b>	no	no	
<b>Non-legally protected characteristics</b>			
<b>Carers</b>	no	no	

<b>5. Achievement of the Authority's Public Sector Equality Duty</b>		
<b>Will the activity contribute to any of the following?</b>		<b>If yes, how?</b>
<b>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</b>	N/A	As the arrangements already in place will enable the Coroner to continue to undertake her judicial function a there will be no victimisation or harassment.
<b>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not</b>	N/A	See above
<b>Foster good relations between people who share a protected</b>	N/A	See above

characteristic and those who do not		
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6. Negative Impacts		
Potential negative impact	Can it be reduced or removed?	If yes how? If no, why not and what alternative options were considered and not pursued?
	no	There are no potential negative impacts to be removed or reduced. The current arrangements are to remain unchanged.
	no	See above
	no	See above
	no	See above

7. Action Plan					
Actions to gather evidence or information to improve NTC's understanding of the impacts on people with protected characteristics and how best to respond to them	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Target Completion Date	Action completed	
Both North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne local authorities will continue to monitor all aspects of the Coroner Service.	Jon Ritchie	Resources	31/12/2023	in progress	
			Calendar	Choose an item.	
			Calendar	Choose an item.	
Actions already in place to remove or reduce negative impacts	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Impact		
There will continue to be regular contact between the Coroner and each Authority to assess all aspects of the service. Such meetings have taken place since the sharing of the Coronial service.	Jon Ritchie	Resources	remove		
			Choose an item.		
			Choose an item.		
Actions that will be taken to remove or reduce negative impacts	Responsible Officer Name	Responsible Officer Service Area	Impact	Target Completion Date	Action completed
See above.	Jon Ritchie	Resources	remove	31/12/2023	in progress
			Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.

			Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.
<b>Actions that will be taken to make the most of any potential positive impact</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Name</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Service Area</b>	<b>Target Completion Date</b>	<b>Action completed</b>	
See above	Jon Ritchie	Resources	31/12/2023	in progress	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
<b>Actions that will be taken to monitor the equality impact of the activity</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Name</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Service Area</b>	<b>Target Completion Date</b>	<b>Action completed</b>	
As part of the ongoing engagement between the Coroner, Newcastle City Council and the Authority equality impact of the Coroner's service will continue to be part of that engagement.	Jon Ritchie	Resources	31/12/2023	in progress	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
			Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	
<b>Date review of EqIA to be completed</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Name</b>	<b>Responsible Officer Service Area</b>			
31/12/2023	Jon Ritchie	Resources			

<b>8. Outcome of EqIA</b>	
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Please explain and evidence why you have reached this conclusion:</b>
The proposal is robust, no major change is required	After 3 years of a joint Coroner's service being operated across the Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside areas with staff, resources and finances already being in place and the areas sharing the Senior Coroner, the proposed merger of the areas does no more than finalise what have been interim arrangements for over 3 years.

<b>9. Corporate Equality Group Member approval</b>	
<b>Do you agree or disagree with this assessment?</b>	yes
<b>If disagree, please explain why?</b>	
<b>Name of Corporate Equality Group Member</b>	

<b>Date</b>	<a href="#">Click or tap to enter a date.</a>
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<b>10. Director approval</b>	
<b>Do you agree or disagree with this assessment?</b>	yes
<b>If disagree, please explain why?</b>	Free text
<b>Name of Director</b>	Free text
<b>Date</b>	07/12/2022

**Please return the document to the Author and Corporate Equality Group Member.**