Form name	Integrated Impact Assessment
Reference	IA522474678
Date	08/06/2023



### **Policy details**

Request date	08/06/2023 14:30
Directorate	PCC Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services
Service	Voids Energy Management
Title of policy, service, function	An improved system of managing the issue of gas and electricity supplies in HRA dwellings when the property is void
Type of policy, service, function	New
What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?	An improved system of managing the gas and electric fuel usage of a void of a property. The proposal improves the customer journey and reduces the time and cost to the Council.
Has any consultation been undertaken for this proposal?	no

# Equality & diversity - will it have any positive/negative impacts on the protected characteristics?

This section is not	
applicable to my	
policy	

### Crime - Will it make our city safer?

applicable to my policy	• •	
-------------------------	-----	--

### Housing - will it provide good quality homes?

This section is not applicable to my policy	
policy	

#### Health - will this help promote healthy, safe and independent living?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	All new tenants will know who their energy provider is from day 1. They will have the ability to change to any provider of their choice, and can be supported with this via the Switched on Portsmouth Team.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	We will measure how many new tenants switch provider or remain with Utilita throughout the pilot.

# Income deprivation and poverty - will it consider income deprivation and reduce poverty?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	Utilita are a Warm Home Discount eligible company meaning customers on a low income will be able to apply for the support under the scheme.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	We are able to ask Utilita for a list of customers who have applied for the grant where we have switched the supply. When a customer moves into a property, we can also complete the application process with them when the scheme is open to applications.

Carbon emissions - will it reduce carbon emissions?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	Utilita will be installing Smart Meters to all Void properties, therefore all new tenants will be able to see and manage their energy consumption more easily, and hopefully reduce overall energy consumption.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	Regular feedback from all new tenants on their use of the smart meters.

### Energy use - will it reduce energy use?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	The installation of smart meters eliminates manual monthly meter readings, monitors the electric and gas system in real time, encourages more efficient use of energy, provides responsive data for balancing electric loads while reducing blackouts, enables dynamic pricing, allows the customer to see their energy usage and cost of fuel.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	We can monitor the number of smart meters being installed into void properties.

# Climate change mitigation and flooding - will it proactively mitigate against a changing climate and flooding?

This section is not	
applicable to my	
policy	

### Natural environment - will it ensure public spaces are greener, more sustainable and well-maintained?

This section is not applicable to my policy	
---	--

#### Air quality - will it improve air quality?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	Gas consumption in domestic properties contributes to local air quality issues. Giving the tenants means, through provision of smart meters ,will reduce this consumption, and the associated NOx and other air pollutants.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	Through the numbers of smart meters provided.

## Transport - will it make transport more sustainable and safer for the whole community?

This section is not applicable to my	
policy	

## Waste management - will it increase recycling and reduce the production of waste?

This section is not applicable to my policy
---

## Culture and heritage - will it promote, protect and enhance our culture and heritage?

This section is not applicable to my policy	
---	--

Employment and opportunities - will it promote the development of a skilled workforce?

This section is not	
applicable to my	
policy	

### Economy - will it encourage businesses to invest in the city, support sustainable growth and regeneration?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

A void property will be switched supplier to Utilita when the customer gives notice. The actual switching of supply takes at least 19 days and will be scheduled for on or after the void date.

During the void period a smart meter will be installed by Utilita. The meter will be credited with 50p and will have £15 emergency credit for the council to use.

When the customer moves into the property, the council will update the Housing Utilita Portal with the customer's name and tenancy start date putting the liability into the customer's name. The customer and council are not entered into a contract and therefore have the freedom to switch supply without penalty.

The customer will know who their supplier is when they move into their new home and won't have the issue of contacting energy suppliers to get the liability switched into their name.

The customer will benefit by knowing their energy supplier, being able to remotely top up their meters 24/7, having an SMART meter in the property with in-home display, won't have a previous customers / councils debt on their meters, being able to apply for the warm home discount if eligible.

The council will benefit by having access to a customer portal to make switches simple and easy, no standing charges, reduce the volumes of bills sent to finance, the volume of time spent physically topping up the meters, volume of time on the phone to numerous energy suppliers as well as the amount of money clearing debts on meters caused by standing charges.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	We will continue to monitor the number of properties which are switched to Utilita with the customer moving away from the supply vs the number staying on supply. The council is provided with a weekly update as to how many properties have been fitted with a smart meter and how many more are scheduled.
	The council will be kept informed of the schedules and for installation of the smart meters.

### Social value

This section is not applicable to my policy
---

#### Involvement

Who was involved in the Integrated impact assessment?	Previously Lauren Taylor and Andrew Waggott
Name of the person completing this form	Mark Fitch
Date of completion	2023-06-08