

## Equality Impact Assessment of the review of H&S Policy on Ionising Radiation (Open Sources)

By: Suzanne Barnes (SB)

Date: January 2025

| Project Aim   |
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| <i>What does the project aim to achieve? (Please note the financial and / or non-financial outcomes and benefits)</i>   |
| To review and update management arrangements to ensure the health and safety of staff and students working with ionising radiation (open sources) as part of their work and / or studies. |

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| Project Title | Review of existing H&S Policy on Ionising Radiation (Open Sources) |
| Project Lead  | Suzanne Barnes (SB)  |
| Project Team  |  |

| What impact does the project, policy or practice have on people that share a protected characteristic?   |
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| <i>Under the equality duty (set out in the Equality Act 2010), the University must have ‘due regard’ to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The protected characteristics covered by the equality duty are: <b>age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation</b>. The duty also covers marriage and civil partnerships, but only in respect of eliminating unlawful discrimination. The law requires that the University demonstrates it has had ‘due regard’ to the aims of the equality duty in its planning and decision-making processes. Although not classed as protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, due regard must also be made to the effects of planning and decision-making processes on <b>carers</b>. Due regard also needs to be given to the <b>Welsh Language</b> under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.</i> |

| Public Sector Equality Duty Requirements  | Detail of Impact (Positive / Neutral / Negative)  | Evidence   |
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| <b>Eliminating Discrimination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Is the project, policy or practice likely to treat anyone less favourably or disadvantage them because of their protected characteristics?</i></li><li><i>Could the project, policy or practice lead to different outcomes for different protected groups?</i></li></ul> | <p>Although the Policy itself does not treat any person differently, there are specific requirements of the Ionising Radiation Regulations which must be adhered to.</p> <p>This includes new and expectant mothers and those that are breastfeeding to safeguard the mother and child’s health, safety and well-being.</p> | <p>Risk Assessments should always suitably consider the requirements of the individual when producing controls to safeguard their own health and safety. This can be positive, in ensuring controls are adapted to suit the expectant or new mother and their child and / or the young person.</p> <p>The risk assessment may also identify and restrict activities, for example altering working practices or be offered suitable alternative work as</p> |

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|   | In addition, no young person under the age of 18 can be employed to work with ionising radiation where they would need to be designated as classified. There are also specific dose limits for young people who may be exposed to ionising radiations while undertaking training or studying. | necessary in order to ensure compliance with the specific restrictions of the IRR and safeguard the health and safety of the expectant or new mother or their child or the young person. |
| <b>Advancing Equality of Opportunity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Will the needs of staff and students with different protected characteristics be met?</i></li> <li><i>Could the project, policy or practice lead to increased take-up / participation by protected groups?</i></li> <li><i>Are there any opportunities to proactively advance equality for specific protected groups and / or between protected groups?</i></li> </ul> | There are no obvious ways in which the Policy could further advance equality.   |  |
| <b>Promoting Good Relations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Have steps been taken to tackle prejudice and promote understanding?</i></li> <li><i>How have relevant individuals, groups or organisations been involved / consulted in developing and impact assessing the project?</i></li> </ul>  | The policy aims to support and safeguard individuals, whatever their needs. It also aims to encourage dialogue and consideration of all of the factors.   |  |
| <b>Based on the above assessment, what course of action is required?</b>  |   |  |
| <b>No major change required</b><br><i>The assessment has not identified any potential for discrimination or adverse impact and all opportunities to advance equality have been taken.</i>   | <b>No changes required in the Policy</b>  |  |
| <b>Make adjustments to remove barriers or to better advance equality</b>  |   |  |

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| <i>Note the adjustments that will be made to remove barriers identified by the assessment or to better advance equality.</i>  |  |
| <b>Continue despite having identified some potential for adverse impacts or missed opportunities to advance equality</b><br><i>Note the steps that will be taken to reduce or mitigate the adverse impacts.</i> |  |
| <b>Stop and rethink</b><br><i>The assessment shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination. Note the action to be taken to stop and / or rethink the project.</i>   |  |

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| <b>How will the actual impact of the project, policy or practice be monitored once it has been implemented?</b>   |
| The Policy will be reviewed by the Health, Safety & Emergency Management Committee, as per the schedule of policy review and / or as legislative requirements change. |

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| <b>Publication</b><br>This Equality Impact Assessment will be published – on the H&S website |
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