

City of York Council and Centre for Applied Human Rights

Human Rights and Equality Assessment Tool (HREA)

An Equality Assessment Tool is an evidence-based approach designed to help organisations ensure that any Policy, Criterion or Practice (PCP), is fair and does not create barriers or disadvantage any protected groups from participation. This covers both strategic and operational activities.

City of York Council (CYC) combines this approach with York's commitment as a Human Rights City to produce a Human Rights and Equality Assessment tool (HREA).

This document enables CYC to evidence its legal duty to give 'due regard' to those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act and consider Human Rights at the same time.

Whether a HREA is needed or not will depend on the likely impact that a PCP may have and relevance of the activity to Equality and Human Rights.

The HREA should be started when the need for a new PCP is first identified, or when an existing one is reviewed. It is essential to continue to update the HREA during the life of the PCP, as and when new information is learned. It is not complete until the PCP is complete.

Non-discrimination is a minimum standard. The development of the HREA should prompt critical discussion and highlight disproportionate impacts.

Balancing residents' rights and CYC duties can be very complex and sometimes there will be no 'win-win', so compromises or mitigations may need to be identified to ensure the best outcomes.

Finally, the value in a HREA is in both the short and long term, by investing in this process CYC will create robust, meaningful, and empowering policies that are more likely to stand the test of time.

Who is submitting the proposal?

Directorate	City Development		
Service Area	Climate Change		
Name of proposal	Energy Independence for York		
Lead Officer	Claire Foale		
Date Assessment Started	21/04/2026		
Date Assessment Completed	23/04/2026		
Names of those who contributed to the assessment			
Name	Job Title	Organisation	Area of Expertise
Shaun Gibbons	Head of Climate Change	City of York Council	Climate Change
Eliza Taswell-Fryer	Climate Change Project Officer	City of York Council	Climate Change
Paul McCabe	Climate Change Project Manger	City of York Council	Climate Change

Step 1 – Aims and intended outcomes

1.1	What is the purpose of the proposal
	Please explain your proposal in plain English avoiding acronyms and jargon. Consider using Age 9 English.
	<p>The report investigates York’s ability to generate its own energy through renewable sources. The report builds a picture of York’s journey to energy independence in three parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The report looks at the current renewable energy that is generated each year in York.• The report looks at how planned renewable energy projects will increase the amount of energy York produces.• The report looks at future opportunities for renewable developments, including rooftop solar, ground mount solar and wind. <p>Achieving energy independence in York through the roll out of renewable energy projects will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase energy security protecting York from chronic stresses like high energy costs and external energy shocks.• Help York reach its net zero 2030 goal.• Provide cleaner, cheaper energy to York’s residents and businesses
1.2	Are there any external considerations?
	Legislation / government directive / codes of practice etc.

	Climate Change Act 2008 National Planning Policy Framework 2012 Energy Act 2023 (Royal Assent granted) Great British Energy Act 2025 (Royal Assent granted)
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1.3	Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?
	Consider both internal and external stakeholders.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of York citizens as consumers of energy • Business / organisations as consumers of energy • The Council as a consumer of energy • Elected members

1.4	What results / outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?
	Explain what outcomes you want to achieve for stakeholders, staff and the wider community. Demonstrate how the proposal links to the Council Plan (2023- 2027) and other corporate strategies and plans. Highlight how the proposal meets the objectives of Equalities, Affordability, Climate and Health.

Local renewable energy generation will deliver significant benefits for residents and organisations across York, including:

- Lower energy costs: Shorter transmission distances reduce losses, while eliminating reliance on fuel purchases helps to stabilise and lower energy prices.
- Greater energy security and resilience: Locally owned renewable assets reduce exposure to national and international energy price volatility and increase resilience to grid disruptions.
- Environmental and health benefits: Clean renewable energy generation improves air quality and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to better public health outcomes.

Internal stakeholders, including the Asset Management team and managers of maintained schools, will also benefit from reduced building running costs through the installation of renewable energy technologies on council-owned assets. This directly supports progress towards reducing the Council's operational carbon emissions and achieving its net zero by 2030 ambition.

Progress towards Energy Independence through the mass roll out of renewable energy projects across the city addresses the Council Plan (2023-2037) in the following ways:

- Affordability: through the provision of free or cheaper energy as a result of renewable generation within York.
- Climate: by increasing the energy generation from renewables York would reducing its reliance on fossil fuels, helping to reduce carbon emissions, and bringing the city closer to its net zero 2030 goal.

Step 2 – Resources utilised

3.1	What sources of data, evidence and consultation feedback have you used to help understand the impact of the proposal on equality rights and human rights?	
Please consider a range of sources, including consultation exercises, surveys, feedback from staff, stakeholders, participants, research reports, the views of equality groups, as well your own experience of working in this area etc.		
Source of data / supporting evidence		Reason for using this source
Calvillo Munoz, C., Martiskainen, M. (2025). Understanding the barriers and impacts of green choices on people with protected characteristic. Energy Demand Research Centre (EDRC), Policy Brief 3.		Outlines potential barriers that people with protected characteristics may face to accessing the benefits of renewable energy.
Acceptance of Sustainable Solar energy systems is influenced by household age.		Outlines solar PV uptake variations by age.
Households in Fuel Poverty report		Data on fuel poverty by ethnic group.
Esther C. van der Waal, Local impact of community renewable energy: A case study of an Orcadian community-led wind scheme, Energy Policy, Volume 138, 2020		A study into the positive impacts of community renewable energy.
Extra Burden of Energy Among Disabled Households, SCOPE.		A study into the energy costs facing disabled households.
https://www.wbg.org.uk/article/women-are-on-the-front-line-of-the-climate-crisis-policy-must-catch-up/		Outlines the proportion of women-headed households experiencing fuel poverty.
Housing quality and affordability for lower-income households, IFS.		A study into housing challenges facing lower income households.

	Unpaid care ONS statistics, Census 2021	Statistics on the number of unpaid carers living in deprived areas.

Step 3 – Screening the impacts or effects.

3.1	Equality-related obligations derive from the Equality Act of 2010 and the Human Rights Act of 1998.
	<p>Once you have engaged with stakeholders you will need to identify how this proposal impacts on their human rights and equalities.</p> <p>Although table one looks complex, its purpose is to facilitate an initial screening of equalities and human rights impacts of your proposal.</p> <p>Many human rights and equalities will not be affected by the decision you are seeking Executive or Council approval for and so can be left blank. The aim here is to identify pressure points regarding human rights and equalities that require attention.</p> <p>Please see the Appendix for details of the protected characteristics and human rights to consider</p> <p>The rights listed below in the first column are the relevant ones from the Human Rights Act, and the York Human Rights City Network Indicator Report (non-discrimination, education, health and social care, housing, a decent standard of living). The human rights in the Indicator Report were selected by residents of York as their priority rights. In the first row the protected characteristics under the Equality Act are listed, to which 'Everyone' has been added to capture impacts that affect everyone without distinction.</p>

Step 3.1 Table 1 – Screening the impacts or effects

Equalities Human Rights	Everyone	Age including financial, digital exclusion impacts	Disability Including financial, digital exclusion impacts	Gender	Gender reassign- ment Including Trans, Non- binary, Intersex	Marriage and civil partnership	Pregnancy and maternity	Race	Religion and belief	Sexual orientation	Carers inc financial, digital exclusion impacts	Low- income groups inc financial, digital exclusion impacts	Veteran, armed forces community	Those with experience of Care
Right to life*														
Prohibition of torture*														
Prohibition of slavery and forced labour*														
Right to liberty, movement and security (including freedom of movement)***														
Right to a fair trial*														
No punishment without law*														
Right to private and family life***														
Freedom of thought, conscience, and belief***														
Freedom of expression***														
Freedom of assembly***														
Right to marry***														
Right to property***														

Right to education***													
Right to free elections***													
Right to housing***	x	x	x				x				x	x	x

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Step 3.2 Table 2 – Assessing the impact of your proposal

Here you will need to record the details on all the impacts identified for both Human Rights and those with Protected Characteristics.

Where you have identified an impact on a protected characteristic/human right in the table above, please indicate whether this is positive or negative and give a description of this impact. If you run out of rows, please add as necessary.

Rights clashes and restrictions

Where rights clash or are being restricted, you will need to explain how the decision has been taken, that the limitation on human rights is provided by law, for a legitimate purpose (justified), and proportionate (the minimum necessary restriction on rights).

Use the following guidance to inform your responses:

First, think about what equalities or rights might be engaged by the proposal, and describe the likely impact of the proposal, and provide an evaluation.

Use the following questions to inform your responses if human rights or equalities are limited or qualified in any way:

- Why are a person's rights being restricted?
- What is the problem being addressed by the restriction on someone's rights?
- Will the restriction lead to a reduction in the problem?
- Does that restriction involve a blanket policy, or does it allow for different cases to be treated differently?
- Does a less restrictive alternative exist?
- Has sufficient regard been paid to the rights and interests of those affected?
- Do safeguards exist against error or abuse?

Table 2

Protected Characteristics or Human Rights	Key findings / impacts Depending on how renewable energy projects are rolled out, the increase in renewable energy generation in York could help protect those with protected characteristics from common vulnerabilities around fuel poverty. However, if the development of renewable energy projects is rolled out without a view to fair access and distribution there is a risk of exacerbating existing inequalities experienced by those with protected characteristics.	Positive (+) Negative (-) (Neutral (0))	High (H) Medium (M) Low (L)
Age	<p>(+) As older people often have higher household energy needs supplying affordable renewable energy to those households could help protect pensioners from fuel poverty.</p> <p>(+) Children in fuel poor households will benefit from more resilient energy supplies at lower costs.</p> <p>(-) A study in Belgium found that adoption of renewable energy installations on homes increases with age up to age 65. Over-seventies are less likely to invest in renewables on their properties and there is a risk that without appropriate consideration, the most vulnerable elderly will not experience the full benefits renewable energy presents.</p>	<p>+</p> <p>+</p> <p>-</p>	<p>M</p> <p>H</p> <p>M</p>
Disability	<p>(+) People with disabilities tend to have higher energy needs so this population could stand to benefit from the cheaper energy that locally produced renewables could provide.</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>M</p>

	(-) Households with a disabled person are more likely to live in a flat and to rent. Those living in flats will find it harder to benefit from PV installation on their property. Those in rental accommodation are reliant on their landlord for any potential benefits that a renewable installation could have.	-	M
Gender reassignment	There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation on transgender people, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.	0	L
Marriage and Civil Partnership	There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation dependant on people's marriage/civil partnership status, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.	0	L
Pregnancy and Maternity	There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation on pregnant people and people on maternity leave, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.	0	L
Race	(+) Black, Asian or mixed heritage households are more likely to be in fuel poverty than white households. The provision of affordable clean energy could alleviate fuel costs in these households.	+	M
	(-) People from ethnic minority groups are more likely to live in a flat and to rent. Those living in flats will find it harder to benefit from PV installation on their property. Those in rental accommodation are reliant on their landlord for any potential benefits that a renewable installation could have.	-	M

Religion and Belief	There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation on people based on their religion or belief, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.	0	M
Sex	(+) Single-parent households, the majority headed by women, are significantly more likely to be in fuel poverty & economically deprived. The provision of affordable clean energy could alleviate fuel costs in these households.	+	M
Sexual Orientation	There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation on people based on their sexual orientation, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.	0	L

Other social – economic groups			
Carer	<p>Unpaid carers are more likely to live in deprived areas:</p> <p>(+) Renewable energy supply could provide more affordable energy to reduce the burden of fuel costs on those in more deprived areas.</p> <p>(-) Those on lower incomes or living in private rented housing may not be able to afford installations on their property or may not benefit from direct domestic generation if their landlord does not invest. There is a risk that without an appropriate policy response the roll out of renewable generation across domestic properties in York could exacerbate instead of alleviate income inequality.</p>	+	M
		-	M

Care Leavers	<p>Care leavers are more likely to live in insecure housing, be unemployed or on a low income:</p> <p>(-) This makes them more vulnerable to the potential negative impact outlined in the 'lower income groups' section.</p> <p>(+) Increasing local renewable energy generation could provide cheaper energy to reduce the financial burden of heating and running the homes of care leavers.</p>	0	M
Low-income groups	<p>(+) <u>Lower income groups spend a higher proportion of their earnings on energy</u>. Increasing local renewable energy generation could provide cheaper energy to reduce the financial burden of heating and running the home.</p> <p>(-) <u>Lower income groups are more likely to live in low quality, insecure rented accommodation and are reliant on their landlord for any potential benefits that a renewable installation could have</u>. They are less likely to own property and are less likely to be able to afford to install renewable energy generation on their properties where they do own them. There is a risk that without an appropriate policy response the roll out of renewable generation across domestic properties in York could exacerbate instead of alleviate income inequality.</p>	0	M
Veterans and armed Forces	<p>There is limited evidence on the impact of local renewable energy generation on people based on their veteran or armed forces status, although all residents of York stand to benefit from access to cheaper, clean energy protected from external price shocks.</p>	0	L
Other			
Human Rights (list any rights impacted)			
	Right to Housing	+	M

	The delivery of affordable, clean energy will have a positive impact on the ability of York residents to heat and power homes, decreasing the risk the risk of cold-related housing risks such as damp and mould.		
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Step 4 – Gaps in data and knowledge

4.1	What are the main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your proposal?		
	<p>When conducting your screening, you may have discovered gaps in data or knowledge that make it difficult to assess whether your proposal had a positive or negative impact on human rights/equalities.</p> <p>Please indicate actions you will take to resolve this gap.</p> <p>As your proposal progresses you may be able to resolve this knowledge gap –please indicate when it was resolved.</p>		
	Gaps in data or knowledge	Action to deal with this	Date resolved

Step 5 - Maximising positive impacts

5.1	What has been done to optimise opportunities to advance equality / human rights or foster good relations?
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	No action has been taken at this point to optimise the opportunities to advance equality, actions relating to this should be taken during the planning of new renewable energy projects to ensure equitable access to the benefits of renewable installations.
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Step 6 – Recommendations and conclusions of the assessment

6.1	Having considered the potential or actual impacts you should be in a position to make an informed judgement on what should be done. In all cases, document your reasoning that justifies your decision.	
	Important: If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason in the justification column. There are four main options you can take:	
	No major change to the proposal	The HREAT demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact, and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality / human rights and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.
	Adjust the proposal	The HREAT identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. This involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance quality or to foster good relations.
	Continue with the proposal (despite the potential for adverse impact)	You should clearly set out the justifications for doing this and how you believe the decision is compatible with our obligations
Stop and remove the proposal	If there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should consider stopping the proposal altogether. If a proposal leads to unlawful discrimination, it should be removed or changed.	

	Option Selected	Conclusion / justifications
	No major change to the proposal	<p>The HREAT demonstrates the working towards energy independence through renewable developments in York could have a positive impact, particularly on groups with protected characteristics.</p> <p>The HREAT does also demonstrate that there are risks that the roll out of renewable energy could deepen inequalities if a just approach to distribution implementation is not taken.</p>

		<p>To ensure that opportunities are being maximised and risks are being mitigated the approach to project prioritisation, the targeting of initiatives etc. should be structure in a way that helps ensure a just transition and should be monitored and reviewed to ensure they are being rolled out across the city in a way that ensures equity in access.</p>
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Step 7 – Summary of agreed actions resulting from the assessment

7.1	What action, by whom, will be undertaken as a result of the impact assessment.			
	List below the actions or mitigations that have been identified and who will be responsible to carrying them out. Add as many lines as you need.			
	Impact / Issue	Actions to be taken	Person Responsible	Timescale
	Older people are more vulnerable to energy shocks and fuel poverty but over seventies are less likely to invest in domestic renewables.	Ensure renewable energy schemes prioritise non-domestic, community or council-owned assets that deliver cost savings without requiring individual household investment.	Project / programme manager for renewable development schemes	TBC
	Disabled people have higher energy needs but are more likely to live in rented or flat accommodation, limiting access to domestic renewables.	Ensure projects include technologies and buildings that provide indirect benefits (e.g. energy tariffs, heat networks, communal PV) rather than relying on owner-occupier adoption.		
Children in fuel-poor households are adversely affected by high and unstable energy costs.	Target renewable energy installations on council-owned housing and schools in areas of high fuel poverty to reduce household energy costs and improve resilience.			
Ethnic minority households are more likely to experience fuel poverty but face barriers due to higher rates of renting and flatted housing.	Ensure equality considerations are embedded in project design, including site selection and benefit distribution, to avoid exclusion. Ensure projects include technologies and buildings that provide indirect			

		benefits (e.g. energy tariffs, heat networks, communal PV) rather than relying on owner-occupier adoption.		
	Low-income households may be excluded from renewable benefits due to lack of capital or property ownership.	<p>Prioritise models that do not rely on upfront household investment and explore mechanisms to pass savings directly to residents.</p> <p>Ensure projects include technologies and buildings that provide indirect benefits (e.g. energy tariffs, heat networks, communal PV) rather than relying on owner-occupier adoption.</p>		
	Renters and people living in flats are dependent on landlord engagement to benefit from renewables	<p>Engage with social housing providers and private landlords to encourage renewable installations and fair distribution of benefits.</p> <p>Ensure projects include technologies and buildings that provide indirect benefits (e.g. energy tariffs, heat networks, communal PV) rather than relying on owner-occupier adoption.</p>		

Step 8 - Monitor, review and improve

8.1	How will the impact of your proposal be monitored and improved upon going forward?
	<p>Consider how will you identify the impact of activities on protected characteristics, other marginalised groups and human rights going forward? How will any learning and enhancements be capitalised on and embedded?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data on installation of domestic and commercial PV installations could be spatially analysed to evaluate distribution across LSOA areas. This could be monitored alongside LSOA IMD scores to ensure that more deprived neighbourhoods are not falling behind in access to renewable generation.• Conduct periodic surveys to understand the barriers to take-up of renewable energy.• Conduct periodic surveys to understand the benefits being delivered through the roll out of renewable energy sites in York.

Appendix A

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Protected characteristics

Under the public sector duties introduced by the Equality Act 2010 public bodies must have due regard for the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the act, such as the failure to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

These duties relate to the nine protected characteristic groups defined by the Equality Act 2010 (outlined in the table below).

The Council recognises that a person's socio-economic background and whether they live in a rural or urban location can be important factors in determining fair access to services, employment and treatment. When carrying out analysis, you must also consider socio-economic issues and rural / urban location issues. In addition to the nine protected characteristic the HREAT includes the following equality groups:

- Carers
- Low income groups
- Veterans, armed forces community
- Experience of care/Other (other groups that are impacted)

Human rights differ from equalities in two main ways:

- First, human rights apply to everyone and not just groups with protected characteristics.
- Second, they allow for the balancing of rights, priorities, and risks. Many rights are not absolute and can be limited or qualified in particular circumstances.

The following guidance identifies which rights are most likely to be engaged by proposals in certain policy areas. This does not mean that you should not consider whether other rights might be engaged.

There are three types of human rights in the Human Rights Act:

Absolute rights: Cannot be breached in any circumstances e.g. right to life and to protection from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment.

Limited rights: can only be restricted in specific situations e.g. a person can be deprived of their liberty if they are convicted of an offence and imprisoned.

Qualified rights: human rights can be restricted if it is in the interests of the wider community or to protect other people's rights e.g. freedom of movement and assembly were restricted during the Covid-19 pandemic in the interests of public health.

As limited and qualified rights are not absolute, they sometimes have to be balanced in decision making. In Table 1, absolute rights are indicated with an *; limited rights with a **; and qualified rights with a ***.

Right	Description	Focus Area
Right to life	<p>Nobody, including the Government, can take someone's life away. Public authorities must take appropriate measures to safeguard life including by protecting people whose life might be in danger.</p> <p>Public authorities should also consider the right to life when making decisions that might endanger or affect life expectancy.</p> <p>When public officials may be involved in an instance when someone died, public authorities must investigate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits and money • Births, deaths and marriages • Children and families • Environment and animals • Health and social care • Housing • Planning and building • Waste and recycling
Right to liberty and security	<p>It focuses on protecting individuals' freedom from unreasonable detention, as opposed to protecting personal safety. However, there is case law from other jurisdictions where this right also covers personal safety in conditions other than detention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to liberty and security

Freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment	<p>Torture consists in causing very serious and cruel physical or mental pain or suffering.</p> <p>Inhuman treatment or punishment is treatment which causes intense physical or mental suffering. Degrading treatment means treatment that is extremely humiliating and undignified.</p> <p>Inhuman or degrading treatment could include:</p> <p>serious physical assault; very severe detention conditions or restraints; serious physical or psychological abuse in a health or care setting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Health and social care
Right to marry and start a family	<p>Right of men and women of marriageable age to marry and to start a family.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births, deaths and marriages
Prohibition of slavery and forced labour	<p>Slavery is when someone owns someone else like a piece of property.</p> <p>Servitude is when someone provides services to a person for no reward and is unable to stop due to coercion.</p> <p>Forced or compulsory labour is when someone is forced to do work to which they have not agreed to, under the threat of punishment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Jobs, training and volunteering • People and communities
Right to a fair trial	<p>This right is triggered when someone is charged with a criminal offence and have to go to court, or</p> <p>a public authority is making a decision that has an impact on someone's civil rights or obligations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and animals • Health and social care • People and communities • Streets, roads and pavements
No punishment without law	<p>No one can be charged with a criminal offence for an action that was not a crime when it was committed.</p> <p>Public authorities must explain clearly what counts as a criminal offence so that people know when they are breaking the law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and animals • People and communities • Streets, roads and pavements

Right to property	<p>No public authority, without very good reason can take away one's property, which may include things like land, houses, objects, shares, licences, leases, patents, money, pensions and certain types of welfare benefits. This right applies to companies as well as individuals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits and money • Business • Council tax • Environment and animals • Housing • Planning and building • Travel and transport • Streets, roads & pavements • Waste and recycling
Right to private and family life, home and correspondence	<p>This includes one's right to determine their sexual orientation, lifestyle, and the way one looks and dresses. It also includes the right to control who sees and touches one's body. It further covers one's right to develop their personal identity and to forge friendships and other relationships, the right to participate in essential economic, social, cultural and leisure activities. In some circumstances, public authorities may need to facilitate the enjoyment of one's right to a private life, including their ability to participate in society.</p> <p>It also means that personal information about anyone (including official records, photographs, letters, diaries and medical records) should be kept securely and not shared without their permission, except in certain circumstances.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits and money • Births, deaths and marriages • Children and families • Health and social care • Jobs, training and volunteering • Parking and permits • Planning and building • Schools and education • Sports and leisure
Right to free elections	<p>Public authorities must support the right to free expression by holding free elections at reasonable intervals. These elections must enable anyone to vote in secret.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births, deaths and marriages • People and communities

<p>Freedom of thought, conscience and belief</p>	<p>This may include the right to change religion or beliefs, the right to put one's thoughts and beliefs into action, for example by exercising the right to wear religious clothing, the right to talk about one's own beliefs or take part in religious worship. Public authorities cannot stop anyone from practising their religion, without very good reason.</p> <p>This right protects a wide range of non-religious beliefs including atheism, agnosticism, veganism and pacifism.</p> <p>This includes the right to express views aloud (for example through public protest and demonstrations) or through published articles, books or leaflets, television or radio broadcasting, works of art, the internet and social media. It further protects the right to receive information from other people by, for example, being part of an audience or reading a magazine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Schools and education
<p>Freedom of expression</p>	<p>This includes the right to express views aloud (for example through public protest and demonstrations) or through published articles, books or leaflets, television or radio broadcasting, works of art, the internet and social media. It further protects the right to receive information from other people by, for example, being part of an audience or reading a magazine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Environment and animals • People and communities • Schools and education • Sports and leisure
<p>Freedom of assembly and association</p>	<p>This encompasses the right to form and be part of a trade union, a political party or any another association or voluntary group. Nobody has the right to force anyone to join a protest, trade union, political party or another association.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and animals • Jobs, training and volunteering • People and communities • Travel and transport • Streets, roads and pavements

Right to education	<p>This right protects one’s right to an effective education within the UK's existing educational institutions. It relates to primary, secondary, and higher education. Parents have a right to ensure that their religious and philosophical beliefs are respected during their children’s education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Environment and animals • Jobs, training and volunteering • People and communities • Schools and education • Sports and leisure
Right to housing	<p>Adequate housing must provide more than four walls and a roof. For housing to be adequate, it must, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:</p> <p>Security of tenure, that is legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats; availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure; affordability, which means that housing is not adequate if its cost threatens or compromises the occupants’ enjoyment of other human rights; Habitability, which relates to physical safety or adequate space, as well as protection against the cold, damp, heat, rain, wind, other threats to health and structural hazards; accessibility, in that it must accommodate the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalised groups; location, which means that it must not be cut off from employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities, or it must not be located in polluted or dangerous areas; cultural adequacy, which means that it must respect and take into account the expression of cultural identity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits and money • Housing • People and communities • Planning and building • Waste and recycling