

Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix D

Section 1: Details

Service	Corporate
Title and brief description (if required)	General Fund Budget 2017 to 2021, including council tax.
New or existing	Existing
Author/officer lead	Chief Officer (Resources)
Date	13 January 2017

Does this affect staff, customers or other members of the public?

Yes

Section 2: Summary

What is the purpose, aims and objectives?

To review/determine the Council's council rates for next year and targets for future years, and to review/determine the allocation of resources across Council functions and services.

Who is intended to benefit and how?

The district as a whole, although various groups may be affected (positively or negatively) depending on specific budget proposals.

Note that any specific budget proposals will have a separate EIA undertaken and therefore the predominant focus of this EIA is council tax.

Council tax decisions impact on the level of resources generally available for the provision of council services and therefore, as well as the financial impact, decisions may impact indirectly on the community/different groups, although it is not possible to be specific about this, other than through consideration of specific budget proposals.

Section 3: Assessing impact

Is there any potential or evidence that this will or could:		
• Affect people from any protected group differently to others?	Yes	
• Discriminate unlawfully against any protected group?		No
• Affect the relations between protected groups and others?		No
• Encourage protected groups to participate in activities if participation is disproportionately low (won't always be applicable)?		No
• Prevent the council from achieving the aims of its' Equality and Diversity Policy?		No

If yes, please provide more detail of potential impact and evidence including:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A brief description of what information you have and from where eg getting to know our communities data, service use monitoring, views of those affected ie discussions or consultation results? - What does this tell you ie negative or positive affect? 	
Age including older and younger people and children	<p>By law, nobody under the age of 18 is liable for council tax.</p> <p>No other evidence or expectation of any specific impact.</p>
Disability	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
Faith, religion or belief	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
Gender including marriage, pregnancy and maternity	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
Gender reassignment	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
Race	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
Sexual orientation Including Civic Partnership	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.

Rural communities	No evidence or expectation of any specific impact.
People on low incomes	Potentially any increase in council tax could impact on low income households. This impact is demonstrated and mitigated by the existence of Council's Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS). As the Council has very recently reviewed its scheme and continues to offer up to full support, low income households would generally see an increase in their LCTS and this may cover up to 100% of any council tax increase.

Section 4: Next steps

Do you need any more information/evidence eg statistics, consultation? If so, how do you plan to address this?

No.

How have you taken/will you take the potential impact and evidence into account?

Through Member decision-making - the existence of the LCTS scheme is highlighted in the Cabinet report.

How do you plan to monitor the impact and effectiveness of this change or decision?

Through general collection / caseload monitoring, as appropriate.