

# Budget Equality Impact Assessment – pro-forma

This budget Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) checklist will help you and the Council to assess whether there are any negative impacts on customers or stakeholders affected by the recommendations for budget proposals.

It is an opportunity for you and the Council to check whether your budget recommendation leaves those affected by its implementation worse off than they were before the decision was taken. If there are negative impacts, the EIA should specify how these can be reduced or removed. The identification of any negative / adverse impact and putting in place actions to reduce the impact is in line with our statutory duty under the Equality Act 2010 (age, disability, gender, transgender, race, religion/ belief, and sexual orientation).

The EIA is also an opportunity to promote the positive benefits you anticipate will be received by customers or stakeholders as a result of the budget proposal.

The EIA should address whether these positive benefits are equitable across the range of diversity groups affected by the decision (on the basis of age, disability, gender, transgender, race, religion/belief, and sexual orientation), and whether they contribute to positive attitudes and relations between different diversity groups within the **borough / district – delete as applicable**. As above, if the positive benefits are not equitably received by all diversity groups, the EIA should specify how any inequities can be reduced or removed.

## What to do

Your EIA should be started as soon as possible, as part of the process of producing your budget proposals. The Council's statutory Duty to Involve (Disability Discrimination (Amendment) Act 2000, Sustainable Communities Act 2007) means that a range of stakeholders including **members of service user groups (don't forget children and young people), staff groups, partnerships, forums etc.** should be involved in service analysis, planning, implementation and review. Please ensure that the evidence on which you base your budget proposals includes this kind of input. If it is not present, identify it as a gap in your EIA and say in your action plan what will be done to address this gap.

Discuss the questions in the attached template with the officers who have been involved in the development of your budget proposals. Identify whether there are any potential negative impacts for any of your customers. If there are, discuss with the group what actions can be taken to reduce or remove these negative impacts for the customers involved. Be specific as to which actions apply to which protected diversity characteristics.

## Budget Equality Impact Assessment

<b>Budget proposal</b>	Disinvestment in Arts/Sports to combine it into a more holistic Culture & Leisure service.
<b>Directorate / Service</b>	Communities
<b>Names and roles of the people involved</b>	
<b>Date EIA completed</b>	11/01/11
<b>Date approved by the</b> <i>[insert name of signing group here]</i>	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Who are the customers or stakeholders affected by the budget proposal?</b>
<p>The current Arts and Sports service work with a range of groups/individuals on various Arts and sport initiatives, the groups/individuals they work with are not specific groups in regards to Sex, gender, race, religion but often due to the geographical nature i.e. priority neighbourhoods or client group i.e. offenders.</p> <p>Any other targeted work i.e. young people will continue through a combined culture and leisure approach and not specific arts/sports theme.</p>	

<b>2.</b>	<b>Which of those customers or stakeholders (mentioned at point 1) have you consulted with?</b>
<p>This area was subject to the council's community consultation where it showed a disinvestment in Arts and keeping the same for sports (based on majority views), which we have done by retaining a focus on the sports side of leisure.</p>	

<b>3a.</b>	<b>What are the expected positive impacts that customers or stakeholders will receive as a result of the budget proposal?</b>
<p>Services will be more focused on meeting priorities rather than a generic service.</p>	
<b>b.</b>	<b>Are there any differential outcomes between different diversity groups arising from the implementation of the budget proposal?</b>
<p>The focus on vulnerable individuals and families will remain either through direct targeting or through priority neighbourhood work</p>	
<b>c.</b>	<b>Which groups benefit, and which do not?</b>
<p>All groups are impacted.</p>	
<b>d.</b>	<b>If there are differential outcomes between different diversity groups, how can the outcomes be made more equitable for all diversity groups?</b>

The focus on vulnerable individuals and families will remain either through direct targeting or through priority neighbourhood work

<b>4a.</b>	<b>What are the potential negative/adverse impacts that customers or stakeholders could receive as a result of the implementation of the budget proposal?</b>
Some current groups/individuals that may receive some benefits from current Art and Sport Specific services may see a decline in service, however, the focus on vulnerability will still retain focus on those in most need.	
<b>b.</b>	<b>Which protected diversity groups would be affected/most affected? How would they be affected?</b>
None, as far as can be determined at this stage the proposals is not to withdraw services for vulnerable groups/individuals.	
<b>c.</b>	<b>How can these negative impacts be reduced or removed? <i>(add these to your action plan)</i></b>
n/a	

## Action Plan

Diversity group	Adverse impact identified	Action required	Anticipated outcome and when it should be measured	Lead Officer	Timescale for action/ measurement
Age					
Disability					
Gender/Gender Identity					
Race					
Religion/ Belief					
Sexual Orientation					
Priority neighbourhoods					
Other associated issues (if appropriate)					

**NOTE:** All boxes must be completed, and relevant actions must be carried over and included in your service plan