



EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SAVINGS

Stage 1: Title and aims of the activity (“activity” is an umbrella term covering policies, procedures, guidance and decisions).	
Service	Infrastructure
Section	Economic Development
Title of the activity etc.	Savings 2018-19 onwards. For Economic development this will be reductions in the following budgets: Business Support Industry Support Funding of Rural Partnerships Regeneration Delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy
Aims of the activity	To enable the Council to balance the Council budget
Author(s) & Title(s)	Morna Harper and Belinda Miller
Stage 2: List the evidence that has been used in this assessment.	
Internal data (customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).	
Internal consultation with staff and other services affected.	Internal consultation has taken place.
External consultation (partner organisations, community groups, and councils).	Very limited conversations have been held with partner organisations.

External data (census, available statistics).	
Other (general information as appropriate).	

Stage 3: Evidence Gaps.	
Are there any gaps in the information you currently hold?	The savings that are proposed are a mix of reductions in budgets so tend more to constrain future activity than immediately cut planned activity, except for the Rural Partnerships where there will be immediate curtailment of activity. It is difficult to gather information on opportunities lost and future activity that cannot be supported.

Stage 4: Measures to fill the evidence gaps.		
What measures will be taken to fill the information gaps before the activity is implemented? These should be included in the action plan at the back of this form.	Measures:	Timescale:
	None	

Stage 5: Are there potential impacts on protected groups? Please complete for each protected group by inserting "yes" in the applicable box/boxes below.				
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unknown
Age – Younger			Yes	
Age – Older			Yes	
Disability			Yes	
Race – (includes Gypsy Travellers)			Yes	
Religion or Belief			Yes	
Gender – male/female			Yes	
Pregnancy and maternity			Yes	
Sexual orientation – (includes Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual)			Yes	
Gender reassignment – (includes Transgender)			Yes	
Marriage and Civil Partnership			Yes	

Stage 6: What are the positive and negative impacts?

Impacts.	Positive (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)	Negative (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)
Please detail the potential positive and/or negative impacts on those with protected characteristics you have highlighted above. Detail the impacts and describe those affected.	N/A	

Stage 7: Have any of the affected groups been consulted?

If yes, please give details of how this was done and what the results were. If no, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating steps?	No groups specifically affected.
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Stage 8: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce negative impacts?

These should be included in any action plan at the back of this form.	Mitigating Steps	Timescale
	N/A	

Stage 9: What steps can be taken to promote good relations between various groups?

These should be included in the action plan.	N/A
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Stage 10: How does the policy/activity create opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity?

N/A

Stage 11: What equality monitoring arrangements will be put in place?

These should be included in any action plan (for example customer satisfaction questionnaires).

None

Stage 12: What is the outcome of the Assessment?

Please complete the appropriate box/boxes	1	No negative impacts have been identified –please explain.
	The work of Economic Development aims to deliver the first of Aberdeenshire Council’s Priorities 2017-2022, “Support a strong sustainable, diverse and successful economy”. The service also contributes to the delivery of most of the other 10 Priorities. Having said this the savings proposed will be equally detrimental across all sectors of the Aberdeenshire economy and will not disadvantage groups with protected characteristics more than those groups with non-protected characteristics.	
	2	Negative Impacts have been identified, these can be mitigated - please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen.
	3	The activity will have negative impacts which cannot be mitigated fully – please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen
There will be negative impacts for businesses, some community groups and for some industry work. This will not affect those groups with protected characteristics.		

* Stage 13: Set out the justification that the activity can and should go ahead despite the negative impact.

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Stage 14: Sign off and authorisation.

Sign off and authorisation.	1) Service and Team			
	2) Title of Policy/Activity	(if appropriate)		
	3) Authors: I/We have completed the equality impact assessment for this policy/activity.	Name: Belinda Miller Position: Head of Service Date: 17/01/18 Signature:	Name: Morna Harper Position: Service Manager Date: 17/01/18 Signature:	
		Name: Position: Date: Signature:	Name: Position: Date: Signature:	
	4) Consultation with Service Manager	Name: Date:		
	5) Authorisation by Director or Head of Service	Name: Position: Date:	Name: Position: Date:	
	6) If the EIA relates to a matter that has to go before a Committee, Committee report author sends the Committee Report and this form, and any supporting assessment documents, to the Officers responsible for monitoring and the Committee Officer of the relevant Committee. e.g. Social Work and Housing Committee.			Date:
	7) EIA author sends a copy of the finalised form to: equalities@aberdeenshire.gov.uk			Date:
(Equalities team to complete) Has the completed form been published on the website? YES/NO			Date:	

