



Equality Screening Assessment

The Equality Screening Assessment form must be completed to evidence what impact the proposal may have on equality groups within our community or workforce. Any proposal that identifies a negative impact must have a full Equality Impact Assessment completed before the proposal progresses further.

1: Proposal

Requirement	Detail
Title of proposal	Draft Budget Proposals for North Northamptonshire Council 2022-23.
Type of proposal: new policy / change to policy / new service / change to service / removal of service / project / event/ budget	<p>The draft proposals within the budget set out the financial position for the authority and the pressures/savings emerging from the first year of operation alongside new savings and additional investment requirements for 2022-23 onwards. The budget is designed to support the priorities of the Council as listed within the Corporate Plan.</p> <p>The budget proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the existing service levels • continue the Local Council Tax Support Scheme at 25% as approved in the budget for 2021-22 • support a core council tax increase of 1.99% and an adult social care precept of 1%

Requirement	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, deliver efficiencies through service redesign, transformation and improvements in technology. • Savings within Adult Social Care relate to better contract utilisation and the continuation of strength-based working and admissions avoidance • Improve income through proactive risk-based treasury management investment • Review the fees and charges in order to support harmonisation across the previous sovereign areas and, where possible, consolidate the fees and charges recognising the varying descriptions across the previous Councils. Charges are already in place and the proposals are intended to ensure consistency and fairness across the Council area. • Include a number of technical budget proposals which do not require an equality impact assessment • Some efficiencies will not require a full impact assessment.
<p>What is the objective of this proposal?</p>	<p>To set the budget for 2022-23 which, by statute, must be balanced financially. This requires the Council accounting for pressures on services that require investment as well as identifying savings and efficiencies in order to balance the budget.</p> <p>In setting the budget the Council will take into account the contents of the Equality Act (2010) which contains a range of rights, powers and obligations to assist in the drive towards equality. North Northamptonshire Council has a duty towards people who share 'Protected Characteristics' to have 'due regard' to:</p>

Requirement	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating discrimination; • Promoting equality; • Fostering good relations. <p>Having due regard means public authorities must consciously consider or think about the need to do the three things set out in the public sector equality duty.</p> <p>The Council must demonstrate compliance with the duties in its decision-making processes, which it does so by requiring decisions made at Executive to be accompanied, where appropriate, by ESA and or EqIA to measure the effect of the proposed decision or policy on people with protected characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Disability • Gender reassignment • Marriage and civil partnership • Pregnancy and maternity • Race • Religion and belief (including no belief) • Sex • Sexual orientation
<p>Has there been/when will there be consultation on this proposal? (List all the groups / communities, including dates)</p>	<p>The Executive approved the draft budgets at the meeting on 23rd December and the formal consultation commenced following this meeting and ended on 28th January 2022. The consultation covered a five-week period.</p>
<p>Did the consultation on this proposal highlight any positive or negative impact on protected groups? (If yes, give details)</p>	<p>Positive Impact on Children’s and Adult Services from continued investment into these services.</p>

Appendix F

Protected Groups	General Equality Duty Considerations	Changes	Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include factual evidence of how people in this group may be affected. • Consider the outcomes and processes. • Does this seek to eliminate discrimination? • Does this promote fostering good relations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes can be made to mitigate any negative impact? • Are there opportunities to remove possible barriers or disadvantages that a group may face? 	Delete as appropriate. There can be more than one answer per protected group.
	<p><u>Expansion of Extra Care and review of contracts</u></p> <p>Designed to facilitate wider use of Extra Care facilities, only where this is a suitable placement for the individual.</p>		Neutral
<p>Sex</p> <p>Is one sex affected more than another or are they affected the same?</p>	The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Sex.		Neutral
<p>Disability</p> <p>It is likely to have an effect on a particular type of disability? Why?</p>	<p><u>Front Door Direction to VCS providers</u></p> <p>Individuals can receive appropriate support through Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, a number of which will receive grant funding from the Council</p>		Neutral
<p>Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Will there be an impact on trans males and/or trans females?</p>	The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Gender Reassignment.		Neutral
<p>Race</p> <p>Are people from one ethnic group affected more than people from another ethnic group?</p>	The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Race.		Neutral

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<p>Sexual Orientation</p> <p>Are people of one sexual orientation affected differently to people of another sexual orientation?</p>	<p>The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Sexual Orientation.</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Marriage & Civil Partnership</p> <p>Are people in a Marriage or Civil Partnership treated less favourably?</p>	<p>The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Marriage and Civil Partnerships.</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Pregnancy & Maternity</p> <p>Are people who are pregnant, or have a baby of 6 months old or younger, effected by this proposal?</p>	<p>The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Pregnancy and Maternity</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Religion or Belief</p> <p>Does the proposal effect people differently depending on whether they have or do not have a religion or a belief?</p>	<p>The initial impact assessment has not highlighted any negative or positive impacts on individuals in relation to Religion or Belief</p>		<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Health & Wellbeing</p> <p>1. Health behaviours (E.g. diet, exercise, alcohol, smoking) 2. Support (E.g. community cohesion, rural isolation)</p>	<p>The proposals within Adult Social Care have a positive impact on Health and Wellbeing, by supporting the independence of individuals, seeking to avoid hospital admissions and looking for support in a community setting.</p>		<p>Positive</p>

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3. Socio economic (E.g. income, education). 4. Environment (E.g. green spaces, fuel poverty, housing standards).			

3: Equality Impact

Question	Response
What overall impact does the proposal have on the protected groups? If a negative impact is identified anywhere in section 2, the response will be Negative Impact.	Overall, a positive impact
Does an Equality Impact Assessment need to be completed? (Yes, if any negative impact is found.)	No
Copy attached to relevant report?	Yes
Is this document going to be published with the relevant report?	Yes

4: Ownership

Question	Response
Directorate	Finance
Service area	Finance
Lead officer's name	Janice Grotts

Appendix F

Question	Response
Lead officer's job title	Executive Director of Finance
Lead officer's contact details	Janice.gotts@northnorthants.gov.uk
Lead officer's signature	
Date completed	02/02/2022

Completed forms must be sent to Equalities@northnorthants.gov.uk