

Equality Impact Assessment - Preliminary Assessment Form

<i>Title of the strategy, policy, service or project:</i>	Consultation on proposed changes to South Derbyshire District Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme
<i>Service Area:</i>	Customer Services
<i>Lead Officer:</i>	Elizabeth Barton
<i>Date of assessment:</i>	04/10/2021
<i>Is the strategy, policy, service (procedure) or project:</i>	
<i>Changed</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>New</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 1 – Clear aims and objectives

1. What is the aim of the strategy, policy, procedure or project?

The project seeks to consult with residents and partners on changes to the Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The potential benefits of a revised LCTRS scheme include:

- **Benefits for residents** include fairer distribution of support to the most financially vulnerable residents, less paperwork and confusion, more financial stability, and greater customer satisfaction.
- **Benefits for the Council** include more streamlined administration, less debt recovery carried out with vulnerable residents, update of the scheme in line with changes introduced by welfare reform and Universal Credit (UC).

The purpose of the consultation is to gain views on two potential models and a series of possible changes that will deliver the above benefits.

2. Who is intended to benefit from the strategy, policy, procedure or project and how?

The alterations to the scheme (if approved) would affect all claimants (both current and future). Any proposed alterations could impact the level of financial support they receive, either positively or negatively.

3. What outcomes do you want to achieve?

Residents, partners, stakeholders, Elected Members and staff views on the proposed potential changes so that a final proposed scheme can be brought to Committee in early February for consideration.



Section 2 – What is the impact?

4. Summary of anticipated impacts. *Please tick at least one option per protected characteristic. Think about barriers people may experience in accessing services, how the policy is likely to affect the promotion of equality, knowledge of customer experiences to date. You may need to think about sub-groups within categories e.g. older people, younger people, people with hearing impairment etc. [Hyperlinks to supporting information about the protected characteristics listed below can be found here.](#)*

	Potentially positive impact	Potentially negative impact	No disproportionate impact
Age - The schemes only apply to working age claimants and not to pensioners or children. The proposed models do not affect or alter the applicable ages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disability and long-term conditions - Both proposed models disregard incomes awarded for disabilities and vulnerabilities and consider a household's circumstances before determining the excess income amount (for example disabled claimants).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people who have undergone gender reassignment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marriage or civil partnership - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people based on their marital or civil partnership status. Civil partners are recognised as dependents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pregnant women and people on parental leave - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against pregnant women or people on parental leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people of any particular sex.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Race - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people based on their race.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people based on their religion or belief.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sex (Gender) - The scheme/proposed models do not discriminate against people of any particular sex.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Section 3 – Recommendations and monitoring

If you have answered that the strategy, policy, procedure or project could potentially have a negative impact on any of the above characteristics then a full Equality Impact Assessment will be required.

5. Should a full EIA be completed for this strategy, policy, procedure or project?

Yes No

Please explain the reasons for this decision:

For the reasons detailed in Section 4, we do not believe that the consultation requires a full EIA to be carried out. That said, we do believe we need to revisit this decision before the final proposed scheme is presented to Committee and reconsider then whether a full EIA on the final proposed scheme is required.

Section 4 – Approval

Please note the assessment should be reviewed and approved by the appropriate Head of Service **before** the Committee report (if required) is produced.

Reviewed by Head of Service	Name:	Elizabeth Barton
	Date:	04/10/2021

If further information regarding this assessment is required, please contact the Lead Officer for this assessment (outlined in Section 1.)

