

Equality and Children's Rights Integrated Screening Form

The public sector equality duty requires that we demonstrate that we are making decisions in a fair, transparent and accountable way. The Council must show that it has considered the needs and rights of people with protected characteristics. In addition, where decisions affect young people, we must consider the 'Rights of the Child', under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The duty requires that the Council assesses the 'equality impact' of proposals thoroughly before any decisions are taken. This should be proportionate to the decision that is being made. In addition, we must also ensure we are not impacting negatively on Human Rights or socio-economic status under the Fairer Scotland Duty.*

This form should assist in assessing whether a more detailed Equality and Children's Rights impact assessment is required.

A. Proposal		
Title	Business Gateway	
Budget reference number and heading if appropriate (or N/A).*	SP/PL/24/15	
Amount (£) of saving if appropriate (or N/A)	£10,000	
Service	Business Support and Development	
Lead Officer	Matt Strachan	
Others Involved	Richard Campbell	
Date Completed	6/2/24	
1. What are the main aims of the proposal?		
Reduction in Business Gateway Budget of £10,000		
2. What data, research or other evidence was used for this screening?		
Business Gateway National Service Specification Analysis of historic budget spend.		
3. Screening questions		
	Yes	No
Does the proposal affect service users, employees or the wider community and specifically to services that are known to being important to particular protected groups?		X
Does the proposal have any relevance for Human and/or Children's Rights? (please see guidance)		X
Is it a major proposal, significantly affecting how services are delivered or how other organisations operate?		X

Does it relate to an area where there are known inequalities or has significant potential for reducing inequalities or improving outcomes?					X
4. What is the impact of the (budget) proposal on equality groups?					
Protected Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Comments	
Age (young**/older people)			X		
Disability (Physical & learning)			X		
Gender Re-assignment			X		
Pregnancy & Maternity			X		
Race & ethnic origin			X		
Religion or belief			X		
Sex			X		
Sexual Orientation			X		
Care Experienced			X		
Other (Poverty, homelessness, rural, carers, part-time workers, etc)			X		
Fairer Scotland Duty			X		
Human Rights			X		
5. The Fairer Scotland Duty – (reducing the socio-economic impact of our policies, strategies and budget decisions) Does the proposal have any negative (or potential) positive impacts that need to be explored in more detail? (please provide brief summary).					
The Business Gateway budget helps stimulate entrepreneurship and support business sustainability. There will be no impact in current service provision. Support for enterprise will still be available to all.					
6. Island Proofing – Are there any special considerations for the Island Communities within North Ayrshire					
There are no special considerations for the island community as this proposal will not impact service provision on Arran and Cumbrae					
7. Have any cross-cutting impact been identified from other Council Services or Partner Agencies (multiple discrimination or accumulated effects of multiple proposals)?					
This is a stand-alone budget for the Business Development Team to deliver a National Programme. It will have no impact on other services or partners.					

8. If a negative impact has been identified how will you modify it?	
N/A	
9. Has there been any consultation on the (budget) proposal with any protected characteristic groups or other services or partner organisations?	
There has been no consultation with protected characteristic groups. The National Service Specification confirms access to the Business Gateway Service for all and provision will remain.	
10. What are the monitoring and review arrangements?	
Performance measures are captured via Business Gateway National Unit Spend data is captured by North Ayrshire Council.	
11. What are the recommendations and further action resulting from this Equality Screening? (please explain)	
Full Equality Assessment (or) -	No
Full Equality Assessment and Children's Rights Impact required.	No

B. Outcome of the Proposal	
Screening Only (Please Explain)	The Business Gateway is a universal service provided to help start up and support business. Access is available to anyone who either owns or wishes to start a business. Impact of this proposal does not change any of the National Service Specification
Full Assessment Required	No

Authorisation

Policy Lead/Manager: Matt Strachan

Date: 6 February 2024

Head of Service: Louise Kirk

Date: 6 February 2024

*If relating to a Budget proposal, the Full ECRIA should be attached to Committee Report and published on the Council's external website Equality pages

**If a potential impact is identified for people under the age of 18, the CRIA screening questions in Appendix 1 should be answered

Appendix 1 – Children’s Rights Impact Screening Form

1. What aspects of the Policy/measure will affect children and young people?

(The articles of the UNCRC and the wellbeing indicators under the Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014 apply to all people under the age of 18, including non-citizen and undocumented children and young people). More information can be found –

(Appendix 1 of the full form)

([Children & Young People’s Commissioner Scotland](#))

- N/A

2. What Likely Impact (direct or indirect) will the policy have on children and young people – considering any positive, negative or neutral impacts.

(**Direct** impact, where changes directly impact the young person, e.g., education, child protection etc or **Indirect** Impact, where although not directly aimed at young people, will still have an impact, e.g., welfare reforms, parental leave, housing supply etc).

- N/A

3. Are there particular groups of young people who are more likely to be affected than others?

(‘Children’ can refer to individuals, groups or children in general, and can also be related to the range of characteristics under the Equality Act – disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. It also includes those that are eligible for special protection, including pre-school children, children in hospitals, rural areas, looked after children, victims of abuse, young people who offend, child asylum seekers, children living in poverty)

- N/A