Appendix 2: Overall Budget Impact Assessment 2022/23

Subject of assessment:	Middlesbrough Council Budget 2022/23							
Coverage:	Crosscutting							
	☐ Strategy	☐ Policy	⊠ Service	☐ Function				
This is a decision relating to:	☐ Process/procedure	☐ Programme	☐ Project	⊠ Review				
	□ Organisational change	⊠ Other (please state) Budget						
It is a:	New approach:		Revision of an existing approach:					
It is driven by:	Legislation:	\boxtimes	Local or corporate requirements:					
Description:	Key aims, objectives and activities By law, the Council has to agree a balanced budget annually. The purpose of this Impact Assessment is to assess the cumulative impact of the 2022/23 budget proposals. The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) places a statutory duty on the Council to ensure that identified where decisions would impact disproportionately adversely on groups that share a protected characteristic under UK law. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. To ensure compliance with the PSED the Council has to identify what the impact of proposals will be. Where there is a risk that they will have a disproportionate adverse impact, consideration must be given to steps needed to avoid or mitigate that impact. Mitigation will include steps to take account of the different needs of groups and may result in adjustments to meet their needs. Where decisions cannot be fully mitigated or avoided, they must be justified. The proposals for the 2022/23 budget have been developed which protect frontline services and the town's most vulnerable groups as far as possible. No proposed savings were identified. As no additional budget savings were proposed for 2022/23, the budget consultation was therefore only regarding the proposed budget and Council Tax increase for 2022/23.							

	A general consultation email address was launched along with a consultation section on the Council's website, and a social media campaign to encourage engagement in the consultation which covered both the proposed budget increase and sought views of residents on the annual let's talk survey. This resulted in receipt of 488 responses through the online consultation survey. In relation to impacts on those with protected characteristics as described previously, there were no concerns that the proposed approach to result in a disproportionate adverse impact on groups or individuals. Statutory drivers (set out exact reference) A number of statutory duties, guidance, legislation and regulations are relevant to this proposal which will be considered, these include but are not limited to: Budget setting - Local Government Act 1972 Impact Assessment process – Equality Act 2010. Differences from any previous approach The budget sets out a range of changes to services and functions as a result of financial pressures on the Council. These are outlined in the main body of the report. Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external) All residents of Middlesbrough and customers of MBC. Some proposals also impact on staff. Intended outcomes. To present a budget to Council that has given full consideration to the impact of proposals and gives proper consideration to the Council's equality duties.
Live date:	April 2022
Lifespan:	April 2022 – March 2023
Date of next review:	March 2023

	Impact	s identified					
Assessment issue		Positive	Negative			Rationale and supporting evidence	
	None		Justified	Mitigated	Uncertain		
Human Rights							
Engagement with Convention Rights (as set out in section 1, appendix 2 of the Impact Assessment Policy).						None of the proposals were identified as having an adverse impact on human rights as a result of the proposed budget. Evidence used to assess the impact includes	
						analysis of the proposals and feedback from the consultation exercise.	
Equality		•					
Age						None of the proposals were identified as having	
Disability						an adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics as a result of the proposed budget.	
Gender reassignment						Evidence used to assess the impact includes	
Pregnancy / maternity						analysis of the proposals and feedback from the	
Race						consultation exercise.	
Religion or belief							
Sex							
Sexual Orientation							
Marriage / civil partnership**							
Dependants / caring responsibilities**	\boxtimes						
Criminal record / offending past**							

^{**} Indicates this is not included within the single equality duty placed upon public authorities by the Equality Act. See guidance for further details.

	Impacts identified						
Assessment issue		Positive	Negative		Uncertain	Rationale and supporting evidence	
	None	Fositive	Justified	Mitigated	Oncertain		
Community cohesion							
Individual communities / neighbourhoods	\boxtimes					None of the proposals were identified as having an adverse impact on community cohesion as a result of the proposed budget.	
	hbourhoods 🗵 🗆						
Relations between communities / neighbourhoods						Evidence used to assess the impact includes analysis of the proposals and feedback from the consultation exercise.	

Further actions		Lead	Deadline
Mitigating actions	Not applicable		
Promotion	Not applicable		
Monitoring and evaluation	Overall monitoring of the impact will be embedded within performance management arrangements for 2022/23	Paul Stephens	May 2022

Assessment completed by:	Ann-Marie Johnstone	Head of Service:	Paul Stephens
Date:	24 January 2022	Date:	25 January 2022