

Equality Impact Assessment- Stage 2 Template

Table 1: Defining the Policy

Title of Policy:	Budget Proposals 2018/19 – Stop provision of services within Bowmar; Dollar ; Dumyat, Tullibody; Cochrane and Sauchie Community Halls
Service:	Strategy & Customer Services
Team:	Customer Services
What is the purpose of the proposed policy or changes to established policy?	
<p>Council departments tasked with setting balanced budget and savings with a forecast of £13m in 2018/19 are required, therefore the purpose of this proposal is work collectively to achieve the levels of savings required.</p> <p>The proposal is to reduce operating costs of our Community Halls to reflect the decline in user demand and also to contribute to ensure the council budget is sustainable.</p> <p>This project will focus on consolidating and maximising community use of the Alloa Town Hall for daytime and evening use and stop running community centres and halls and make available for community ownership.</p> <p>This will have an impact on sport, leisure, community services and bookings delivered within these existing Community Halls across Clackmannanshire.</p>	
Who is affected by the policy or who is intended to benefit from the proposed policy and how?	
<p>There is the potential for some very poorly utilised facilities to be closed down. The reduction in the number of Community Halls will mean that users will need to travel further to access Alloa Town Hall.</p> <p>Given the broad range of services provided within the Community Halls, it is likely that it will affect all current and any potential users of the service.</p>	
How have you, or will you, put the policy into practice? Who will be responsible for delivering it?	
<p>If approved, implementation will be the responsibility of the Customer Services Manager.</p>	

Table 2

In the Stage 1 Screening you identified that the policy will impact on one or more of the protected characteristics.

What information do you have that tell you how this policy might have an impact.
Key Questions:

- Will the impact of the proposed policy/function be the same or different for each group identified.
- Is there any indication or evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake of services by different groups?
- Are there any groups of people who are not taking up services?

Protected Characteristic	What Evidence do you have and Consultation has been undertaken
Disability	<p>Consultation events were held in: Clackmannan; Alva; Tullibody; Sauchie, Alloa (Bowmar) and Dollar. A number of letters and written representation from organisations using the halls have also been received and used to inform this equality impact assessment. Comments received through the online budget consultation have also been used to inform this equality impact assessment.</p> <p>Although specific equalities impacts are covered below a number of additional impacts have been articulated through the consultation feedback. This includes:</p> <p>A negative impact on community cohesion in communities where there will be no community 'centre' left. Impacts on communities which will be affected by other proposals will see a disproportionate impact (Sauchie and Alva) People already vulnerable/living in poverty will be disproportionately impacted by closure of halls and be limited to travelling to services elsewhere.</p> <p>Organisations who regularly use halls as venues will look outwith Clackmannanshire (kennel clubs and Cochrane hall).</p> <p>It is highly likely that this proposal will impact people with a disability. Through consolidating halls, many Clackmannanshire residents would be required to travel elsewhere to access services provided in halls. This may require additional use of public transport which is likely to disproportionately impact people with a disability.</p> <p>This proposal will see the closure of halls, from which a range of services are delivered in local communities – these services are often the only services in smaller communities. These services are often aimed at supporting people who are already vulnerable and/or isolated and excluded. Again this is likely to have a disproportionate impact on those with a disability (physical and</p>

	mental).
Age	<p>A range of age groups benefit from activities provided through local community halls. Many of the services provided however are targeted at younger people (through youth clubs; sport activities and holiday clubs) and this age group will therefore be affected.</p> <p>Older age groups are likely to be impacted by social isolation through the removal of some services in communities.</p>

Table 3: What is the impact on the protected characteristics identified?(see Step 3 of guidelines)

Protected Characteristic	Impact (H,M,L or U)*	Description of Impact
Disability	H	The proposal is to stop the provision of services in halls in the communities outlined in table 1. These halls will be made available for community ownership but in some cases the halls will close. This will have a high impact on those with a disability (physical or mental).
Age	H	The proposal is to stop the provision of services in halls in the communities outlined in table 1. These halls will be made available for community ownership but in some cases the halls will close. This will have a high impact on young age groups.

Table 4: Does the policy need to be changed?(see step 4 of Guidelines)

Are there any changes?		
Protected Characteristic	Description	
Disability	Yes/ No	If funding allows, a reduction in the number of halls could be considered. In particular this could be considered in those communities where there is no alternative provision or where transport routes make travelling to alternative services difficult

		(either through access or cost). A consideration might be given to phasing the closure of halls to enable work to be undertaken with local communities who are interested in taking over a hall under community ownership (asset transfer).
Age	Yes/ No	If funding allows, a reduction in the number of halls could be considered. In particular this could be considered in those communities where there is no alternative provision or where transport routes make travelling to alternative services difficult (either through access or cost). A consideration might be given to phasing the closure of halls to enable work to be undertaken with local communities who are interested in taking over a hall under community ownership (asset transfer).

Approved by:

Name (Head of Service)	S Crickmar
Date	12 th December 2017. Updated 2 nd February 2018.