

## Summary of Equality Analyses supporting budget proposals - 2015/16

## Appendix 15

Outlined below is a summary of equality analyses support specific budget proposals for 2015/16 and which may have direct equality impact, either for staff and/or service users

| Department                    | Proposal (figures relate to 2015/16 savings proposals – unless stated) | Analysis findings   |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>CORPORATE SERVICES(CS)</b> |  |   |
| CS1                           | <b>Citizen Account - £40,000</b>                                       | Limited equality implications. More extensive use of Citizens Account will enable greater self-service by residents, at times convenient to them, saving associated administration and communication costs. Experience from other areas shows the approach to be popular with users, including with those who may be socially disadvantaged but who are comfortable with using new technology. The option to opt out of the service will remain for those who do not have access to, or do not want to use, the internet for these services - primarily the very elderly, such as those in sheltered accommodation. |
| CS3                           | <b>Bereavement services income charges - £175,000</b>                  | A review of fees and charges to customers will see some increase in fees for the recently bereaved - a larger proportion of whom tend to be elderly. However, there are a number of options provided for the cost of a funeral which helps to meet a range of income needs.   |
| CS16                          | <b>Outlook Magazine online - £18,250</b>                               | Proposal is for one printed edition distributed to all households with two further editions circulated to key distribution points (GP surgeries, supermarkets, council offices, sheltered housing) and available online. Proposal may limit accessibility to editions with targeted distribution, particularly for those without on-line access (such as the very elderly). However, the targeted distribution may also result in greater coverage with groups who do not normally read it – such as those with greater medical and other needs, young families and the frail elderly.                              |

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|-----------------------|--|---|
| <b>PLACE (PL)</b>     |  |   |
| <b>PL3</b>            | <b>Rationalise litter bins in residential areas – £20,000</b>  | Minimal equality implications. Enhanced specification for the recycling, waste and street cleaning services, will allow for rationalisation of the number of bins in residential areas where there is low usage or bins attract fly tipping.  |
| <b>PL4 &amp; PL29</b> | <b>Reduce number of toilets at East Beach – £10,000<br/>Closure of toilets at Ness Road, Hamlet Court Road and Southchurch Road - £30,000.</b> | These toilets are in a generally poor state and becoming increasingly unsuitable, particularly for people with disabilities and young families. Alternative toilets remain in these areas for people to use and an alternative site will be sought for the Hamlet Court Road toilet.  |
| <b>PL11</b>           | <b>Pier Income - £45,000</b>   | Modest increase in charges for children to £2.50 and family ticket to £10 expected to have limited anticipated impact on usage. The means tested Advantage Card remains in place and offers discounts (ranging from 10% to 50%) on entry fees for adults, under 17s and over 60s, those on low income and carers.   |
| <b>PL14</b>           | <b>Increase parking charges - £245,000</b>   | Minimal equality implications. Charging period will be changed from 9pm to 6pm on seafront car parks, enabling increased access after 6pm, with increased charges for seafront car parks during the charging period.  |
| <b>PL18</b>           | <b>Leisure management – £150,000</b>   | The retendering of the Leisure Management Contract will include application of the Social Value Act (which requires public authorities to have regard to economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts). The contract will require the successful service provider to work with local communities, engaging with disadvantaged groups, as well as working with colleges and universities to promote the use of apprentices and support the green agenda. |

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|--------------------|--|--|
| <b>PL21</b>        | <b>Library review - £126,000</b>                                       | <p>A full Equality Analysis was undertaken as part of the libraries review, complemented by extensive consultation and demographic profiling of library catchment areas.</p> <p>The decisions taken by full Council on 23 October will see the branch network being maintained across the borough with a mixture of paid staff supported by volunteers. Existing opening hours will be maintained and work is being undertaken with local community groups for the branches to have a greater community focus.</p> |
| <b>PL23</b>        | <b>Bowling charges - £10,000</b>                                       | <p>A different model of payment is being introduced, requiring up-front payment from bowling clubs, who will take greater responsibility for collecting fees. This along with a 20% increase in ticket price, may have some impact on level of the activity with a generally older user profile.</p>   |
| <b>PEOPLE (PE)</b> |  |  |
| <b>PE5</b>         | <b>Success for All Children Joint commissioning budget – £40,000</b>   | <p>Minimal impact as funding is for new initiatives. May be compensated for by other developments, including through Fulfilling Lives programme for 0-3 year olds, and other successful funding bids, to enable new initiatives or innovation in supporting vulnerable children.</p>   |
| <b>PE6</b>         | <b>Connexions service – £135,000</b>                                   | <p>The Connexions Service provides information and guidance for young people in the borough, helping them make the transition into adulthood and working life. The Council will retain capacity to track the progress of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs). A saving in management costs across the School Improvement and Connexions services</p>   |

| Department | Proposal (figures relate to 2015/16 savings proposals – unless stated)  | Analysis findings  |
|------------|---|--|
|            |   | provides an opportunity to streamline and re-design a targeted service to over 16 year olds.   |
| PE9        | <b>Mental Health efficiencies – £100,000 (£500,000 over 3 years - £100,000 15/16; £200,000 16/17; £200,000 17/18)</b> | The saving represents a relatively small percentage of the overall spend on mental health services in the borough, which will be subject to review with a view to making them more effective and better value for money. Savings are to be generated through residential and care and support budgets and a full Equality Analysis will be undertaken to assess potential impact on service users. |
| PE10       | <b>Reduction in residential placements and longer term support through Better Care Fund – £980,000</b>                | Saving to come from planned benefits arising from the Better Care Fund, which aims to incentivise health and local authorities to work closer and enable people to live more independent lives, and so need less support and/or residential care.  |
| PE11       | <b>Review of high cost placements and care packages – £100,000</b>  | Savings will be part of an on-going process of continually reviewing care placements and packages, primarily for those adults with physical disabilities and those with mental health needs, to ensure they properly meet the requirements of those receiving care.  |
| PE13       | <b>Queensway – £240,000</b>   | The Queensway Resource Centre provides therapies to those with mental health problems and is subject to review by the South Essex Partnership Trust (SEPT). Services provided are mainly health related and withdrawal of funding will be factored into the review by SEPT. The Council will contribute to any Equality Analysis undertaken by SEPT.   |
| PE16       | <b>Special Educational Needs Service – £35,000</b>  | Needs analysis shows that this saving is achievable, factoring in known current needs. There is a low risk that that the service could be impacted by  |

| <b>Department</b>         | <b>Proposal (figures relate to 2015/16 savings proposals – unless stated)</b>          | <b>Analysis findings</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|--|
|                           |  | an increase in demand.   |
| <b>PE17</b>               | <b>School Improvement – £95,000</b>  | Limited impact - Savings will be realised through continued implementation of the Improving Learning Together Strategy and the Southend Challenge, shifting the emphasis from centrally met costs to schools meeting the needs of both universal and targeted support themselves. Schools with numbers of disadvantaged pupils will be closely monitored to ensure that their funding for disadvantaged pupils reaches those most in need. |
| <b>PE21</b>               | <b>Private Sector Housing – £40,000 (increase penalties and charges)</b>               | Measures to implement more robust enforcement action against poor landlords will help those living in substandard accommodation (often those on low income and benefits, or the vulnerable who may be less likely to complain) and potentially generate income of £40,000.   |
| <b>PE29</b>               | <b>Resource Allocation System – £200,000</b>   | While there will be a review of the calculation of some personal budgets, the assessed needs of those individuals in receipt of personal budgets will continue to be met.  |
| <b>PE32</b>               | <b>Children’s Placement Costs - £100,000</b>   | Measure seeks to ensure most appropriate service is provided to children with complex needs in residential placements, ensuring their individual needs are met in the most cost effective manner.  |
| <b>Budget Pressure 2P</b> | <b>2P - Transitions - £635,000.</b>  | To fund community support costs for citizens with a learning disability who will reach 18 and require adult social care support.   |
| <b>Budget Pressure 3P</b> | <b>3P - Demographic costs for older people - £500,000. (to cover increased demand)</b> | To meet the rise in life expectancy of older residents and resulting additional demands including, in some cases, 24 hour support.   |
| <b>Budget Pressure 4P</b> | <b>Staying Put - £75,000</b>   | To fund foster placements for children leaving care.   |

| Department            | Proposal (figures relate to 2015/16 savings proposals – unless stated)  | Analysis findings   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Budget Pressure<br>5P | Best Interest Assessments - £170,000  | To cover anticipate increase in demand for Best Interests Assessments for the purpose of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (the MCA DOLS).   |
| <b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>  |   |   |
|                       | <p><b>Budget pressures: (A number of budget pressures will be supported by Government allocation of Public Health funding 2015/16).</b></p> | <p>Supporting budget pressures from Public Health funding will enable continuing work to tackle health inequalities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0-5 children’s public health commissioning (responsibility for which transfers to local authorities from October 2015).</li> <li>- Supporting those with complex needs, including those with mental health problems.</li> <li>- Reducing number of falls among older people, particularly women who make up a higher proportion of older people.</li> <li>- An enhanced offer for older people who are less active and may be socially isolated.</li> <li>- Smoking cessation in relation to pregnant women, children &amp; young people and ethnic minorities.</li> <li>- Alcohol misuse prevention in relation to young people and elements of older population.</li> <li>- People with dementia, particularly black and ethnic minority people.</li> <li>- Work to support carers.</li> <li>- Promoting the Public Health Responsibility Deal to encourage business and partners to help promote healthy lifestyles.</li> </ul> |