

Midlothian



Midlothian Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) of Budget Proposals

Name of Budget Saving	Review of Rights and Advice Services
Department and service area	Education, Communities and Economy Communities and Economy
Completion Date	06/09/17 (revised 18/01/18)
Lead officer	Alasdair Mathers, Communities and Performance Manager

Aims and Objectives

1. Does the proposed budget saving affect people?

Yes

☒

No

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2. What is/are the reason(s) for your proposed budget saving?

a) To make financial savings.

b) To improve efficiencies in the delivery of rights and advice services.

3. Impact

Which of the protected characteristics* will the proposed budget saving have an impact upon?

Equality Target Group*	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Relevant evidence/ information
Age		√	All groups affected but some disproportionately more than others
Disability		√	As above
Gender Reassignment		√	As above
Marriage & Civil Partnership		√	As above
Pregnancy and maternity		√	As above
Race		√	As above
Religion or Belief		√	As above
Sex		√	As above
Sexual Orientation		√	As above

4. How will the implementation of the proposed budget saving be communicated to those affected by any changes?

Communication will be to advise on the availability of third sector support such as CABs.

Information published by Midlothian Council can be provided on request in many of the community languages and also in large print, Braille, audio tape or BSL. For more information, please contact the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Officer on 0131 271 3658 or equalities@midlothian.gov.uk

5. How will you monitor the impact of the changes proposed? When is the budget due to be reviewed?

Number of clients seen/assisted.

Number of benefit appeals upheld.

Benefit return (£) for every £ spend on service.

No budget review planned.

6. Please use the space below to detail any other matters arising from the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) process.

One option currently under consideration is the provision of a 'one-stop shop' for rights and advice to serve Midlothian, staffed by sufficient expertise to address the full range of citizens' matters including welfare benefits.