

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Budget Savings Proposals

Essential Information
Name of Officer(s) completing this Template: Gail Macfarlane
Designation(s): Shared Head of Service – Roads and Environmental Services
Directorate/Service: Roads and Environmental Services
Date of Impact Assessment: 05 October 2022
Name of Proposed Budget Saving ¹ : Burial Charges/Cremation Income

1. Does the proposed budget saving impact on:		
	Yes	No
a. Protected characteristics under The Equality Act 2010: Age; Disability; Gender Reassignment; Pregnancy and Maternity; Race; Religion and Belief; Sex; Sexual Orientation (see Section 3)		x
b. Reducing inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage – Fairer Scotland Duty ² (see Section 6)	x	
c. Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017/22 ³ (see Section 7)		x

¹ Please attach the Budget Saving Proposal to this Template

² [Fairer Scotland Duty: guidance for public bodies](#)

³ [Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017/22](#)

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

1. Does the proposed budget saving impact on:		
d. Corporate Plan 2018/22 ⁴ (see Section 8)		x
2. If 'yes' is selected for any part of Section 1, please populate the other relevant Sections of this Template.		

3. Impact – Protected characteristics			
Which of the protected characteristics will the proposed budget saving have an impact upon? (See guidance for examples of key considerations under each characteristic – this is on ICON.)			
Equality Target Group	Positive impact +	Neutral impact =	Negative impact -
Age		x	
Disability		x	
Gender Reassignment		x	
Marriage and civil partnership		x	
Pregnancy and maternity		x	
Race		x	
Religion and belief		x	
Sex		x	

⁴ [Corporate Plan 2018/22](#) (agenda item 5)

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

3. Impact – Protected characteristics

Which of the protected characteristics will the proposed budget saving have an impact upon? (See guidance for examples of key considerations under each characteristic – this is on ICON.)

Sexual orientation			
Other groups to consider			X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carers • Local Funeral Directors • Council Customers 			

4. Which parts of the Equality Duty will the proposed budget saving impact on?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by The Equality Act 2010
x	Advance equality of opportunity between people of different groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster good relations between from different groups

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

5. Impact - groups

From the information you have highlighted above, describe the positive and negative impacts and the groups affected under The Equality Act 2010.

Positive impacts + <i>(Describe groups affected.)</i>	Negative impacts - <i>(Describe groups affected.)</i>

6. Impact – Fairer Scotland Duty

What impact will this budget saving proposal have on reducing inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage? *Please tick.*

Positive Impact +	Neutral Impact =	Negative Impact -
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Briefly describe how the budget saving proposal will impact on reducing inequalities of outcome.

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

The impact of funeral costs can be significant and users can struggle with funeral costs leading to an impact on people's finances and their experience of grief. This Budget Saving Proposal would impact on those already under financial pressure, especially those in receipt of Benefits, to fund funeral arrangements.

7. Impact – LOIP 2017/22

Which Priority/Priorities from the LOIP 2017/22 will this budget saving proposal impact on?

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Population: Inverclyde's population will be stable and sustainable with an appropriate balance of socio - economic groups that is conducive to local economic prosperity and longer term population growth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Inequalities: There will be low levels of poverty and deprivation and the gap between the richest and poorest members of our communities will be reduced (This may already have been highlighted during section 6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Environment, culture and heritage: Inverclyde's environment, culture and heritage will be protected and enhanced to create a better place for all Inverclyde residents and an attractive place in which to live, work and visit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. The local economy: Inverclyde has a thriving and diverse local economy, economic activity is increased and skills development enables both those in work and those furthest from the labour market to realise their full potential |

Briefly describe how the budget saving proposal will impact on the LOIP Priority/Priorities.

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

8. Impact – Corporate Plan 2018/22	
Which Priority/Priorities from the Corporate Plan 2018/22 will this budget saving impact on?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. To promote Inverclyde, to both residents and visitors alike, as a great place to live, work and visit
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. To work collaboratively, to enable strong, connected and empowered communities, particularly in areas of deprivation, so that residents have influence and control over the things that matter to them
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. To grow the local economy in a way that creates opportunities for all our residents, including access to good quality jobs
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. To reduce the prevalence of poverty and in particular, child poverty in our communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. To safeguard, support and meet the needs of our most vulnerable families and residents
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. To improve the health and wellbeing of residents so that people live well, and for longer
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. To protect and enhance our natural and built environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. To preserve, nurture and promote Inverclyde’s unique culture and heritage
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. To deliver services that are responsive to community needs and are underpinned by a culture of innovation, continuous improvement and effective management of resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. To develop motivated, trained and qualified employees who deliver quality services that meet current and anticipated service needs
Briefly describe how the budget saving proposal will impact on the Corporate Plan Priority/Priorities.	

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

9. Evidence

What evidence do you have to help identify any potential impacts of the proposed budget saving?

Note: Evidence could include consultations, surveys, focus groups, interviews, projects, user feedback, complaints, officer knowledge and experience, equalities monitoring data, publications, research, reports, local, national groups.

Evidence	Details																																													
Consultation/Engagement	In the 2022 budget consultation, 36% of respondents supported this budget saving proposal.																																													
Research	Scottish Government Funeral Costs Guidance and equality impact assessment results																																													
Officer's knowledge and experience (including feedback from frontline staff)	<p>Benchmarking of charges with other local authorities.</p> <p>A comparison of the cost for a cremation for an adult 18 years and over and the cost of a burial for an adult 18 years and over are included below for financial year 2021/22. This is a sample of councils and not all..</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="603 1440 1425 2078"> <thead> <tr> <th>Council</th> <th>Cremation</th> <th>Burial</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Inverclyde</td> <td>£764.95</td> <td>£974.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Dunbartonshire</td> <td>£782</td> <td>£822</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Glasgow</td> <td>£699</td> <td>£1050</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Argyll & Bute</td> <td>£836</td> <td>£883</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Ayrshire</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£859</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Renfrewshire</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£616.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Renfrewshire</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£996</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Dunbartonshire</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£1088</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Perth & Kinross</td> <td>£709</td> <td>£974</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stirling</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£1183,20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Falkirk</td> <td>£782.25</td> <td>£858</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fife</td> <td>£792</td> <td>£753</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Lanarkshire</td> <td>£-</td> <td>£1009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Lanarkshire</td> <td>£680.05</td> <td>£927.47</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Council	Cremation	Burial	Inverclyde	£764.95	£974.70	West Dunbartonshire	£782	£822	Glasgow	£699	£1050	Argyll & Bute	£836	£883	North Ayrshire	£-	£859	Renfrewshire	£-	£616.15	East Renfrewshire	£-	£996	East Dunbartonshire	£-	£1088	Perth & Kinross	£709	£974	Stirling	£-	£1183,20	Falkirk	£782.25	£858	Fife	£792	£753	North Lanarkshire	£-	£1009	South Lanarkshire	£680.05	£927.47
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Equalities monitoring data	
User feedback (including complaints)	There is a risk of reputational damage in relation to the proposed burial charge increases.
Stakeholders Other	
Are there information gaps and, if so, what are these?	This Budget Saving Proposal will form part of the Budget Consultation 2022. The Service will liaise with local Funeral Directors.

10. Please use the space below to detail any other matters arising from the Equality Impact Assessment process, including what action could be taken to mitigate the impact of this Budget Saving Proposal

Children 17 years and under remain free for cremations and burials.

All other crematorium and burial ground related charges would increase accordingly.

Details of the Person(s) who completed the Assessment:	Name: Gail Macfarlane
	Position: Head of Service
	Date: 5 October 2022
Authorised by:	Name: Stuart Jamieson
	Position: Interim Director - Environment and Regeneration
	Date:

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Thank you for your assistance with the completion of this task.

Please send a copy of the completed Template to Karen Barclay, Corporate Policy and Performance Officer: karen.barclay@inverclyde.gov.uk.