

Addendum to the Report of the Assistant Director, Office of the Chief Executive to the meeting of the Executive to be held on 6 February 2018 (Document 'AV')

Subject:

Consultation feedback and equality assessment for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 Council budget proposals - report addendum.

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report (Document AV) of the Assistant Director, Office of the Chief Executive was published on 29 January 2018 to be presented to the Executive at the meeting to be held on 6 February 2018. The report includes information from the public engagement and consultation programme in relation to the budget proposals for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 budget.
- 1.2 The public consultation and engagement programme however continued until 28 January 2018 meaning that there is a requirement to provide details of further information and comments received from 26 January when the report was submitted to the end of the consultation. This addendum therefore provides an update on feedback received during these additional few days.

2. Updates to the feedback received through the consultation

- 2.1 By the end of the consultation on 28 January 2018, the Council has received comments from 1239 people or groups (an increase from 1129 as outlined in the report document AV). Of this, 1183 were in direct relation to the different budget proposals for 2018-19 and 2019-20, including the proposed increases to Council Tax. A further 53 comments were made that were not specific to particular proposals for the next two years.
- 2.2 Monitoring of the corporate social media accounts and Stay Connected newsletters on the budget consultation has shown over 1699 click-throughs to the online consultation pages. It is worth noting that overall activity on the corporate social media accounts around the consultation has however been far greater than that in terms of reach and posts shared, and not all responses represented feedback on the overall budget proposals or an individual proposal.

2.2 The proposals generating most comments at the end of the consultation were:

- Children's Services Prevention and Early Help – 700 (consultation on this open until 12 February)
- Libraries (4E9) – 219 responses
- The raise in council tax – 116 responses
- Adults overall demand management strategy (4A1) – 30 responses
- Review of respite provision (5C1) – 16 responses
- Youth service (5E2) – 17 responses
- Home from hospital, integrated care (5PH1) – 12 responses
- Museums and galleries (5E1) – 12 responses
- Street cleansing (4E5) – 9 responses
- Reducing de-trunked road maintenance budget (5R1) – 8 responses

A further 37 proposals received seven or fewer comments.

2.3 Further correspondences have also been received from public and voluntary sector partner organisations which have been shared directly with decision makers and headline comments incorporated into the overall feedback.

2.4 Appendix 1 has been updated to include further comments received on each proposal over the last three days of the consultation, and include comments received through the online survey, postal questionnaires and emails from the general public and voluntary and public sector partner organisations.

Appendix 1 – Consultation feedback – service and equalities

(Where proposals have received no comment through the consultation, these have not been included in the table below.)

Additional comments since publication of 6 February 2018 Executive report have been highlighted in bold below – these have been received through the online survey, postal questionnaires, emails and letters from the general public and public and voluntary sector partners.

NEW PROPOSALS FOR 2018/19 AND 2019/20					
Ref	Proposal for Change	Equalities impact	Mitigation	Feedback on service impacts	Feedback on equality impacts
		As published in December 2017			
OUTCOME: Better Health Better Lives					
5PH1	A Home From Hospital Service – BRICCS Integrated Care & Support – review and redesign of the service.	This service is designed to support people who are homeless or in unsuitable accommodation, and who are at risk of staying longer than necessary in hospital. Homeless populations are more likely to have ill health and long term disabling conditions; some from age specific groups such as 16-25 year olds and 35 to 55 year olds. They are also more likely to be male.	Mitigation may be possible should the provider be able to secure alternative funding. This review and redesign will help identify other funding streams over the next two years as part of the bigger programme of out of hospital redesign.	It was felt that the funding should be maintained as a 'spend to save' initiative and in order to free up hospital bed spaces. The council should ensure other funding for appropriate support is secured before making a decision to withdraw this service. There is lack of clarity on what the remaining other funding might be and how effective it can be. Concern that the people this affects won't have a say on the proposal.	This could reduce the level of support available to some of the most vulnerable in society and in addition could put this group of people at risk of homelessness. This would also put pressure on housing providers to rehouse individuals where we do not have the resource or skills to meet their care and support needs. This would put the individual at risk of being rehoused into inadequately and potential returning to hospital or becoming homeless. It was suggested that this EIA needs more data to support the assessment.
5C1	Review Respite Provision after the introduction of personalised budgets	At this stage of the proposal development it is unclear what the impacts on protected characteristic groups would be. However as the proposal is developed the people it impacts upon will be considered as a means of helping to shape the proposal. However at this stage it is anticipated that the impacts could be high on age and disability.	Considerations to date include further developments of personalised budgets and to develop a process to buy services with personalised budgets from the Council and the Voluntary Sector.	There's a need to ensure sufficient help for people to understand and be supported through this change. It was felt there aren't enough existing places, even before any reductions. There is a risk that carers will be unable to continue to care because the impact upon their physical and mental health. More training is needed to help people manage their own budgets. There is concern that this may lead to more hospital admissions. Concern that there may be impacts on Children's Centres and the support provided to new parents and vulnerable families.	More data is needed on this EIA, such as how many people are currently managing their own budget? There is a clear impact upon many protected characteristics (age, disability, women more likely to be carers etc). Further assessment is needed to understand the impact on BME people. With reduced respite vulnerable people will end up in the Assessment and Treatment Unit/ Higher risk of abuse/Children taken into care. Any additional hospital admissions are most likely to affect children and young people who have more complex conditions.
OUTCOME: Better Skills, More Jobs and a Growing Economy					
5E1	Museums and Galleries – Review of service to include potential for income generation, service efficiency and integration and remodelling of operational delivery	No impacts identified	N/A	Particular concern for Red House. If museums close history and artefacts will be lost, along with education and knowledge for the next generation. Museums bring history alive. Alternative to closure would be to set up memberships (like National Trust) and run events which could be charged for (thematic evenings, weddings etc). Exhibitions and events should be charged for as an income generator to support other services. It is suggested that museums shouldn't be run by the Council, but by the private sector. The Council should stick to core services of social care, cleansing, road maintenance and education. There was agreement by some that health services	

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				should take priority over museums, if it has to come to down to a choice. Opportunity for more volunteer involvement, with the right training. People benefit from such venues for education, social stimulation or to counter social isolation.	
5R1	Reducing de-trunked (previously Highway Agency controlled) road maintenance budget	A reduction in the overall allocation of revenue maintenance would lead to a reduction in the numbers of maintenance cycles undertaken for each aspect of maintenance in any given year. (e.g. reducing litter picking activities from 4 times per year to 2 times). Any reduction in highway maintenance will impact most people the same, but will possibly have slightly greater impact on people who are more elderly, disabled or pregnant.	Priority would be given to any maintenance activities which have a 'life or death' consequence on users of the highways network. However as the scope, nature and therefore impact of specific maintenance requirements is not known, it is not possible to propose measures to fully mitigate or eliminate the possible disproportionate impacts.	Consideration needs giving to any long term impact (including injuries, legal claims, damage to highways and therefore more costly repairs later).	The impact on mobility of disabled and older people because of the state of the roads and pavements is massive.
5R3	Increasing percentage level of staff capital recharges to external projects/ customers	No impacts identified	N/A	This was seen as a good idea, and that increases in charges for using council staff skills needs to be looked at in other areas.	

OUTCOME: Safe Clean Active

5E2	Youth Service – All commissioned grants will be reviewed during 2018, with grants to VCS groups providing youth work ceasing from April 2019.	There will be a disproportionate impact on young people in the district. Some of the grants made support a particular protected characteristic group. Whilst the grants are relatively small, and will not address the needs of the entire protected characteristic group, they do benefit a smaller number of people within it. There will be an impact on other protected characteristics but this would be proportionate to the overall youth population. It is not possible to predict how the loss of grants to the voluntary, community and faith sector would impact on youth work jobs within organisations currently funded under the grant scheme.	Last year the Youth Work Grant Scheme was reconfigured to give 2 streams to the grants, one was for sessional / week in week out youth work activity, the other was for developmental grants for groups to develop self sustaining youth work initiatives. As these will have been funded for the year, build sustainability into their plans for the work, these should now be at a stage of being able to operate without the renewal of the grant. Further consideration to mitigating the impact will be made in terms of sessional youth work by working with the local authority Youth Services to ensure they support local voluntary, community and faith sector groups in shared initiatives that develop and enhance skills, volunteering opportunities and People Can initiatives to respond	The VCS have an essential role in supporting the growing BME youth population. A reduction in support will be counterproductive, leaving youth disengaged from society. Ensure that there is sound analysis of the impact of the changes in funding, and that the outcomes from grant are evaluated to ensure the impact is maximised. The reliance on the VCS finding alternative funding sources is not always realistic as many bids are not successful. Where activities are targeted, then evidencing the need is easier and funding easier to acquire. However these grants are used for match funding which would also no longer be an option. A cost benefit analysis should be done to realise the impacts of not supporting this work. It is primarily preventative or early help activity which saves the whole 'system' money. Innovation will be lost. The alternative of using volunteers is not realistic without support for them. Suggestion of splitting the reduction over two years, rather than all in one year. There was concern that this meant that the Council wouldn't be meeting its statutory duties. Access to the National Citizens Service is limited, not all can engage, leaving a gap in support. Suggest a local	The EIA states that the Youth Offer Working Group will continue to identify priorities and needs but they must also consider how reduced funding may affect communities. Any impacts need to take into consideration the wider cumulative impacts across the whole budget on young people. The VCS reach many young people who are not known to specialist services, more vulnerable young people such as Asian young women who can be marginalised (forced and coerced marriages). Concern was expressed for young disabled people if services are reduced/taken away. There was a suggestion that groups in more disadvantaged areas have less opportunity to access alternative sources of funding & support therefore increasing inequality. The mitigation suggests that the youth service can support and encourage VCS activity. It is unclear whether the youth service has capacity to do this. Furthermore some of the activity that they have currently stimulated is in existence because of the youth grant funding, so it may be more difficult to stimulate such activity without such funding existing.
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			<p>to locally identified needs.</p> <p>The work of the Youth Offer Working Group will continue to identify priorities and needs in relation to the districts youth offer and explore ways of building capacity within the Voluntary, Community and Faith youth sector.</p> <p>As there is a 12 month lead in time to implementation, further work (and the grant funding) can be applied to building sustainable solutions and mitigating impacts.</p>	<p>version is developed with a wider reach. Suggestion of redesigning the whole system of youth support and engagement. The VCS contributed to a lot of youth work in the lead up to the EDL demonstrations. The ability to react to this sort of situation would be harder without that additional support. Bradford Youth Development Partnership can show that that for every £10 'granted' by the council, it has attracted an extra £30. This must be an extremely strong argument for the value of support by means of a grant?</p> <p>The youth offer model was based on a co-delivery model with the voluntary sector and youth service approved by the Council's Executive. This budget proposal seems to significantly change this strategic direction. This proposal seems to go against broader activity to involve the voluntary sector more in delivery and co design. There appears to have been no analysis of alternative models of supporting young people.</p> <p>The proposal to remove youth grants undermines existing activity and will reduce preventative provision just when it will become more important with the reduction in the children's Early Help offer.</p>	
OUTCOME: Well Run Council					
5FM2	School Catering and Cleaning – increased sales, price review and administrative efficiencies.	No impacts identified	N/A	There is a concern over increased costs for schools in areas with higher levels of deprivation	
5F2	Revenues and Benefits – General efficiency savings – combination of cost and staffing reductions	No impacts identified	N/A	There is concern with these efficiencies when the benefits system is so complex with people struggling to navigate through it. If people don't get the right support to access universal credit (and other funding they are entitled to) this creates more dependency and more cost to the Council.	
5F3	Procurement Supplies and Services Budget – overall net savings subsequent to a review of the Procurement function as a whole	No impacts identified	N/A	When reviewing procurement , consideration should be given to the impacts on the local community – social value and supporting and building relationships with local businesses.	
5X1	Reduce total cost of top management - the scope is the senior management (Strategic and Assistant Directors) and their PA structure	No impacts identified	N/A	It is felt that top management need to be able to undertake multiple roles, in some case both political and officer. There also needs to be general reduction in managers and a reduction in senior management salaries.	

PROPOSALS ALREADY CONSULTED ON IN 2016/17, FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION

Ref	Proposal for Change	Equalities impact	Mitigation	Feedback on service impacts	Feedback on equality impacts
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OUTCOME: Better Health Better Lives					
4PH1	<p>School Nursing and Health Visiting - service based efficiencies – primarily management, back office and vacancy control</p> <p><i>Please note this proposals affects both Better Health, Better Lives and Great Start, Good Schools but for clarity is shown here</i></p>	<p>The services will be re-commissioned as part of the proposed Prevention and Early Help which was outlined in the Executive paper in November 2017. There is potential to impact on children and families across some protected characteristics but these will be mitigated wherever possible by focusing on identifying children at risk and targeting services on more vulnerable families and their children. The consultation for this model completes in Feb 2018.</p>	<p>Using a phased approach will help to plan and prepare any emerging risks which can then be managed through the proposed Prevention and Early Help approach for a more integrated model for children and young people and the service will continue to provide statutory services.</p>	<p>It was suggested that local organisations would be able to better provide these services, keeping money in Bradford and providing a better quality service. One large local contract should be set up, with localised grants to smaller providers.</p> <p>There is a strong economic case for investing heavily in prevention, particularly for children as economic benefits continue to accrue over a lifetime. Health visitors are often the only health professionals in contact with families when children are very young. Any cuts to this budget will put further pressure on the service that health visitors deliver and will have a devastating impact on health outcomes for our young people. http://www.1001criticaldays.co.uk This invaluable preventative work keeps hospital attendances and admissions down. There is also concern on the impact of safeguarding.</p>	
4PH2	<p>Substance Misuse Service – combination of redesign, re-commissioning and ceasing recovery service, dual diagnosis service, supervised medication programme, inpatient detoxification services.</p>	<p>Impact assessments have identified that this range of proposals could have impacts on a wide range of service users across the range of protected characteristics.</p>	<p>Any new contracts will continue to have the same equality requirements of the Provider under the Equality Act 2010 as the current tender. The new service specification being commissioned requires that the service is provided through various types of provision and that the service is integrated throughout providing continuity for service users. Services will be more community based with access points in multiple sites in non-substance misuse specific services making it easier for all sections of society to access them.</p>	<p>The option of community based services may neither be popular with users or others using centres. More details are needed on the type of centres to be used.</p>	
4PH3	<p>Sexual Health - combination of redesign, review and ceasing services Health development with young people, sex and relationship education in</p>	<p>Some of the services are designed specifically for parts of the population who share a protected characteristic. Therefore services are provided disproportionately to those parts of the population and the impact</p>	<p>The SRHS that is commissioned is part of a wider Sexual Health economy with GPs providing oral contraception and STI testing which is commissioned by NHSE from GP practices as part of their core service offer.</p>	<p>There was concern that there will be no specialist services for people with combined substance misuse and mental health problems once this reduction is made. Mainstream health professionals aren't trained to support such complex cases. This could lead to increases in hospitalisation and homelessness. This may lead to an increase in unwanted</p>	<p>One of the mitigation factors for this area is that it will be delivered through schools. However those most in need of this provision are the very young people who do not engage in school or who have poor relationships with them, therefore resulting in a lack of access to those who most need the service. As a result you will see more young people needing higher cost specialist services, for example and increase in teen pregnancy.</p>

	schools, emergency hormonal contraception	will reflect this.	Bradford residents would still be able to access SHRS (oral contraceptives and STI screening) within their community through their GP practice and Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives (coils and implants) and STI testing and treatment, through the SHRS that would stay situated centrally within the city centre making it accessible to all.	pregnancies impacting other services.	
4PH5	Homestart, Worksafe, Injury Minimisation Programme - phase out of these services providing support for vulnerable parents and children age 0-5 years.	Potential to Impact on children and families across the range of protected characteristics particularly age, disability, race and low income families.	Some of the key activities will be mainstreamed into the wider proposed Prevention and Early Help approach for children and young people and families in the District. This is currently under separate consultation until February 2018. In order to manage any negative affects a phased approach will be adopted in the first year.	Concern over increases to hospital admissions and attendances as a consequence of reduced education and support to families.	
4PH6	Physical Activity, Food and Nutrition - cessation of grants to VCS organisations delivering range of activities including 'cook and eat', physical activity, food growing and breastfeeding support.	Services are currently commissioned from a variety of BME organisations and groups based in low income areas to ensure positive outcomes for all parts of the community. The race equality impact is judged to be high, because of the high BME take up of VCS services.	The Health Improvement Team will support providers/organisations and service users proactively with advice and sign-posting as opportunities are identified	As public services withdraw from delivering this sort of service, it is felt that the VCS will have to pick it up. However without any funding this is going to prove difficult.	
4PH8	Warm Homes Healthy People – reduction in the short term winter activity based programme	Service supports a range of vulnerable householders, many of whom share particular protected characteristics. Removing the programme's main funding reduces the breadth of service offered and may disadvantage some people.	In 2016/17 support to develop a new approach to funding was granted to partners, which allowed the creation of a crowd funding website which plans to raise £25k this year. This will be built upon to enable core services such as fuel poverty and food poverty work streams to be maintained. Other independent fund raising by existing partners such as Ground Works/ Family Action will join in the programme each winter.	The council has already explored developing a new funding approach, however exploring options around voluntary organisations who offer similar support may be beneficial e.g. stepchange, CAB, CHAS St Vincents, foodbanks etc and having an effective signposting and partnership working will assist customers who benefit from the WHHP if funding needs to be reduced.	Housing Associations are able to offer some support similar to the WHHP scheme for tenants (e.g. food parcels, debt advice) however people living in the private rented sector do not get the same level of support. The number of households in the private rented sector is growing and cutting this service further is likely to put vulnerable households at risk.
4A1	Adults - Overall Demand Management Strategy - moving from a dependency model to	Older people and people with Mental Health & Learning Disabilities will predominantly be affected by this proposal but the focus will be on personalised	Our approach will seek to focus on people's strengths and enabling people to manage properly understood, proportionate and positive risks in	Concern over the cuts with the increasing elderly population. We should embrace the private sector ideas and bring more in house as you don't see private care bankrupt. More cross council cooperation to share resources and	The cuts are taking us backwards in terms of the Social Model: Less choice & control and integration leading to more safeguarding issues.

	<p>one that promotes independence and resilience (e.g. reducing numbers coming in to care, care system culture change, speeding up integration, redesign enablement, reviewing financial needs, continued personalisation).</p>	<p>services for people so the impact on protected characteristics will be mitigated at individual level. As part of the Strategy to reduce residential and nursing places it is intended that more extra care schemes are developed, which will help to improve people's lives and reduce expenditure across all groups.</p> <p>As the proposal is developed, the detail of impacts will be further assessed to ensure any potential implications on protected characteristics are minimised.</p>	<p>living their lives. We will undertake individual assessments and carry out extensive engagement with service users, carers and advocates to ensure seamless transitions for any service users affected. This will enable us to meet our duty under the Care Act 2014 and mitigate against any disproportionate negative impact on any person with a protective characteristic.</p> <p>By offering other options for people in terms of housing and care support, people will have the opportunity to access appropriate services that meet their assessed needs and be in a position to maintain their independence and to continue to have a positive contribution and be inclusive in their local community. This will ensure where possible people with particular characteristics are not disproportionately affected. We will further review the potential impact on protected characteristics as part of the development of the delivery programme.</p>	<p>skills. It is suggested that MPs should be lobbied regarding the issue with underfunded social care as well as Jeremy Hunt. Social care should be paid by government not local tax payers. Concern that lack of funding will have a detrimental affect on the NHS. There is concern that poorly funded social care, will lead to poorly trained staff and very poorly paid staff, which ultimately leads to a very poor service. It is suggested that all social care is run directly by the council. Children, Adults and Elderly are already the most vulnerable group in terms of support required . If these groups then have additional needs like any disabilities, disease, housing, transport, Medical Services then their vulnerability is further enhanced and compromised. More transparency is needed on this proposal. Invest in local VCS - keep the money within the district and be wary of larger organisations who have a notional presence but little local knowledge but are in a position to undercut local organisations where the skills/contacts/trust and knowledge has taken years to achieve. There was concern as to how much support people would get to allow them to be independent. With less care hours, people can do fewer activities which reduces their independence. More training and support for providers is needed. Clearer and simpler pathways are needed to help reduce waiting times. It was felt that the VCS could do a lot more to help mitigate especially around accountable care and mental health. Closer working with GPs for example. Concern that there is no clear plan or strategy to address the budget shortfalls in this area.</p> <p>There was concern over the current assessment process for people needing care, and the approach to carers themselves.</p> <p>There are potential additional pressures from these cuts to District Nurses and them needing to deal with personal care.</p>	
4C3	<p>Children's Services – staffing, restructure, reduction in the Connexions contract with longer term service brought back in to Council, investigate regional data centre, cessation of Employment Opportunities Fund (EOF).</p>	<p>This proposal in regard to the Connexions Service contract will have a negative impact on people who share a protected characteristic. This service directly supports young people who are NEET, the cohort being comprised of young people with complex and multiple needs related to the protected characteristics and long-term low-income unemployed adults</p>	<p>To mitigate the potential disproportionate impact of the Connexions Service proposal, there will be a re-design of the Connexions type activity to provide a minimum statutory service with a greater reliance on the Bradford Pathways approach that will be underpinned with more effective information, advice and guidance framework. Greater linkages and working with other front line staff working with young people will also be explored. It is not feasible to fully mitigate the impact of the proposals given proposed funding levels</p>	<p>Some felt that this should remain within the Local Authority or with further education establishments, as these organisations are better connected and therefore can delivery a better service. Others felt this was an opportunity to have different partners engaged, therefore adding to the richness of any support services, and opportunities for additional funding. Services should not be centralised, as many people wont access them if they have to travel. Concern that this loss will impact the support for young people and the consequent future of the district. The EOF scheme has been extremely beneficial for many of the individuals on the scheme; supporting them off benefits and back into work, bringing in additional funding into the district as a result of them working and the payment of lower benefits and spending more money within our district. Without this fund it will impact on those who through it would be back in employment</p>	
4C4	<p>Child Protection management</p>	<p>No impacts identified</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Concern that a reduction in numbers of staff will leave</p>	

	restructure – reduction in teams by four to ten with potential reduction in team managers plus review other overall budgets			children even more vulnerable.	
4C13	Drugs and Alcohol Team – review of the work of the team and all other services that support young people with alcohol and drug issues	No impacts identified	N/A	This proposal could adversely impact on A&E departments and other hospital services.	

OUTCOME: Better Skills More Jobs and a Growing Economy

4E8	Events and Festivals – review to develop a more sustainable and balanced events programme	Potential for greater impact on people of low income / low wage. The events are primarily free to attend and any reduction in their delivery could reduce the opportunity for people to attend cultural activities.	Review of Events and Festivals framework is on going and will take into account the protected characteristics to mitigate any disproportionate impacts.	<p>Council seems to fund activities in city park which have no bearing on the well being of the people and council does not get any revenue from this activity.</p> <p>There needs to be a critical examination of events held around the Mirror Pool. They are aesthetically pleasing but can no longer be a priority.</p> <p>The council festivals on offer throughout the year are wonderful family events where families from all cultures and backgrounds are able to integrate in a safe and friendly environment and learn about each others cultures and celebrations. It would be such a shame to lose these events and the impact on integration could be huge.</p>	
4E9	Libraries – reduction in the number of libraries directly provided by CBMDC. Further investigation of potential for alternative delivery models	Potential reduction in the number of libraries directly managed by the Council may impact on those groups, young and old or low income/low wage that have no alternative access to information or educational/reading materials though other sources (eg on-line, purchased) or use libraries as social gathering points.	Consultation with and support for communities to help develop proposals and implementation of models of community management outside Council control.	<p>More detail on the expected changes is needed. At the very least keep the larger libraries and improve these. Libraries are now running very low on professional input making it harder to develop and diversify. Libraries need to continue to provide management of Bookstart scheme (gifting books). Concern that community run libraries wont be able to meet the national plans set out by Society of Chief Librarians.</p> <p>More information is needed on how existing community run libraries are doing. It was felt that consultation on libraries changes was hidden and not engaging people enough.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to make libraries shared community spaces, but they need to be run by professionals, as relying on volunteers is not effective enough – issues of confidentiality and knowledge for example.</p> <p>More work could be done on finding alternative funding streams, and alternative models such as York Explore, trusteeships, charitable trusts.</p> <p>It was felt that community run models work in affluent areas but not in areas of greater deprivation. It was also suggested that schools are struggling to purchase books, so limited lending will add a further burden.</p> <p>It was suggested that libraries could be run from community halls. This is already happening successfully</p>	<p>Elderly people will struggle to get to a central library and this will lose any village feel. Not all are able and this is limiting their ability to use this service.</p> <p>The most vulnerable in society that don't have a voice who use our libraries to access the internet to pay bills sort out job applications, those that need a quiet space to read and relax to help people with invisible disabilities. People are encouraged to read and write to help their mental health. People on low incomes don't have easy internet or purchased materials access.</p> <p>There was concern that the home library service would be cut, effecting older more vulnerable people.</p> <p>There is concern that the cuts will impact on communal activities such as activities for children during school holidays, or societies such as family history societies that hold monthly meetings, short courses on historical research or classes in IT literacy.</p> <p>Disabled people are keen that the home delivery service continues for disabled people. This has a knock-on effect on the Home First agenda: People at home having nothing to do/isolation/depression. There is great value in the act of someone popping in with the library books – it may be their only visitors that day (social contact) and is a good check to spot if people need more help (every contact counts).</p>

				<p>in many areas. Concern that legislative duties to provide a service will not be met. Bring community facilities such as halls and libraries up to a modern standard and in good states of repair before transferring to community ownership. The service that libraries provide cuts across all the Council's priority areas as outlined in the Council Plan and should therefore continue to be supported. Most feedback related to libraries in general but some comments mentioned Bingley, Ilkley, Keighley, Wike and Wibsey in particular.</p>	
4R2	<p>West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) Transport Levy – proposed reduction in the levy</p>	<p>This proposal could have an adversely disproportionate impact on both the young (under 18's) and elderly sectors of the community as the funding which is being reduced is specifically used to fund schemes/programmes which are delivered for these groups.</p>	<p>The negative impacts would need to be considered within the wider West Yorkshire context in consultation with WYCA with whom the ultimate decisions on which aspects of their budgets to reduce would rest.</p> <p>Some aspects of expenditure of the Transport Levy are protected by national regulation and hence are likely to remain largely unaffected by any reductions as a consequence of this proposal. It is therefore anticipated that those elements of expenditure which are discretionary are likely to bear the majority of any agreed levy reduction.</p>		<p>There is concern that the provisions over and above that granted to ENCS holders will be lost or reduced eg the benefit that is afforded to the blind/VI community that allows them to use trains and buses at all times</p>
4R6	<p>Planning, Transportation and Highways - options related to discretionary budgets for highway maintenance works including minor drainage improvements, pavement repairs and footpath and snicket maintenance</p>	<p>Whilst the cost of the works delivered through the local area maintenance budgets may be relatively small, the impact of non-action could have a disproportionate impact on the lives of the districts citizens. Some footpaths and snickets are currently impassable due to lack of maintenance which is a consequence of the current reduced budget allocation</p>	<p>As the scope of the impact arising from this proposal could be wide ranging and dependent upon the nature of any specific maintenance requirements, it is not possible to propose measures to fully mitigate or eliminate the impacts.</p> <p>However, the nature of the prioritisation framework (which is still to be developed), which would be used to assess the priority for action of any requests, could incorporate appropriate consideration of the characteristic of the person needing action (e.g. include age and/or disability criteria).</p>	<p>Cuts to traffic and road budgets will increase costs for motorists and cause damage to vehicles, potentially leading to a higher rate of accidents.</p>	<p>Failure to maintain footpaths, in particular, will present significant risk of injury to elderly, infirm and disabled. Consider low maintenance surfaces rather than traditional paving stones where possible.</p>
4R7	<p>Planning, Transportation and Highways - reduction in Highways Services</p>	<p>Reduced maintenance of gateways and subways will lead to these assets deteriorating and over time potentially becoming impassable.</p>	<p>Replacement of any subway facility which is removed as a consequence of this proposal with a surface level controlled crossing could be considered to</p>	<p>Traffic calming measures need to be applied to all parts of the district, not targeting particular neighbourhoods.</p>	

	operational budgets associated with operational transport gateway and subway maintenance	This could therefore impact on some of the protected characteristics. This could therefore impact on some of the protected characteristics.	ensure that the negative impacts on severance are mitigated. However such works would lead to an increased maintenance liability on the Council's traffic signal infrastructure and such crossings are inherently more dangerous than segregated crossings on major arterial routes like Wakefield Road.		
4R11	Planning, Transportation and Highways - introduction of limited lighting hours / switch off of street lighting on non-principal road network	Introduction of this proposal in additional areas of the district will have a disproportionately negative impact on some protected characteristics. Fear of crime amongst the elderly will increase where back streets and residential roads are unlit during the early hours of the morning and it is from this characteristic group that the greatest impact is anticipated. Similarly fear of crime on unlit streets could adversely impact the protected characteristic groups of disability, race, religion/belief and sex who may all experience increased levels of concern about the proposal.	The Council has developed a set of criteria which are used to select streets where limited lighting hours are introduced. These criteria assess road safety statistics, criminal activity records, infrastructure condition and involve consultation with the local community on any proposals being prepared. Any streets which are considered appropriate to be included in the programme of limited lighting operation will be fully appraised using this model before a decision is taken on whether or not to implement the limited lighting hours infrastructure is taken. Those streets with high criminal activity and/or poor road safety records will not be included in the project beyond their initial assessment. To avoid any undue distress to local residents only those streets which "pass" the desktop assessment will be consulted upon with the local community.	Despite the council stating they have developed a set of criteria that include criminal activity records, we are aware that a lot of crime goes unreported to the police which could potentially mean that the data on which decisions are based is not robust. If not already part of the criteria consultation with housing providers at an early stage regarding reports of anti-social behaviour in the area as Housing Associations operating in the district have a detailed knowledge of the problems faced by communities in the neighbourhoods they manage. There is concern about the continued reduction in street lighting and how that leads to people not feeling safe and not going out at night time. However it was also suggested that more street lighting could be reduced between midnight and 6am. Concern for late night worker's safety, and the increase in social isolation.	
4R13	Economic Development Service – reduction in City Park sinking fund (fund set aside to fund future expense), matched funding for European Strategic Investment Fund programmes. Remove support for B-funded community funding information website	The savings may have a low impact on low wage/low income people where job opportunities are impacted.	Targeting areas of economic under performance, and by prioritising target groups in service promotion and skills development.	It was strongly felt that the Bfunded investment should remain as through this support a very large amount of money is brought in to the district. The impact can be demonstrated through figures from West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service (WYCAS). This shows that in 2016/17 they supported 128 Bradford district organisations with their finances. This led to 402 separate grants and contracts being received in the district, with a value of £1.8m coming from the local authority and £4.1m coming from other sources.	
OUTCOME: Safe Clean and Active Communities					
4E1	Parks and Bereavement management	Impact on clubs with lower level of membership / players and/or	There is a growing interest from local communities, residents,	There is concern over the use of the digital body scanner	

	<p>rationalisation; withdrawal from direct management of sport pitches and bowling greens; raise prices of bereavement services.</p>	<p>financial resources at their disposal which could ultimately result in some clubs to merge or disband With regard to bereavement service proposals, any increase in charges, particularly at a rate above inflation, will by definition have a disproportionate effect upon those on low incomes for a service that cannot be viewed as discretionary. Given that cremation charges are currently lower than burial charges, particularly should a new grave be required, any percentage price rise will generate a higher cash increase in the cost of burials than that of cremations. This could represent a disproportionate effect for those religious/faith communities that due to their beliefs have no choice between funeral types. The Muslim and East European communities fall in this latter group. The implementation of a flat rate cash increase to both cremations and burials would however have increased the cremation charge to a level disproportionate to that of the burial charge in terms of comparator values of neighbouring Councils.</p>	<p>Parish/Town Councils and sports clubs to become more involved in the operation of public assets, particularly where the opportunity exists to develop community use. Such as having direct access to a range of grant funding bodies whilst 'ownership' allows increased sponsorship and fund raising opportunities. The Service would seek to support individuals/groups of clubs both directly and through the National Governing Bodies to take overall responsibility and would consider an incremental approach over a defined period. Prior investment in the assets to transfer together with elements of seed funding and appropriate rent will allow financially sustainable organisations to develop. The most deprived/low income communities receive support for the cost of funerals from the Council through Adult Services. The proposed above inflation increase in charges for funerals will result in local service users continuing to pay less than the average within West Yorkshire for all services. It is intended to introduce a reduced rate for the walling of graves to coffin height which will mitigate the effect of the increases for those faith groups that adopt such a requirement</p>	<p>for autopsies. It is felt not to be essential. In relation to sports pitches, there continues to be concern about the capacity and capabilities of volunteers and some groups to take on the responsibilities of maintaining grounds and facilities. Parks need to be seen as a community asset. A small amount of council maintenance leads to greater involvement by communities to keep the park in a good state and make use of the space.</p>	
4E2	<p>Waste Collection and Disposal Services – Full year effect of introduction of alternate weekly collection and associated round reduction, improved recycling, reduction in residual waste and improved efficiencies.</p>	<p>Alternate weekly collections fully implemented with the exception of rural rounds (in hand) with no adverse impacts identified. The proposal is likely to have no or a low impact on everyone so it is considered that there is no disproportionate impact on any group who share protected characteristics. It is however recognised that a move to alternate weekly collection could result in the residual waste bin being heavier to move around.</p>	<p>The Council already provides assisted bin lifts for residents where mobility or accessibility issues arise. In this circumstance the resident can call the Contact Centre and a home visit will be arranged to assess how the Council can help.</p>	<p>Concern over fly tipping, over flowing bins (for families in particular) and the imposed difficulties to use recycling centres - we need passes but these are not automatically sent to residents. Menston residents can't use the nearby Ellar Ghyll site as it's in LCC jurisdiction, and Ilkley is 20 min drive away. So there is an exchange of weekly bin collections for car emissions, fly tipping and hassle.</p>	

4E5	Street Cleansing and Public Conveniences – reduction to street cleansing resources for 2019/20	The street cleansing proposal has the potential to have a low impact on predominantly inner city highly densely populated areas. The people who live in these areas are in the main white people on low incomes and communities from BME backgrounds. In terms of closure of the toilets there is likely to be a disproportionate impact on older people, pregnant women, parents requiring access to baby changing facilities, young children, transgender community, and disabled people, particularly those with complex needs, and people who, because of their physical condition, may need to visit the toilet more regularly.	Increased waste awareness and anti litter/education campaigns in affected areas and the new robust enforcement model for targeting those people that drop litter, will mitigate the impact. The department have approached relevant Parish Councils, Friends of Groups and other interested community groups whether they would be interested in taking over the running of toilets. The discussions surrounding takeover and Community Asset Transfers are progressing well	It was felt that all late night licensing of takeaways outside of the City Centre should cease, stopping the ribbon development of takeaways and fast food establishments in the inner city. The focus on cleansing can then be focused on the city centre with rigorous enforcement and expanded teams - warning letters are ineffective. Allow local community groups access to anti-litter posters for grot spots. CCTV should be put in areas with high levels of fly tipping (e.g. Thornton Road). Any proposal which increases the likelihood of litter on our streets and roads will have a direct effect upon peoples health and safety. It was also felt that vermin has already increased due to increase fly tipping. There are more opportunities for community litter picks which happen successfully and community run around the district. Less clean environments lead to poorer health of residents including mental health. More enforcement is needed. Some continued concern over the future of public conveniences.	There was concern on the workforce profile as it was suggested that there are quite few disabled people who work in this service. If jobs are cut the Council must support these people to find alternative work.
4E6	Pest Control – cessation of the pest control service	This proposal could have an adverse impact on people on low incomes as it removes the facility to pay for treatments in instalments although the equality assessment carried out indicated that this proposal is likely to have no or a low impact on everyone.	The most common request for treatment is to deal with rats and mice and there is at least one company in Bradford which is able to provide the service cheaper than the Council	There was concern that this proposal meant that the service was going to be outsourced, with increased costs as a consequence.	
Topic		General Comments			
Council Tax		<p>Can't afford the increases. Wages and cost of living increases are far lower than the suggested CT increase. There is still an issue with fraud on single occupancy households. Owners of empty properties and unused land should be charged higher rates to force maintenance and if not lead to low level compulsory purchase for LA income generation. Reinvest CT in areas where it is generated from. It was suggested that some businesses could run some services more efficiently and should therefore be transferred which in turn would increase business rates received. The affordability of council tax needs addressing, so that people pay what they can afford according to their situation – families, or single income households should pay a bit less than those with double incomes for example.</p> <p>2.3 There was the suggestion of changing the CT system for something like a local income tax or a poll tax. Concern that those areas with parishes are being very hard hit due to increases in both precepts. The council tax reduction scheme helps the most vulnerable and economically disadvantaged in our community. This reduction will penalise these people beyond breaking point. There are vulnerable people with unmanageable debt who rely on budgets which are supported by CT. Look at keeping support for those who need it regarding their income or if they are vulnerable. By making it harder for them, the bills still wont get paid but it will push people into debt which creates far worse problems.</p> <p>A rise in CT could harm the local economy. Bradford is a low income city, with little disposable funds. Further increases, whilst seeing continued inflation will lead to even less disposable funds which would also impact businesses.</p>			
General administration		<p>Reduce the number of Councillors. More pressure needs to be put on central government to provide the funding needed, with Yorkshire local authorities creating an alliance to strengthen the argument. The Council could look more to philanthropy to support what will be lost. Concern that the vulnerable are being affected by the proposal leading to more people being in poverty.</p>			

Efficiencies	<p>There was a suggestion that the removal of Essential Lump sums for car users would cost more in the long run through use of taxis and public transport.</p> <p>It was suggested that communities could do their own garden/grit/cleaning. Also Renting council office spaces could be rented to other organisations.</p>
Revenues and Benefits	<p>With universal credit coming in, more staffing is needed in revenues and benefits</p>
Health (general)	<p>It is felt that contracting and procurement arrangements are not in line with the pledges around prevention and community led development. VCS work is being hampered by this, especially as it is hard to demonstrate impact and scalability. Would like to see more co-design and joint working.</p> <p>It was suggested that patient groups should be used to help get the message out about changes in public health and the way services are delivered.</p>
Other	<p>There is concern that there aren't sufficient or appropriate jobs available for people with disabilities. Increases in costs of living, be it from Council Tax, transport costs etc just makes their situations worse.</p> <p>There are concerns over increases in homeless people and the lack of funding/investment for them. A bigger proportion of expenditure should be spent on them with a vision for housing and homelessness in Bradford.</p> <p>It is felt that service reductions haven't been proportionally applied, with outlying areas suffering (e.g. Queensbury).</p> <p>Recent FOI requests have shown that union officials receive funding and time, this should be stopped as union subs should pay union funding.</p> <p>In relation to VCS funding cuts - Often value of small community organisations is overlooked because of their historic inability to measure their impact and the scalability of their work, however, this is also at odds with the clear commitment from the Council's senior management to asset based community approaches.</p> <p>Expression of sympathy for the cuts that the Council have been forced to make, and the dismay at the inevitable deterioration of Social provision for those who most need it.</p> <p>There is concern that those who shout the loudest will have their voices heard when the final decisions are made.</p> <p>There is concern about the amount of cuts to advocacy services and how that is making it harder for disabled people to have a voice including for issues like housing and access to the criminal justice system.</p> <p>There needs to be more publicity and information sharing about the assisted bin service as it is felt many do not know about it.</p> <p>The council could be more proactive in finding people and groups who are willing to put their energies behind running services – promoting the opportunity for a conversation.</p> <p>There was suggestion that social impact bonds could be better used – such as the Sheffield model.</p> <p>Concern over the money the Council might be spending on the Odeon, when apparently more important services are being substantially cut.</p>
Overall equality impacts	<p>The proposals have a regressive impact upon disabled and older people.</p> <p>There is a feeling that the cuts are more likely to hit people who are unlikely to complain, vote, have a say. This doesn't necessarily fit with equality duties and the Brown Principles</p>