

<Abolition of The Council Tax Reduction
Scheme (Pensioners Grant 2014/15)>
15 Jan 2014

Equality Impact Assessment

<Title of the proposal being assessed>

Contact: <Rod Urquhart Revenues and Benefits

Updated: <15.01.2014

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

Other

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

<The Welsh Government has abolished the Pensioner Grant for 2014/15 and subsequent years and has allocated some funding (£90,000) to the Local Authority to spend how it wishes.
--

For 2013/14 the Welsh Government allocated a total of £4million to help pensioners who were on partial Council Tax Support, up to a maximum of £100. The Total spent in Denbighshire was £132,000. This grant was means tested.

In many cases the Council Taxpayer was given a refund from their Council Tax as they had fully paid the amounts due.
--

There is a projected shortfall in continuing with the National Scheme of approximately £480,000 for 2014/15, if the number of claimants remain at the same level. It is proposed that the additional £90,000 funding is allocated to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme costs so that the scheme for all groups remains the same as is currently in place.
--

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

No	<The decision to abolish the scheme has been made by the Welsh Government and putting the additional funding towards the cost of the Council Tax Support Scheme will benefit all recipients, irrespective of age, gender, race or disability.
----	---

4. **Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken**

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

<Type here>

5. **Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

<Please summarise any likely positive impact and identify which protected characteristics will benefit>

6. **Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

<Please summarise any disproportionate negative impact and identify which protected characteristics will be affected>

7. **Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

<Please Select> <If yes, please provide detail>

8. **Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?**

<Please Select> <If yes please complete the table below. If no, please explain here>

Action(s)	Owner	By when?
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
<Unrestrict editing to insert additional rows>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>

9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	<15.10.2014
--------------	-------------

Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
<Rod Urquhart	<15.01.2014

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.
