

North Tyneside Council Report to Council Date: 21 February 2019

**Title: 2019-2023 Financial
Planning and Budget Process:
Conservative Group Notice of
Objection**

Report of: The Conservative Group

Wards affected: ALL

Conservative Group Notice of Objection for the 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget, the proposed Council Tax Level for 2019/20, the Investment Plan for 2019-2022 and the Treasury Management Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2019/20

1.0 Introduction

The Conservative budget for North Tyneside will save residents money with a much lower tax rise than the Elected Mayor and Cabinet want to impose, and also introduce a freeze in the rate for households of over 65s; it will restore the weekly bin collections; it provides more money to repair roads and pavements, and additional funds to continue regeneration on the sea front, which under the Elected Mayor's budget , would be at a standstill.

The budget we propose is a balanced budget, for which the Council has sufficient resources, and uses those resources for services for residents.

In sharp contrast with the budget proposed by the Elected Mayor and Cabinet, we wish to keep any council tax rise as low as possible, in line with residents' preferences, and have no rise at all for households where the tax payers are over 65s.

Our budget is set against the background of a stronger, growing economy, thanks to the Conservative government's management of the UK's finances. Employment continues to grow with record numbers now in work; unemployment continues to fall across the country and here in the north east. It is notable, and very welcome, that the unemployment rate in the Borough is now lower than it was before the financial crash of 2008.

We would like to see increased efforts to encourage businesses to move here, working with neighbouring authorities. The recent North of Tyne devolution deal, encouraged by the government as part of rebalancing the country's economy, provides increased opportunities to do so. We see business rates income rising, and this assists with the future sustainability of the Council's finances, as we expect it to continue to rise, provided opportunities are taken. Control of an allocation of revenue of £20m pa, over a period of 30 years, will drive growth. The opportunity to integrate the employment and skills training across the whole area will be beneficial, alongside an Education Improvement Challenge, and devolution of the Adult Education Budget. Working jointly across the three authorities with the Department for International Trade will be more effective in increasing trade and encouraging investment in our area.

We welcome the successful recent bid to be part of a Business Rates pilot : it's expected this pilot will more closely link businesses with the new devolved authority, and the gains will be invested locally in the North of Tyne area. All these changes are part of the Conservative plan for a Northern Powerhouse , further increasing local prosperity.

We expect also that there will be additional council tax income from new homes: the figure of £381,000 for 2020/21 in the Labour budget is, we believe, significantly understated, as was the case last year. This income too will add to future sustainability of council finances beyond the forthcoming year.

We would make the most of opportunities for shared services and joint working. The previous Conservative mayor introduced a shared internal audit service which has proved successful, but no further sharing has yet been agreed. All services and posts should be reviewed, from the Chief Executive's downwards, with a view to sharing. Again, the North of Tyne devolution will assist with opportunities, and we hope the Council will take advantage of them, which will also aid future stability.

Our budget enables the Council to provide the services which are important to residents, with a much smaller rise council tax, restoring weekly bin collections and increasing the repairs to roads and pavements: surveys show regularly that residents feel strongly on both matters. The government recently provided, nationally, an extra £420m for highways repairs, in which this council will share; we propose an extra sum too.

We hope that this Council will bid for funds from the new Future High Streets Fund, which will be worth a total of £675 m.

We propose also additional expenditure of £6000 on provision of extra dog waste bins, a relatively small sum but one which will make a big difference, enabling dog owners to help keep the area clean. Some pavements are currently a disgrace, and dog waste bags are left in verges and on paths. We propose the same sum for additional bins of a larger size in busy areas such as outside schools and in shopping centres.

We will finance our budget in several ways. We will reduce the council magazine to two editions per year: we note the Elected Mayor pledged to axe the publication entirely. We will reduce the cost of Trade Union facility time by half, saving almost £114, 000. Alone of council budgets, this one seems to be untouched. Priorities are wrong here - we prefer to provide services instead of financing the trade unions. Spending on the Mayor's office, the policy department, engagement and communications will be reduced by £300,000, savings which do not affect front line services. We believe that management savings can be increased to £1.25m.

We propose reducing the cost of foreshore parking permits, which were massively increased in price by the Mayor and Cabinet from £50 to £250. As we predicted, sales plummeted. We propose to reduce the cost to £100, which is much more affordable: it will result in more take up, and thus more income, whilst making parking easier for drivers and, importantly, reducing congestion in many coastal side streets, where residents now often have difficulty parking near their own homes.

Overall our proposal will require a small use of the Strategic Reserve at £55,729 for the revenue budget

We will use the sum of £150,000 from the Strategic Reserve, to fund the capital investment in roads and pavements and in the seafront regeneration. This will leave the Reserve at £14, 266,787, which is well above the level required in the Reserves and Balances Policy.

We note that in the current year, spending was axed on food and drink for councillors - we support this measure which has saved £10,000. We suggested this saving some years ago but it was not implemented - had it been, thousands of pounds could have been saved already. We are glad that drinks are no longer served to councillors after meetings of the full Council.

Since our catering saving has accepted, we urge the Mayor and Cabinet to adopt other suggestions we have made previously, namely:

1. Use of a junk mail opt-out should be promoted on the Council's website, with a view to reducing the amount of rubbish to collect and dispose of : this will save money every year. We are pleased that the Council continues to promote the successful "wash and squash" bottle recycling scheme introduced by Cllr Hodson when Cabinet Member for the Environment.
2. Disposing of the civic car: the £27,367 spent on this astonished many residents.
3. More extensive use of IT to enable better and more efficient provision of services: for example, a map facility should be included on the Council website so that residents or businesses reporting a problem can pinpoint it exactly and upload a photo, saving costs in investigation. High definition cameras could be fitted on council vehicles to take images of road surfaces for example, saving money by identifying problems before they develop into big potholes, of which we have too many already.
4. More focus should be given to encouraging healthy eating: insufficient attention has been given to this part of a healthy lifestyle. Proposals tend to focus on exercise, but a longer term and broader approach should be taken, and work done with schools and caterers to encourage use of school facilities to provide more cookery classes both during the day or in clubs after school and during the holidays. As well as enabling children and young people to learn to cook healthy meals, and to save money and budget better, there should be less demand on health services or social care in the future, saving money.
5. Work should be done to encourage use of school facilities for science clubs after school or in the holidays: there is a shortage of skills in this field and we want our children to have the best chances of employment. This is particularly relevant now that there will be a new Institute of Technology as part of the North of Tyne devolution: our Borough must not miss this opportunity.

We suggest again that a study is made of the feasibility of current proposals for the restoration of the former Outdoor Pool at Tynemouth to see if they are viable, and should they be found not, then the site should be used for a water park. A further year has gone by without this happening. The water park at Whitley Bay has been well used by residents and visitors, and similar provision in Tynemouth would remove an eyesore whilst improving facilities.

In conclusion, our budget is balanced and affordable. It will improve services and save money for residents. It will help keep the environment cleaner, maintain libraries, repair more roads and paths, continue sea front improvements, assist older people : we focus on issues that matter.

Conservative Group Resolution: Setting the Council Tax 2019/20

2019/20 Council Tax Requirement Resolution

2.0 The Conservative Group recommends that:

1. The recommended budgets of the Authority, be approved as noted below subject to the variations listed in paragraphs 2 and 3 below and notes the estimated allocation of £156.352m in Dedicated Schools Grant, for 2019/20:

	£
General Fund Revenue Budget	155,729,879
Total	<u>155,729,879</u>

2. The following levies be included in the net budget requirement:

	£
The Tyne and Wear element of the Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Transport Levy	11,061,158
Tyne Port Health Authority	49,932
Environment Agency	194,022
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	139,199
Total	11,444,311

3. The contingency provision be set as follows:

	£
Contingency Provision	4,636,255
Total	4,636,255

4. The following individual objections are proposed to be incorporated within the Authority's Budget.

Growth

Item		£
5	Introduce Weekly Waste collection	350,000
6	Reduction in the Council Tax Increase to 1%	1,832,670
7	Council Tax Freeze for Bill payers over 65	298,339
8	Additional larger dog Bins, and large bins	12,000
	If All Objections are accepted the Total Growth will be	2,493,009

Savings/Income

Item		
9	Reduce the Service Improvement fund	(100,000)
10	Reduce budgets in Corporate Strategy	(300,000)
11	Reduce Contingency Budget by	(20,000)
12	Reduce Trades Union Facility Time	(113,587)
13	Reduction in subscription following a review	(29,500)
14	Reduction in expenditure on consultants following a review	(100,000)
15	Reduce the Council magazine to 2 issues/annum	(11,193)
16	Reduce foreshore car-parking permit charges from £250 to £100 resulting in an increase in take up	(3,000)
17	Increase target on Mileage savings	(10,000)
18	Saving through Shared Services	(100,000)
19	Savings through Treasury Management	(400,000)
20	Increase Management Savings	(1,250,000)
21	Use of the Strategic Reserve	(55,729)
	If All Objections are accepted the Total Savings will be	2,493,009

5. Note that at its meeting held on 21 January 2019 Cabinet agreed the Council Tax Base for 2019/20 for the whole Authority area as 60,179 (Item T) in the Formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act") and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.
6. Agree that the Council Tax requirement for the Authority's own purposes for 2019/20 is £92,531,230, as set out below.

2019/20 Council Tax Requirement for North Tyneside Council

	£	£
2019/20 Budget Requirement		153,897,208
Financed by:		
Revenue Support Grant	0	
Retained Business Rates	(42,581,627)	
Business Rates Top Up	(17,419,373)	
Council Tax Collection Fund Surplus	(1,364,979)	
		(61,365,978)
Council Tax Requirement		92,531,230

Agrees that the following amounts now calculated by the Authority for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act):

- (a) £345,207,626 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Authority estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
- (b) £252,676,396 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Authority estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £92,531,230 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 6(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 6(b) above, calculated by the Authority in accordance with Section 31(A)(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- (d) £1,537.60 Being the amount at 6(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (4 above), calculated by the Authority, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(e) North Tyneside Council Valuation Bands

Council Tax Band	£
A	1,025.07
B	1,195.91

C	1,366.76
D	1,537.60
E	1,879.29
F	2,220.98
G	2,562.67
H	3,075.20

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 6(e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act 1992, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Authority, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

(f) Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria Valuation Bands

Note that for the year 2019/20 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria have issued the following amounts in precepts to the Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings in the Authority's area as indicated below:

Council Tax Band	£
A	89.55
B	104.48
C	119.40
D	134.33
E	164.18
F	194.03
G	223.88
H	268.66

(g) Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Authority Valuation Bands

Note that for the year 2019/20 the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority have issued the following amounts in precepts to the Authority, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings in the Authority's area as indicated below:

Council Tax Band	£
A	54.89
B	64.03
C	73.18
D	82.33
E	100.63

F	118.92
G	137.22
H	164.66

(h) Total Valuation Bands

That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 6(e), 6(f) and 6(g) above, the Authority, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Council Tax Band	£
A	1169.51
B	1364.42
C	1559.34
D	1754.26
E	2144.10
F	2533.93
G	2923.77
H	3508.52

7. The Authority's basic amount of council tax for 2019/20 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.
8. The Authority's Financial Regulations will apply to the financial management of this budget.
9. The level of contingencies will be £4.616m as pressures incurred during 2019/20 have been recognised as part of the 2019/20 Financial Planning and Budget process.
10. It is proposed that virement levels and approvals for virement shall be in accordance with the rules set down in the Authority's Financial Regulations in force at the time.
11. The Reserves and Balances Policy as set out in the report to full Council on 7 February 2019, is adopted as set down and is subject to review at least annually.
12. The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and the Senior Leadership Team be authorised to manage the overall Creating a Brighter Future Programme and note that decisions made under this delegated authority will be reported to Cabinet as part of the regular budget monitoring information provided.
13. The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Elected Mayor and Head of Finance authorise the purchase of homes, on the open market, using S106 monies received by the Authority for affordable housing, providing value for money is demonstrated and the cost can be contained within existing financial resources of

the Authority. This is to ensure the programme of delivery of affordable homes and homes at market rent is progressed in line with the Cabinet's priorities.

14. The Head of Finance be authorised to serve notices, enter into agreements, give receipts, make adjustments, institute proceedings and take any action available to the Authority to collect or enforce the collection of non-domestic rate and Council Tax from those persons liable.
15. The Head of Finance be authorised to disburse monies from funds and accounts of the Authority as required for the lawful discharge of the Authority's functions.
16. Agree that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority receive payment from the Collection Fund in 12 equal instalments on the last working day of each month.
17. Payments from the Collection Fund to be made to the Authority's General Fund in 12 equal instalments on the last working day of each month.

3.0 INVESTMENT PLAN 2019-2023

- 3.1 The Conservative Group recommends that the sum of £150,000 from the Strategic Reserve is used to fund the capital investment in Roads and Pavements (£50k) and in the Seafront Regeneration (£100K) these are shown in Appendix A

3.2 Draft Prudential Indicators

There are changes to the draft Capital Expenditure Prudential Indicator which are reflected in Appendix A.

4.0 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and are attached at B(i) and B(ii)

2019-2023 Draft Capital Investment Plan Summary

Project Ref	Project Title	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022/23 £000's	Total £000's	Funding Source	£000's
	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>							
	- <u>Maintaining our assets</u>							
	-							
BS026	Asset Planned Maintenance programme	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000	Council Contribution	6,000
EV034	Local Transport Plan	3,268	3,153	2,958	2,958	12,337	Local Transport Plan (LTP) Mtce Local Transport Plan (LTP) Grant ITA	8,505 3,832
DV072	Roads and Pavements	50	0	0	0	50	Strategic Reserve	50
EV056	Additional Highways Maintenance	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,000	Council Contribution	8,000
EV069	Vehicle Replacement	962	500	0	0	1,462	Council Contribution	1,462
IT020	ICT Strategy	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	Council Contribution	4,000
ED075	Devolved Formula Capital	1,079	579	579	579	2,816	Education Funding Agency	2,816
ED120	Basic Need	184	113	113	113	523	Education Funding Agency	523
ED132	School Capital Allocation	3,534	3,534	3,534	3,534	14,136	Education Funding Agency	14,136
	Total Maintaining our assets	13,577	12,379	11,684	11,684	49,324		49,324
	<u>Regeneration</u>							

	-							
DV058	Swan Hunters Redevelopment	2,277	0	0	0	2,277	Single Local Growth Fund (SLGF) Council Contribution	2,027 250
EV084	A189 Improvements Haddricks Mill to West Moor	2,000	0	0	0	2,000	DfT National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) Section 278	1,223 777
GEN12	Local infrastructure projects	100	100	100	100	400	Council Contribution	400
CO077	Artificial Grass Pitch – Amberley Playing Fields	714	0	0	0	714	Football Foundation grant Section 106	500 214
DV068	Southern Promenade	550	0	0	0	550	Environment Agency	550
DV073	Seafront Regeneration	100	0	0	0	100	Strategic Reserve	100
	Total Regeneration	5,741	100	100	100	6,041		6,041
	<u>Education</u>							
ED188	Special Education Needs and Disabilities Fund	400	449	0	0	849	Education Funding Agency	849
	Total Education	400	449	0	0	849		849
	<u>Housing General Fund</u>							
HS004	Disabled Facility Grants	1,060	0	0	0	1,060	Better Care Fund	1,060
HS051	Private Sector Empty Homes Programme	728	524	0	0	1,252	Council Countribution Homes and Communities Grant	224 969

							Revenue contribution	59
	Total Housing General Fund	1,788	524	0	0	2,312		2,312
	<u>Corporate</u>							
EV076	Operational Depot Accomodation review	4,100	897	0	0	4,997	Council contribution	4,997
GEN03	Contingency Provision	4,443	2,125	500	500	7,568	Council Contribution	7,568
	Total Corporate	8,543	3,022	500	500	12,565		12,565
	<u>Investments</u>							
DV066	Investment in North Tyneside Trading Company	7,045	1,400	0	0	8,445	Council contribution Section 106	6,445 2,000
	Total Investments	7,045	1,400	0	0	8,445		8,445
	TOTAL: GENERAL FUND	37,094	17,874	12,284	12,284	79,536		79,536
HS002	<u>HOUSING</u> - Decency Refurbishments Disabled Adaptations Capitalisation of Major Repairs Furniture Pack Scheme Asbestos Works Energy Efficiency & Environmental Improvements Fencing / Walling / Offstreet parking / Landscaping Non-Traditional Properties ICT Strategy/Water Pipe Renewals/Fire Damage/Garages Post 2019 Construction & Repairs Insourcing Footpaths & Communal Fire Doors Potential New Build	14,543 1,041 1,232 500 303 207 2,446 450 317 200 1,142 3,433	15,232 1,051 1,245 506 306 208 1,787 0 323 0 1,164 2,767	16,342 1,062 1,257 511 309 209 1,915 0 327 0 100 2,692	16,404 1,072 1,270 516 312 211 2,105 0 332 0 103 2,446	62,521 4,226 5,004 2,033 1,230 835 8,253 450 1,299 200 2,509 11,338	Revenue Contribution Capital Receipts Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)	33,931 13,739 52,228
	Total: HOUSING	25,814	24,589	24,724	24,771	99,898		99,898

	TOTAL INVESTMENT PLAN	62,908	42,463	37,008	37,055	179,434		179,434

<u>FINANCING</u>					
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>					
Unsupported Borrowing	19,869	9,953	5,100	5,100	40,022
Capital Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Revenue Contribution	59	0	0	0	59
Strategic Reserve	150	0	0	0	150
Grants & Contributions	17,016	7,921	7,184	7,184	39,305
	37,094	17,874	12,284	12,284	79,536
<u>HOUSING</u>					
Capital Receipts	4,287	3,685	3,748	2,019	13,739
Revenue Contribution	9,136	8,079	7,702	9,014	33,931
Major Repairs Reserve	12,391	12,825	13,274	13,738	52,228
	25,814	24,589	24,724	24,771	99,898
	62,908	42,463	37,008	37,055	179,434

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

The separate EIA guidance notes outline what should be included for each section. Please read them before you begin. If you have any queries, contact your Corporate Equality Group rep, or the Engagement Team on 643 2828.

1. Author, service area, date

Janice Gillespie, Head of Resources 19th February 2019

2. Who else has been involved in writing this EIA?

David Dunford Finance, 19th February 2019

3. What proposal is this EIA assessing?

Notice of Objection- 2019/20 Budget

4. What is the purpose of your proposal and what is it expected to achieve?

Alternative Budget proposal, aside from the council tax reduction offer, there is a proposal to change the council tax increase and a number of savings then to meet that cost

Item	<u>Growth</u>	£
5	Introduce Weekly Waste collection	350,000
6	Reduction in the Council Tax Increase to 1%	1,832,670
7	Council Tax Freeze for Bill payers over 65	298,339
8	Additional larger dog Bins	12,000
	If All Objections are accepted the Total Growth will be	2,493,009

Item	Savings	
9	Reduce the Service Improvement fund	(100,000)
10	Reduce budgets in Corporate Strategy	(300,000)
11	Reduce Contingency Budget by	(20,000)
12	Reduce Trades Union Facility Time	(113587)
13	Reduction in subscription following a review	(29,500)
14	Reduction in expenditure on consultants following a review	(100,000)
15	Reduce the Council magazine to 2 issues/annum	(11,193)
16	Reduce foreshore car-parking permit charges from £250 to £100 resulting in an increase in take up	(3,000)
17	Increase target on Mileage savings	(10,000)
18	Saving through Shared Services	(100,000)
19	Savings through Treasury Management	(400,000)
20	Increase Management Savings	(1,250,000)
21	Use of the Strategic Reserve	(55,729)
	If All Objections are accepted the Total Savings will be	2,493,009

5. Is there any relevance to the aims of the public sector equality duty? *Write your answers in the table*

Aim	Yes, No, or N/A	Details if 'yes'
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment	N/A	
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	N/A	

Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	N/A	

6. Analysis by characteristic *Write your answers in the table*

Protected characteristic	Potential positive or negative impact?	Explanation and evidence
Age	No	
Disability	No	
Gender	No	
Gender reassignment	No	
Marriage and civil partnership status	No	
Pregnancy and maternity	No	
Race	No	
Religion or belief	No	
Sexual orientation	No	

7. Have you carried out any engagement in relation to this proposal? If so, what?

- *We believe that consultation has been carried out with the Conservative group, wider engagement will follow if the Notice of Objection is approved at the Council meeting of 21 February 2019.*

8. Is there any information you don't have that you need to find?

No

9. What actions are already in place, or will be taken, to remove or reduce potential negative impacts? (add more lines to the table if you need to) *Write your answers in the table*

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
None, as no negative impacts identified to remove or reduce		

10. Are there any potential negative impacts that cannot be removed or reduced? If so, why is this?

No

11. Based on your conclusions from this assessment, what are your next steps?

This proposal will be presented to Council on 21st February 2019.

12. How will the impact of this proposal be monitored after it is introduced?

Through the usual financial management and performance reporting

13. When will this EIA be reviewed?

As required.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

The separate EIA guidance notes outline what should be included for each section. Please read them before you begin. If you have any queries, contact your Corporate Equality Group rep, or the Engagement Team on 643 2828.

1. Author, service area, date

Andrew Scott, Senior Client Manager for Revenues, Benefits and Customer Service, 18th February 2019

2. Who else has been involved in writing this EIA?

Tracy Hunter, Client Manager Revenues, Benefits and Customer Service, 18th February 2019

3. What proposal is this EIA assessing?

No Council Tax increase in the financial year 2019/20 for persons age 65 or over. (Where they are the liable party for Council Tax)

4. What is the purpose of your proposal and what is it expected to achieve?

To reduce the burden of Council Tax liability for persons 65 or over.

5. Is there any relevance to the aims of the public sector equality duty? *Write your answers in the table*

Aim	Yes, No, or N/A	Details if 'yes'
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment		
Advance equality of opportunity between people	Yes	Those age 65 or over have limited opportunities to increase their income to meet any proposed Council tax Increases.

who share a protected characteristic and those who do not		
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not		

6. Analysis by characteristic *Write your answers in the table*

Protected characteristic	Potential positive or negative impact?	Explanation and evidence
Age	Positive	It is positive towards those aged 65 or over who will benefit from this as their Council Tax will not be increased in 2019/20. It is negative towards any Council Tax payer under the age of 65 as their Council Tax will still be increased in 2019/20.
Disability	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Gender	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Marriage and civil partnership status	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	
Race	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Religion or belief	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Unless aged 65 or over when they would benefit from this proposal

7. Have you carried out any engagement in relation to this proposal? If so, what?

We believe that consultation has been carried out with the Conservative group, but wider consultation with the public has not been carried out.

8. Is there any information you don't have that you need to find?

Yes, there will be a need to:

- consult wider with the public to get their view on the proposal*
- identify potential recipients as we could not apply this automatically as DOB is not held on Council Tax system (for non-Council Tax Support recipients)*
- ascertain accurate costs as estimates of this proposal has been based on data from the Office of National Statistics*

9. What actions are already in place, or will be taken, to remove or reduce potential negative impacts? (add more lines to the table if you need to) *Write your answers in the table*

Action	Responsibility	Timescale

10. Are there any potential negative impacts that cannot be removed or reduced? If so, why is this?

Only way to address negative impact against under 65 years olds would be to apply the proposal of no Council Tax increase to all ages.

11. Based on your conclusions from this assessment, what are your next steps?

This proposal will be presented to Council on 21st February 2019.

12. How will the impact of this proposal be monitored after it is introduced?

Monitor numbers of applicants, costs and feedback from residents and organisations.

13. When will this EIA be reviewed?

As required.