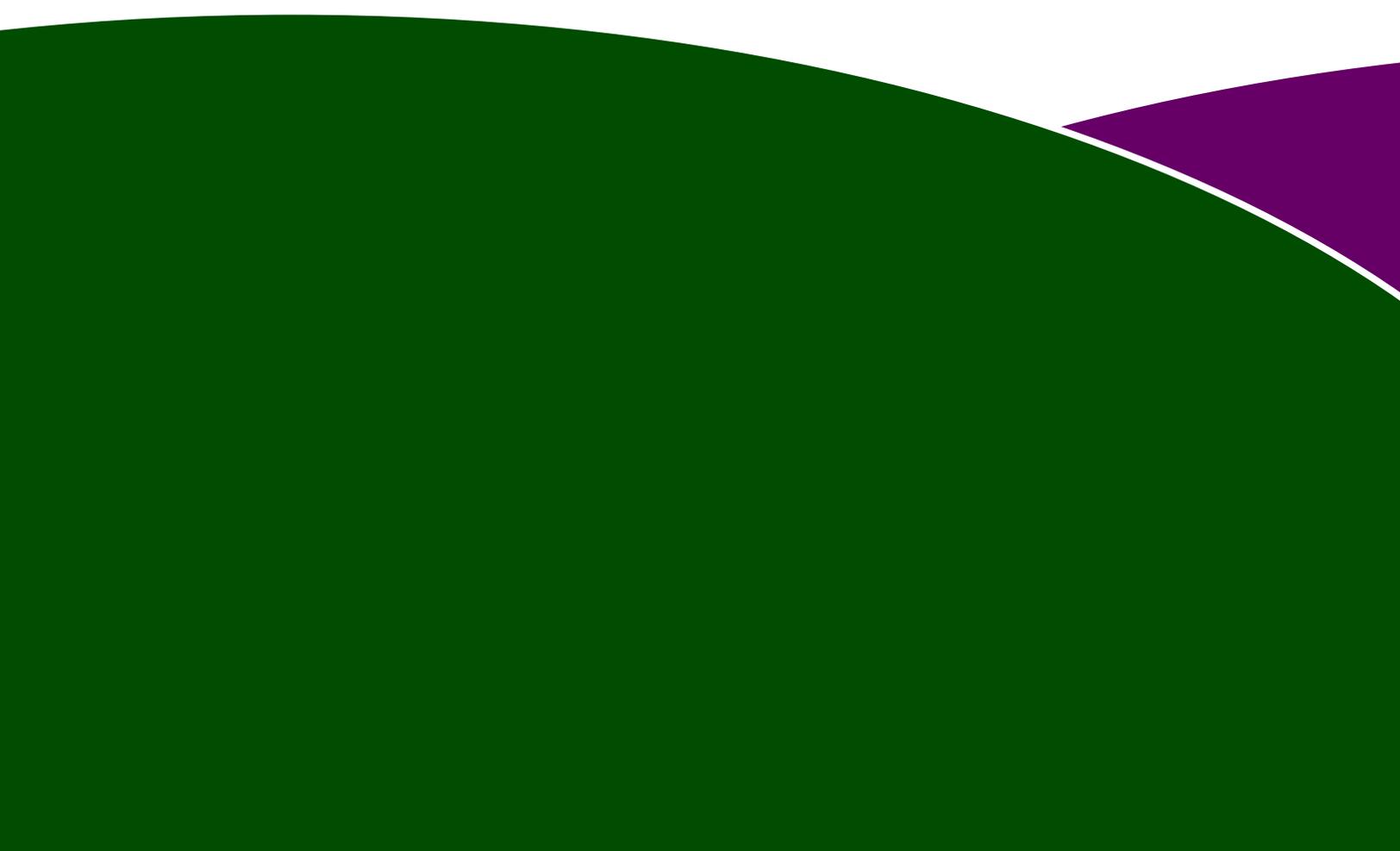


Equality Impact Assessment

MVDC Budget 2016/17



What is being assessed?	MVDC Budget 2016/17
Department	Finance
Name of assessor/s	Phil Mitchell
Strategic Management Lead	Nick Gray
Date	January 2016
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	New budget proposals for 2016/17 that have been added to the roll forward of existing budget from 2015/16

Section 1: Introduction and background

Please describe your service or function .

The proposed budget for 2016/17 maintains the existing scope, range and level of service provision.

The proposed new budget will protect services at their existing levels despite reductions in or withdrawal of funding to Mole Valley District Council.

There are three new budget proposals covering (i) Family Support Programme , (ii) Town Centre Transport Study and (iii) Customer Care.

- (i) The Family Support Programme co-ordinates multi-agency support to some of the most vulnerable families in the District and will provide invaluable resettlement support to families under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme. Following changes to existing funding from Government and the County Council, MVDC is being asked to contribute £20,000 towards the delivery of the service.
- (ii) An intended new traffic study for Dorking Town Centre to assess the causes of congestion and the impact the introduction of new traffic measures might have on the existing network and traffic flows will cost around £100K. A 60:40 split with Surrey County Council will involve a one-off cost of £40,000 for Mole Valley District Council.

(iii) A programme aimed at improved customer care will be undertaken at a cost of £5,000.

Now describe how this fits into the Council's Corporate Priorities or other local, regional or national plans and priorities.

The 2016/17 budget proposals reflect the priorities in the Mole Valley District Council Corporate Strategy 2015/16 to 2018/19.

If you are not carrying out an equality impact assessment, briefly summarise reasons why you have reached this conclusion, the evidence for this and the nature of any stakeholder verification of your conclusion.

N/A

Section 2: Analysis and assessment

Given available information, what is the actual or likely impact on minority, disadvantaged, vulnerable and socially excluded groups?

Indicate for each of the 'protected characteristics' whether there may be a positive impact, negative impact, a mixture of both or no impact.

Protected characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
Age	√			The Family Support Programme is focussed on helping families with children. MVDC's proposed preference for the size and characteristics

Given available information, what is the actual or likely impact on minority, disadvantaged, vulnerable and socially excluded groups?

Indicate for each of the 'protected characteristics' whether there may be a positive impact, negative impact, a mixture of both or no impact.

Protected characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
				of refugee households to be assisted per year over the five years of the Vulnerable Person Relocation (VPR) scheme includes families with one or two children under 18-years old; it also includes single or couple households who are over 55 years old
Disability	√	√		<p>Positive -The VPR scheme aims to protect refugees with medical needs or disabilities</p> <p>Negative – It is possible that some homeless families (potentially including people with disabilities) living in either bed and breakfast accommodation or emergency accommodation waiting for a private rented home may not be moved on as quickly, as refugee households are resettled.</p>
Gender reassignment	√			The VPR scheme aims to protect refugees at risk due to their sexual orientation or gender identity
Marriage and civil partnership			√	It is not considered that the budget changes will have a particular impact on marriage

Given available information, what is the actual or likely impact on minority, disadvantaged, vulnerable and socially excluded groups?

Indicate for each of the 'protected characteristics' whether there may be a positive impact, negative impact, a mixture of both or no impact.

Protected characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
				or civil partnership status..
Pregnancy and maternity		√		It is possible that some homeless families (including pregnant women and mothers of babies) living in either bed and breakfast accommodation or emergency accommodation waiting for a private rented home may not be moved on as quickly, as refugee households are resettled.
Race	√			The VPR scheme is specifically for refugees from Syria
Religion or belief			√	It is not considered that the budget changes will have a particular impact on any religious/belief groups.
Sex	√			The VPR scheme aims to protect refugee women who are at risk and survivors of violence. MVDC's proposed preference for the size and characteristics of refugee households to be assisted per year over the five years of the VPR scheme includes one single adult female who has been subject to violence

Given available information, what is the actual or likely impact on minority, disadvantaged, vulnerable and socially excluded groups?

Indicate for each of the 'protected characteristics' whether there may be a positive impact, negative impact, a mixture of both or no impact.

Protected characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
Sexual orientation	√			The VPR scheme aims to protect refugees at risk due to their sexual orientation or gender identity
Other aspects to consider	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
Carers			√	It is not considered that the budget changes will have a particular impact, positive or negative, on carers.
Rural/urban issues			√	It is not considered that the budget changes will have a particular impact, positive or negative, on rural/urban areas.
HR issues			√	It is not considered that the budget changes will have a particular impact, positive or negative, on HR issues

What can be done to reduce the effects of any negative impacts? Where negative impact cannot be completely diminished, can this be justified, and is it lawful?

N/A

Where there are positive impacts, what changes have been or will be made? Who are the beneficiaries? How have they benefited?

Beneficiaries of the £20,000 contribution towards the Family Support Programme will be some of the most vulnerable families in the District.

Section 3: Evidence gathering and fact-finding

What evidence is available to support your views above? Please include:

- A summary of the available evidence
- Identification of where there are gaps in the evidence (this may identify a need for more evidence in the action plan)
- What information is currently captured with respect to usage and take up of services.
- What the current situation is in relation to equality and diversity monitoring (where relevant)

The budget proposals for 2016/17 are in line with the corporate priorities in the Mole Valley District Council Corporate Strategy 2015/16 to 2018/19. These latter priorities were developed against findings from extensive consultation and needs analysis work.

How have stakeholders been involved in this assessment? Who are they, and what is their view?

The budget proposals are being considered by the Standing Budget Panel, Scrutiny Committee and the Executive. Separate consultation discussions have taken place with Parish Councils,

Chambers of Commerce and other representative organisations.

Recommendations

Please summarise the main recommendations arising from the assessment. NB If it is impossible to diminish negative impacts to an acceptable or even lawful level the recommendation should be that the proposal or the relevant part of it should not proceed.

N/A

Summary

Review date	January 2016
Person responsible for review	Phil Mitchell
Strategic Management Lead signed off	Nick Gray