


Appendix A

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment


Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



Name of policy/service/function	Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/2025				
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function?	Continuation of, and updates to, an existing Policy				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	Council Tax Support is a discount given to residents on a low income to help with the cost of their council tax bill. The council is free to agree its own local scheme for the discount for working age people.				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Age		√			
Disability		√			
Gender				√	
Gender Re-assignment				√	
Marriage/civil partnership				√	
Pregnancy & maternity				√	
Race				√	
Religion or belief				√	
Sexual orientation				√	
Other (eg low income)		√			
Question	Answer	Comments			
<p>2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?</p>	No				
<p>3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?</p>	No				
<p>4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle <u>evidence of disadvantage</u> or potential discrimination?</p>	Yes	The CTS Scheme is designed to help people on low incomes or in receipt of certain welfare benefits with the cost of their council tax bill.			

<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	No	Actions:
		<p>Actions agreed by EWG member:C. Marriott..... </p>

If 'yes' to questions 2 - 4 a full impact assessment will be required unless comments are provided to explain why this is not felt necessary:
The CTS Scheme is designed to help working age local residents on low incomes with the cost of their council tax bill. The help is provided through a discount on their council tax bill. The CTS scheme is being updated and made more generous for 2024/2025. This means more people will be eligible for help, and the removal of the cap on the maximum level of support means those already receiving help could see their CTS award increase. These impacts are all positive and will increase the financial support given to residents.

Decision agreed by EWG member:C. Marriott .....

Assessment completed by: Name	Jo Stanton
Job title	Revenues and Benefits Manager
Date	18 October 2023