

## FORM D: EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT PUBLISHING SUMMARY

<b>1. Policy details</b>		
<b>Policy Title</b>	Transformation Strategy 20112 – 2017 (General Revenue Budget 2014/15 and Draft Budgets for 2015/16 and 2016/17 )	
<b>Policy Lead Officer</b>	Alex McPhee, Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support	
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<b>Others involved:</b>	Helen Sinclair, Strategic Planning Team Leader Alyia Zaheed Corporate Officer (Equality and Diversity)	
<b>Date Assessment completed</b>	4 December 2013	
<b>2. Summary of policy aims</b>		
<p>The Transformation Strategy 2012 – 2017 was approved by Council on 28 June 2012. The Strategy sets out twenty-five workstreams designed to assist the Council to address an estimated budget gap of £34.1 million in the period 2013/14 to 2016/17.</p> <p>The budget proposals outline the proposed General Revenue Budget 2014/15 and draft budget 2015/16 and 2016/17, in line with the allocation of estimated funding from the Scottish Government and outcomes from work undertaken in respect of workstreams set out within the Council's Transformation Strategy.</p>		
<b>3. Key issues and judgments</b>		
<p>The overall aim of the budget proposals is to agree the General Services Revenue Budget for 2014/15 and draft budgets for 2015/16 and 2016/17. The Council is committed to tackling inequality and has ensured that the decision making throughout this year's budget setting process has involved as many members of our community as possible by undertaking an extensive online and face to face consultation process known as 'The Future East Ayrshire ... continuing the conversation.. Officers will continue to work to mitigate against/ reduce any potential negative impact, wherever possible.</p>		
<b>4. Summary of involvement with groups</b>		
<p>The Future East Ayrshire ... continuing the conversation process initially took place from 4-15 November 2013 and was subsequently extended to the 22 November 2013. The consultation included a Future East Ayrshire Live Q&amp;A Event, Online and paper based Survey and meetings with special interest focus groups. Consultation events provided local people with an opportunity to be updated on the progress of the management actions taken last year and to discuss future proposals. The programme undertaken was as follows:</p> <p><b>Continuing the conversation with special interest focus groups</b> were held with the Parent Steering Group, Coalfield Communities Federation, East Ayrshire North Communities Federation, the East Ayrshire Tenants &amp; Residents Federation, Equalities Forum, the Business Community and the Children and Young People's Forum. Where possible these were accommodated within the agenda of a pre-arranged meeting of the group and included a presentation on the progress of the management actions taken last year, current financial position and proposed management actions to close the gap. There was an opportunity for questions and discussion as well as the opportunity to complete the budget consultation survey.</p>		

**Continuing the Conversation East Ayrshire Live Question and Answer Event** was held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 14 November hosted by the Chief Executive who was joined by a panel of senior council officers to answer questions posed by a live audience. The meeting was also broadcast online. People are increasingly communicating using social media such as Facebook, Twitter and email and this event enabled the Council to engage with a wider and potentially newer audience. The recording can be viewed online at [www.eac.eu/futureealive](http://www.eac.eu/futureealive).

#### **5. Key Recommendations**

No significant impacts have been identified as a consequence of this Equality Impact Assessment. However, as previously stated, it relates to the new proposals highlighted in the Cabinet Report of 11 December 2013 at Appendix 3 of the Cover Report, which will be further considered by Cabinet in early 2014. Final Equality Impact Assessment will be concluded in advance of this future Cabinet. Key recommendations will be identified at that time.

**For further information or a copy of the full assessment, please contact the above mentioned Lead Officer  
Assessments are available in alternative formats or languages on request**