Argyll and Bute Council: Equality and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Section 1: About the proposal

Title of Proposal

Reduction in maintenance of street lighting columns and lights

Intended outcome of proposal

Reduction in maintenance of street lighting columns and lights using a more risk based approach to prioritise maintenance and reduce expenditure.

Description of proposal

Argyll and Bute Council have a funding shortfall of 9 million pounds for 2019/20, to assist in reducing this shortfall it has been identified that a saving of 11% (£50k) can be made from the street lighting maintenance budget. This will see a more risk based prioritising of maintenance which will at times mean less dangerous columns and lights will take longer to fix as we will prioritise more urgent work first. This is balanced against a recent LED Lighting project which will see savings on electricity as well as an anticipated reduction in maintenance with further columns also being replaced which are at end of life.

Business Outcome(s) / Corporate Outcome(s) to which the proposal contributes

BO113 – Our Infrastructure is safe and fit for the future

Lead officer details:			
Name of lead officer	Hugh O'Neill		
Job title	Network and Standards Manager		
Department	RAS		
Appropriate officer details:			
Name of appropriate officer	Jim Smith		
Job title	Head of Service		
Department	RAS		
Sign off of EqSEIA			
	Jim Smit.		
Date of sign off	03/01/2019		

Who will deliver the proposal? Roads and Amenities Service

Section 2: Evidence used in the course of carrying out EqSEIA

Consultation / engagement

Consultation with our street lighting team and electrical manufacturers in respect of savings from LED lighting identified less maintenance would be required on the new LED lights.

Data			

Engagement with lighting manufacturers identified a significant saving using LED lights. A programme of change was carried out to street lights which also had the benefit of reduced maintenance with more up to date lights being fitted.

Other information

Argyll and Bute Council have a 9 million pound funding gap for 2019/20 and will be required to transform how we work so that we can deliver the services our communities need. The introduction of new LED street lighting will introduce electricity savings as well as reduced maintenance.

Gaps in evidence

No public consultation has been carried out prior to this proposal going ahead.

Section 3: Impact of proposal

Impact on service users:

	Negative	No	Positive	Don't
		impact		know
Protected characteristics:				
Age	Х			
Disability	X			
Ethnicity		Χ		
Gender		Χ		
Gender reassignment		Χ		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		Χ		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Χ		
Religion		Χ		
Sexual Orientation		Χ		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population	X			
Island populations	X			
Low income		Χ		
Low wealth		Χ		
Material deprivation		Χ		
Area deprivation		Χ		
Socio-economic background		Χ		
Communities of place?		Χ		
Communities of interest?		Χ		

Impact on service deliverers (including employees, volunteers etc):

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
Age		Χ		
Disability		Χ		
Ethnicity		Х		
Gender		Χ		
Gender reassignment		Χ		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		Χ		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Χ		
Religion		Χ		

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Sexual Orientation		Χ		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population		Χ		
Island populations		Χ		
Low income		Χ		
Low wealth		Χ		
Material deprivation		Χ		
Area deprivation		Χ		
Socio-economic background		Χ		
Communities of place?		Χ		
Communities of interest?		X		

If any 'don't know's have be	en identified,	at what point	will impacts	on these	groups
become identifiable?					

How has 'due regard' been given to any negative impacts that have been identified?

The maintenance of street lights will be risk assessed and although there will be a reduction to some maintenance levels this will be done on a prioritised basis with more dangerous faults being identified and dealt with within agreed timescales, less dangerous faults will be prioritised in line with operational availability.

Section 4: Interdependencies

Is this proposal likely to have any knock-on effects for any other activities carried out by or on behalf of the	No
council?	

Details of knock-on effects identified

Section 5: Monitoring and review

How will you monitor and evaluate the equality impacts of your proposal?

Review of any issues raised by communities should this proposal be authorised.