

2025/26 Budget Equality Impact Assessment

1. The Project

Directorate:	Public Health and Regulatory Services
Theme or area:	Public Health Contracts
Lead Officer:	Matt Lenny
Date:	5 December 2024

Budget Reference	Budget Proposal	2025/26 Budget reduction (£)	2026/27 Budget reduction (£)	2027/28 Budget reduction (£)
PHRS3	Reduce value of PH contract spend by target figure e.g. 5% when working up procurement/providing options from baseline. Any efficiencies from 2027 would be used to support Children's Services related outcomes through realignment mechanisms or joint commissioning	£30,000	£32,000	£185,000

Description of the project:

We receive an annual public health grant from the Department of Health and Social Care which is spent against a set of priority outcomes and reported on through a standard set of criteria. As with all public expenditure, efforts are made to commission (or purchase) services and support at the best possible value. Although there will be cost pressures for some service providers we will aim to achieve efficiencies through new models of service, for example, digital access for those who are willing and able to use those channels. We will also look to commission against shared outcomes with other teams in the Council e.g. children's services and other organisations e.g. other local authority public health teams to create more efficient and effective interventions. Any savings on contract values are kept within the public health grant to invest in other priority outcomes and deliver additional benefit for our population.

Summary of changes:

We have routine opportunities to review our service specifications as contracts end and we plan for ongoing commissioning of local public health services. We have identified realistic savings opportunities in each of the three years of the medium-term financial plan. In years one and two the projected savings will be developed across a range of contract areas and in year three we can seek greater integration with children's services in the delivery of public health nursing and associated prevention approaches. Greater join up of support and services around outcomes will enable us to identify more efficient and effective ways to deliver against local needs and aspirations.

Are any of the proposals within this theme a continuation of a previous medium-term financial plan saving?

Yes No

If yes, please insert reference number and year of assessment?

Budget Proposal	Year of assessment	Budget Reference

If yes, please describe what steps you have taken to review the equality impacts from previous years?

2. Customer equality impact summary

Will the changes proposed in this project have a disproportionate impact (or bias) for any of these groups?

Insert X into one box per row, for impact level and type.

H = High, M = Medium, L = Low, N = None

+ = Positive, - = Negative

Protected or significant group	Impact Level				Impact type	
	H	M	L	N	+	-
Disabled people (Including the consideration of neurodiversity)				X		
People from different ethnic groups				X		
Men or women (including those who are pregnant or on maternity leave)				X		
People who are LGBTQ+				X		
People on a low income				X		
People in particular age groups				X		
People in particular faith groups				X		
People who are married or in a civil partnership				X		
People who are undergoing gender reassignment				X		
Other significant groups, for example: Armed Forces Community, care experienced young people, carers, parents. Please specify:				X		

3. Explanation of customer impact

The detail of proposals will be developed as part of the service and team planning process for 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28. The details of what savings will be delivered have not yet been developed but this will be done to minimise negative impact and will also look for

positive benefit for people with protected characteristics and other vulnerabilities. We will be carrying out this assessment with reference to our local tackling inequalities programme in order to mitigate risk for any higher risk population groups.

Please describe how you will communicate these changes to those impacted.

Any changes will be communicated as part of regular service descriptions published online, promoted through social media and other marketing approaches e.g. written communication, posters, public advertising etc. This will emphasise how to get support in the easiest way possible for the target audience.

4. Staff equality impact summary

Are there any staffing implications for this proposal? Yes No

Explanation of staff impact

5. Cumulative equality impacts

Is this project linked to or likely to have an impact on any other service areas?

None identified at this stage.

6. Action Plan

Are there any further actions that should be taken because of this Equality Impact Assessment? No

Issue Identified	Planned Action	Lead Officer	Time for review

7. Review and Sign Off

Service Manager Review

Reviewed by the Director of Public Health. The plans expressed are a realistic projection of when and how efficiencies can be achieved within our overall budget.

Is a further detailed equality impact assessment needed? Yes No

If 'yes', when will the further assessment be completed?

Service Manager: Matt Lenny

Date: 5 December 24