

Budget Proposals 2012/13: Major Decision: Business Unit: Spatial Planning (Waste Recycling)

Combined Impact Assessment: Full assessment (Part 2)

The council and its partners are facing a significant challenge in the savings it needs to make over the next couple of years. This Full Impact Assessment has been developed as a tool to enable business units to fully consider the impact of proposed major decisions on the community. As a council we need to ensure that we are able to deliver the savings that we need to make from the 1st April and be able to justify our decisions through any legal challenge.

This full assessment, combined with the initial review, will evidence that you have fully considered the impact of your proposed changes and carried out appropriate consultation on those changes with the key stakeholders. The Combined Impact Assessment will allow Councillors to make informed decisions as part of the decision-making process regarding the council's budget.

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Support/Service Manager, Environment Policy & Performance

Position: Senior Service Manager - Customer Service & Planning

Business Unit: Place & Environment

Department: Spatial Planning

Date: December 2011

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Summary from Overall Proposal (Updated as required)

Proposals – Outline	Savings 2012/13		Implementation Cost Include brief outline + year incurred	Delivery In place 01/04/12 If earlier or later state date	Risks / impact of proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential risks • Impact on community • Knock on impact to other agencies 	Type of decision*		
	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
Waste Recycling Credits	50	-	0	Nov 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council now collects recyclables on the kerbside and the financial case for these credits is therefore substantially diminished. • The credits stopped in November 2011. • The effects on Organisations has been minimised in that only textile credits have been withdrawn and the sale price of textiles has increased considerably in recent times, meaning that the loss of the credit can be absorbed by the organisation without net loss. 		√	

Stage 1: Purpose of the proposal

No	Question	Details
1.	Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal	<p>That the Authority ceases payment of the recycling credit to charity and community groups that claim credits for items other than furniture, paper and garden waste.</p> <p>More specifically: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council now collects recyclables on the kerbside and the financial case for these credits is therefore substantially diminished. • The credits stopped in November 2011. • The effects on Organisations has been minimised in that only textile credits have been withdrawn and the sale price of textiles has increased considerably in recent times, meaning that the loss of the credit can be absorbed by the organisation without net loss.

No	Question	Details
2.	Who is intended to benefit?	Charity and community groups that claim credits e.g. The Scouts
3.	What is the intended outcome?	From the 21 November 2011 the above groups will not be able to claim a recycling credit for textiles. This will mean a possible reduction in one of their income streams but with negotiation of their current material contracts they may be able to negate any losses as the current textile markets are very buoyant.

Stage 2: Evidence, Consultation and Engagement

No	Question	Details
4.	Have you considered the available evidence?	<p>Torbay Council currently pays recycling credits to charity and community groups. Because of budget pressures the Council needs to reduce costs, therefore by not paying out a recycling credit for textiles the council will save in the region of £40k p.a. As a result of the budget pressures facing the Council it is becoming more difficult to justify the payment of a recycling credit to external organisations now that a comprehensive collection of recyclables from the kerbside is available to every household throughout the Bay.</p> <p>The textiles currently collected by the charities and community groups could be collected by TOR2 from the kerbside at no additional cost to the Council or TOR2.</p>
5.	How have you consulted on the proposal?	Affected groups have already been notified via letter – they have been given 6 weeks notice of the decision. To date we have received 5 responses, however no objections or complaints have been received.
6.	Who have you consulted with?	Charity and community groups that claim credits.
7.	How many people responded?	To date we have received 5 responses, however no objections or complaints have been received.
8.	Outline the key findings?	Enquiries regarding last date for submission of final claim – no objections
9.	What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?	As the community groups only receive £15 per ton for paper from the recycling companies, it was thought that taking away the recycling credit of £57.76 was disproportionate and would almost remove their entire income stream, so this will be continued at least for 2011/12 financial year.
10.	How will the results be published?	Replied verbally to enquiries

Stage 3: Impact Assessment

No	Question	Details	
11.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups		
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact
	All groups in society generally	Although the charity and community groups will no longer receive the recycling credit funding they will still receive income from, recycling companies and may be in a position to be able to re-negotiate how much they receive for raw materials. This proposal only concerns credits for items other than furniture, paper and garden waste.	Charity and community groups that currently receive recycling credits (e.g. The Scouts) will no longer receive the funding.
	Older or younger people	N/A	N/A
	People with caring responsibilities	N/A	N/A
	People with a disability	N/A	N/A
	Women or men	N/A	N/A
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)	N/A	N/A
	People with particular religion or belief / no belief	N/A	N/A
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	N/A	N/A
	People who are transgender	N/A	N/A
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	N/A	N/A
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	N/A	N/A

No	Question	Details
12.	What are the impacts of your proposals to other agencies?	As stated above this proposal will effect charity and community groups (i.e. the Scouts) that claim credits for items other than furniture, paper and garden waste.
13.	Does your proposal link to other decisions you are making?	No
14.	Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?	<p>The organisations would still receive income from the recycling companies that they sell the materials to, and might be able to renegotiate with them how much they receive for the raw materials thereby minimising the potential for impact. Furniture can still be collected, and a recycling credit paid, as Torbay Council can claim this amount back from Devon County Council. This is possible due to Torbay Council's partnership working with Devon County Council, being part of the Devon Authorities Waste Reduction and Recycling Committee.</p> <p>As the community groups only receive £15 per ton for paper from the recycling companies, it was thought that taking away the recycling credit of £57.76 was disproportionate and would almost remove their entire income stream, so this will be continued at least for 2011/12 financial year.</p>

Stage 4: Course of Action

No	Action	Details
15.	State a course of action	Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers – As the community groups only receive £15 per ton for paper from the recycling companies, it was thought that taking away the recycling credit of £57.76 was disproportionate and would almost remove their entire income stream, so this will be continued at least for 2011/12 financial year.
16.	Identify any plans to alleviate any negative impacts	See above (15)

Stage 5: Monitoring

No	Action	Details
17.	Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of proposals	<p>The full impact of decisions will only be known once it is introduced. We will monitor the impact via the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customer complaints ▪ Feedback from the charities/community groups affected by the proposals ▪ Monitor budget savings achieve

Notes:

- *The Equality Duty needs to be an integral part of the decision making process. Decision makers must consider what information he/she has and what further information may be needed in order to give proper consideration to the Equality Duty.*
- *Commissioned services – No delegation. Public bodies are responsible for ensuring that any third parties which exercise functions on their behalf are capable of complying with the Equality Duty, are required to comply with it and that they do so in practice.*

Action plan / mitigating actions

Please detail below any actions / mitigating actions you need to take: -

No.	Action	Reason for action / mitigating action	Responsibility	Deadline date
1	Letters issued to community groups/charities advising them that the recycling credits funding will cease – 6 weeks notice will be given	To give community groups/charities 6 weeks notice of the decision	Ian Hartley	September 2011 – Complete
2	Regular budget monitoring	To verify budget reduction achieved	Ian Hartley	Half Yearly starting April 2012 and September 2012.
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