

Form name	Integrated Impact Assessment
Reference	IA579363257
Date	22/01/2024



Policy details

Request date	22/01/2024 12:34
Directorate	PCC Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services
Service	Tackling poverty
Title of policy, service, function	Supporting residents with the cost of living
Type of policy, service, function	Existing
What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?	To continue to provide cost of living support to residents in financial hardship during the financial year April 2024 to March 2025
Has any consultation been undertaken for this proposal?	yes
What were the outcomes of the consultations?	Resident research identified the current extent of households facing difficulties due to the cost of living, and which groups are most affected. Discussions with the food support network show ongoing high levels of need which existing resources are unable to meet.
Has anything changed because of the consultation?	no
Did this inform your proposal?	yes
Please provide details	To prioritise funding for food support, and ensure that the offer is available to those groups most likely to be in need.

Equality & diversity - will it have any positive/negative impacts on the protected characteristics?

<p>With the above in mind and following data analysis, who is the policy, service, function, project or strategy going to benefit or have a detrimental effect on and how?</p>	<p>This project will support people in financial hardship accessing information and advice about the cost of living, and users of food support services, the holiday activities and food programme, and specialist debt advice.</p>
<p>Will any of those groups be affected in a different way to others because of your policy, project, service, function, or strategy?</p>	<p>Factors related to age, ethnicity or race and disability in particular, and other protected characteristics more generally, may make it more difficult for some people with these characteristics to access and utilise advice online and by phone. Therefore the project includes the offer of personalised support where a need is identified, to ensure any barriers are understood and overcome to ensure each customer is able to access the help they need.</p>
<p>If you are directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to mitigate the negative impact?</p>	<p>Providing a personalised offer of support when needed.</p>
<p>Who have you consulted with or are planning to consult with and what was/will be your consultation methodology?</p>	<p>The resident research results have been assessed to understand the needs and concerns of residents and how they can be assisted.</p>
<p>How are you going to review the policy, service, project or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?</p>	<p>The project lead will regularly report to a Director-level working group on activity and outcomes, including information on access and equalities, to ensure that help is being provided effectively to all residents who need it.</p>

Crime - Will it make our city safer?

<p>This section is not applicable to my policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Housing - will it provide good quality homes?

<p>Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?</p>	<p>Cost of living pressures are linked to housing affordability and risk of homelessness, so access to information, advice and support with the cost of living can help to alleviate these pressures and prevent issues from escalating.</p>
<p>How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?</p>	<p>Monitor demand related to housing affordability and homelessness, and onward referrals for specialist housing and homelessness services.</p>

Health - will this help promote healthy, safe and independent living?

<p>Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?</p>	<p>Cost of living pressures impact on a household's ability to meet their essential needs, including the costs of food, home energy, clothing, bedding, housing and essential household items. Living in material deprivation has negative impacts for physical and mental wellbeing. The proposal will ensure that people are able to access advice and support, and provide a resource for related services, such as healthcare settings, to access information for people they are supporting. Work with healthcare providers via the tackling poverty partnership group to ensure cost of living advice and support can be accessed via healthcare settings. Funding for food support services will increase the capacity of their offer, and enable them to maintain better nutritional standards in the range and volume of the food available to service users. Extending the holiday activities and food offer will increase the number of families who benefit, providing physical and mental health benefits and nutritious food. Enabling people to access a formal debt solution will provide them with a route out of debt, which has huge benefits for mental and physical wellbeing.</p>
<p>How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?</p>	<p>Review monitoring information provided by food support services to understand the impact of funding on their offer and the needs of people using their services. Seek feedback from healthcare settings on the needs of their clients and access to cost of living support.</p>

Income deprivation and poverty - will it consider income deprivation and reduce poverty?

<p>Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?</p>	<p>Providing assistance to people experiencing deprivation, and tackling poverty are central to this proposal. This proposal is specifically aimed to mitigate the worst impacts of the government's withdrawal of the Household Support Fund, along with Cost of Living payments, which together will impact around a third of all households in Portsmouth.</p>
<p>How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?</p>	<p>Monitor the number of people seeking advice and support, and the type of support needed, to ensure that the offer is responsive to local needs. Look at demographic information to understand if any communities who may be in need are not accessing the support available. Gather quantitative and qualitative data on the impact of support provided.</p>

Carbon emissions - will it reduce carbon emissions?

<p>This section is not applicable to my policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Energy use - will it reduce energy use?

<p>Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?</p>	<p>Cost of living advice and support will identify people in fuel poverty due to living in cold homes, and help them to access help to make their home warmer. In the longer term, this will reduce energy use by improving efficiency and reducing the amount of energy wasted in cold homes. The food support network makes use of surplus food, reducing food waste, and strengthening their offer and increasing their capacity will increase their ability to do this.</p>
<p>How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?</p>	<p>Monitor demand for energy efficiency and fuel poverty advice and support and onward referrals for cold homes. Review the food support network activity and opportunities to make more use of surplus food that would otherwise be wasted.</p>

Climate change mitigation and flooding - will it proactively mitigate against a changing climate and flooding?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	Cost of living pressures are due to a number of national and global factors, and climate change is one cause of increases in food and other costs, so providing information, advice and support to residents will be an essential form of mitigation to help affected residents.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	Continue to review issues related to inflation and the cost of living, and ensure information and advice remains relevant and up to date.

Natural environment - will it ensure public spaces are greener, more sustainable and well-maintained?

This section is not applicable to my policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Air quality - will it improve air quality?

This section is not applicable to my policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Transport - will it make transport more sustainable and safer for the whole community?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	The cost of living hub will continue to be one source of information on affordable and sustainable transport options.
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How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	Monitor demand and uptake of information regarding transport.
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Waste management - will it increase recycling and reduce the production of waste?

This section is not applicable to my policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Culture and heritage - will it promote, protect and enhance our culture and heritage?

This section is not applicable to my policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Employment and opportunities - will it promote the development of a skilled workforce?

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?	The cost of living hub will continue to be a source of information and advice on adult learning, employment and skills.
How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?	Monitor demand and uptake of information regarding employment and skills, and ensure information and advice remains relevant and up to date. Monitor onward referrals for specialist advice and support on employment and skills.

Economy - will it encourage businesses to invest in the city, support sustainable growth and regeneration?

This section is not applicable to my policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Social value

Please explain how your policy, service, function, project or strategy delivers Social Value	All of the activity delivered through this project creates social value, because it helps to improve the lives of residents affected by the cost of living. Besides the core activities of the project, there are no identified secondary social value outcomes.
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Involvement

Who was involved in the Integrated impact assessment?	Mark Sage, Tackling Poverty Coordinator
Name of the person completing this form	Mark Sage
Date of completion	2024-01-22