

Bristol City Council Equality Impact Relevance Check

This tool will identify the equalities relevance of a proposal, and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment will be required. Please read the guidance prior to completing this relevance check.



What is the proposal?	
Name of proposal	Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2021/22
Please outline the proposal.	<p>Council Tax Reduction (CTR) is a means-tested discount that provides support with council tax costs to households who have a low income across Bristol.</p> <p>Under section 13A(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, each billing authority must make a scheme stipulating reductions in the council tax payable by those it considers are in financial need or by those within classes of people it considers are, in general, in financial need.</p> <p>For those of pension age the amount of CTR support is calculated with reference to nationally prescribed regulations.</p> <p>It is proposed that the current scheme is maintained for the financial year 2021/22 to continue to protect households who have a low income at a time of high financial uncertainty.</p>
What savings will this proposal achieve?	None
Name of Lead Officer	Matthew Kendall/Denise Murray

Could your proposal impact citizens with protected characteristics?
(This includes service users and the wider community)

Please outline where there may be significant opportunities or positive impacts, and for whom.

The proposal will maintain support for households who are on a low income. People with a disability, from a BAME community and females are overrepresented within the group who receive CTR when compared to Bristol's overall population.

The service does not hold reliable data on gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, faith and belief (although there is a high correlation between high CTR demand and areas with high percentages of residents from some faith groups) or sexual orientation.

Please outline where there may be significant negative impacts, and for whom.

The proposal should not have significant negative impacts.

Could your proposal impact staff with protected characteristics?
(i.e. reduction in posts, changes to working hours or locations, changes in pay)

Please outline where there may be significant opportunities or positive impacts, and for whom.

It is not expected that the proposal will have significant impacts on staff.

Please outline where there may be negative impacts, and for whom.
It is not expected that the proposal will have significant impacts on staff.

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required?

Does the proposal have the potential to impact on people with protected characteristics in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to or participation in a service, • levels of representation in our workforce, or • reducing quality of life (i.e. health, education, standard of living) ?

Please indicate yes or no. If the answer is yes then a full impact assessment must be carried out. If the answer is no, please provide a justification.	No. The proposal is to continue with current levels of support to households who are on a low income. This does not have an effect on any of the areas above. Previous reviews of the scheme have already had Equalities Team consideration.
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Service Director sign-off and date: Denise Murray 6 th May 2020	Equalities Officer sign-off and date: Duncan Fleming 6 th May 2020
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