Stage 1: Equality Impact Assessment

1. What are the main aims purpose and outcomes of the Policy and how do these fit with the wider aims of the organization?

The intention is to set out the revenue and capital spending plans of the council at a high level. The success of these plans will depend upon the resources available to the council, the approach taken to ensure that these resources are aligned over the medium term to reflect corporate objectives and these resources being controlled in a way that ensures long-term stability.

This financial strategy aims to support the council's corporate objectives as identified in the strategic plan. Whilst achieving this, major issues relating to resources and facing the council in the medium term will be highlighted.

2. How do these aims affect our duty to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization and other conduct prohibited by the act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The major aim is to target resources appropriately. This means to focus on the Council's strategic priorities and the key outcomes required over the planning period.

Included within those priorities is the following key outcome: "residents are not disadvantaged because of where they live or who they are, vulnerable people are assisted and the level of deprivation is reduced." The correct development of the policy with a focus upon the corporate priorities will ensure that there is no negative effect.

3. What aspects of the policy including how it is delivered or accessed could contribute to inequality?

None, it is the objective of this policy to eliminate inappropriate or poor focusing of the available resources as this could contribute to inequality.

4. Will the policy have an impact (positive or negative) upon the lives of people, including particular communities and groups who have protected characteristics? What evidence do you have for this?

The policy will have a positive impact as it will enhance the lives of all members of the community through the provision of resources to core services. In addition it will affect particular groups within the community. It will achieve this through the focus of resources into areas of need as identified in the Council's strategic priorities.

If the answer to the second question has identified potential impacts and you have answered yes to any of the remaining questions then you should carry out a full EQIA set out as stage 2 below.