



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Council Response to the Department for Communities' Equality Impact Assessment Consultation on its 2023-24 Budget</b>
<b>Date:</b>	26th June, 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Geoff Dickson, Strategic Policy Lead Officer Ryan Berry, Policy and Performance Analyst

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sometime in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the draft Council response to the Department for Communities Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) consultation on its 2023-24 budget.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the attached draft response and approve its formal submission, subject to any comments or amendments provided at the Committee meeting.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> DfC launched an EQIA consultation on its draft budget for 2023-24 on 10th May with a closing date of 2nd August, 2023. Whilst the department welcomed responses up to the closing date, they encouraged interested parties to make responses by 7th June 2023.

3.2	In order to meet the early deadline, Council officers submitted a draft response on 7th June, as attached, stating that the submission was subject to approval by the SP and R Committee on 26th June and ratification by the Council on 3rd July. DfC was informed that, should any changes be made at the Committee or Council meeting, it would be provided with an updated submission.
3.3	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>There are no direct implications associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>There are no direct implications associated with this report.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p> <p>Draft BCC Consultation Response</p>