

Budget EIA 2012-13

Service Area: Infrastructure

Head of Service: Gillian Marston

Summary of proposed service changes:

- Closure of some public toilets
- Changes to refuse and recycling service
- Phased removal of allotment subsidy
- Reduced maintenance of the public realm (i.e. roads, pavements, signs, traffic barriers, cleaning)

Different Groups to be included in Screening	Is there a possible impact on a group/groups (positive or negative) YES/NO	Describe Potential Impact	Action/s (including details of a full EIA to be completed if required/relevant)
Age, Disability, Carers, Gender	Yes negative	Some residents and visitors may have to travel to different public toilets.	Toilet closures have been minimised to include only those poorly used and with poor facilities (e.g. disabled access). Public toilets remaining open and other publicly accessible toilets provided by other organisations to be publicised including the level of accessibility. Local businesses are to continue to be encouraged to allow public access to their toilets
Disability	Yes negative	The level of service changes in the refuse and recycling services is reduced so the level of disruption will reduce, and thus will have less of an impact on disabled people and the assisted service.	Good communication of the changes with residents and in particular reaching those utilising the assisted collection service. Ensuring the assisted service users disruption is monitored and minimised.
Age	Yes negative	Phasing the removal of the allotment subsidy over two years rather than implementing in one year. A phased introduction may help allotment holders manage the increasing cost. 26% of allotment holders are over 60 years old.	Increases in allotment fees will be phased in over 2 years. Allotments will still operate 25% concessions for those over 60, on job seekers allowance or where income from benefits exceeds income from paid work, and for full time students.

General	Yes negative	Reduced maintenance of the public realm (i.e. roads, pavements, signs, traffic barriers, cleaning) are likely to affect peoples perception of the safety of their area particularly vulnerable people	<p>On going regular inspections of the infrastructure to highlight safety concerns which need prioritisation.</p> <p>Reviewing street sweeping schedules to fit need.</p> <p>Ensure fuller community engagement to allow improved response to areas of concern.</p>
Age	Yes negative	Reducing subsidies for bowling greens and allotments will mean that the fees residents will have to pay to play bowls or for their allotment will be increased significantly and are likely to have a greater impact on this group (26% of allotment holders are over 60 years old). Bowls is mainly played by older people.	<p>Advance notice of changes to subsidies for bowling greens and work with clubs to reduce impact of increased costs</p> <p>Increases in allotment fees will be phased in over 2 years. Allotments will still operate 25% concessions for those over 60, on job seekers allowance or where income from benefits exceeds income from paid work, and for full time students.</p>
Age, Disability	Yes negative	Reduction in winter maintenance service means the refilling of grit bins will be reduced although the contingency remains unaffected allowing grit bins to be filled throughout severe weather (where possible). It is older people and disabled peoples whose ability to get around in bad weather suffers more and due the geography and demographics of the city will also have a greater impact on the poor	<p>During severe weather, the council will draw on contingency funds to replenish grit bins.</p> <p>When siting bins particular attention is given to any specific needs of the area and the community</p>

Disability	Yes negative	<p>Service changes in the refuse and recycling services will mean changing collection days for residents and there could be a period of disruption when collection days are late.</p> <p>The change of collection days and delays will have more of an impact on disabled people that have a tailored service for the collection of their recycling and refuse (termed an 'assisted service').</p>	<p>Good communication of the changes with residents and in particular reaching those utilising the assisted collection service. Ensuring the assisted service users disruption is monitored and minimised.</p>
Disability, Age	Yes negative	<p>Reduction in highway spend on roads and pavements means the surfaces will become poor and it will be harder for people with a mobility impairment, visually impairment or the elderly to get round easily and safely</p>	<p>The reactive, and safety maintenance budget is unaffected. Regular highway inspections of all roads and pavements and reporting of safety issues in the city will continue unchanged, following national codes of practice.</p> <p>Targeted advertising of contact numbers to report repairs for more vulnerable groups of people will be undertaken.</p>
			<p>Capital investment in street lighting will improve quality of lighting and reduce maintenance costs. Lighting in areas of known safety problems will be repaired as priority</p> <p>Routine checking of street lights at night to check they are working will continue</p> <p>Targeted advertising of contact numbers to report repairs for more vulnerable groups of people will be undertaken.</p>
Ethnicity	No		
Transgender	No		

Religion or Belief	No		
Sexual Orientation	No		
Low income	Yes negative	Low income groups will be more adversely affected by a reduction in subsidies or increases in fees to play bowls and allotments. The allotment service operates concessions.	Allotment Service offers a 25% concessionary rate. Ensure full awareness of concessions.