



## Appendix C1

### Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

#### Step 1

##### Name of Proposal

Increase in the charges made for primary and secondary school meals.

#### Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment No

**(B)** If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment Yes

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Yes

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

#### Step 3

(i) Lead Directorate/Service:

Education and Lifelong Learning

(ii) Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

Education (Scotland) Act 1980.

(iii) What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

Angus Council has not increased the cost of a school meal for more than five years. The inflationary pressures on services are now at such a level that an increase in charges of 4.5% for secondary school meals and 4.8% for primary school meals is necessary.

(iv) Is it a new proposal?  Yes  Please indicate  OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function?  No  Please indicate

#### **Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?**

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees	No
Job Applicants	No
Service users	Yes
Members of the public	No

#### **Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:**

**Internal data** (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

Budget information.

**Internal consultation** (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

Directorate leadership team.

**External data** (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

Analysis of school meal costs in other local authorities.

**External consultation** (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

Informal consultation with neighbouring authorities.

**Other** (general information as appropriate).

#### **Step 6: Evidence Gaps.**

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need

#### **Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups?**

Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected.

Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.**

Age

**Impact – negative**

Children up to P5 will continue to receive their entitlement to FSM if they choose to take it, and there will be no impact on this group.

For all children in P6-S6, the cost of accessing a school meal will increase. This may have a negative impact on family budgets. The impact of this is somewhat mitigated through the continued availability of free school meals for those eligible based on financial criteria.

Disability

**Impact – Neutral**

Gender reassignment

**Impact - neutral**

Marriage and Civil Partnership

**Impact - neutral**

Pregnancy/Maternity

**Impact - neutral**

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

**Impact – neutral**

Religion or Belief

**Impact - neutral**

Sex

**Impact - neutral**

Sexual orientation

**Impact - neutral**

**Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected**

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

N/A

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

Review of data provides the most robust mechanism of determining impacts and mitigations.

**Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?**

N/A

**Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.**

N/A

**Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to:** eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

N/A

**Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?**

N/A

**Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY**

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

**Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?**

Although this proposal is a budget reduction, there will be minimal socio-economic disadvantage for any group. Free school meal provision will continue to be available for all those who are eligible. It is recognised that an increase in charges will impact other groups, but it is anticipated that there will be no disproportionate impact on those with low wealth etc.

**Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.**

**Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings?** Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.**

**Low and/or No Wealth** (e.g. those with enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future).

**Impact – neutral – no identified impact.**

Access to free school meals for those eligible will be unaffected.

**Material Deprivation** (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

**Impact – neutral – no identified impact.**

Access to free school meals for those eligible will be unaffected.

**Area Deprivation** (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport)).

**Impact – no identified impact.**

**Socio-economic Background** i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

**Impact – no identified impact.**

Access to free school meals for those eligible will be unaffected.

**Other** – please indicate

**Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.**

**Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?**

N/A

**Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?**

On the Council website with the budget papers.

**Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation.** Please state name, post, and date for each:

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