

## BUDGET CUT ASSESSMENT FORM

S12

<b>Budget Cut Assessment Form</b> <b>DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF</b>	Ref No S12	Responsible AD	Responsible Finance Manager	Responsible HR Manager	Responsible Lawyer	Responsible EIA Officer
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**Description of Proposal:**

Discretionary Rate relief (DRR) can be given subject to organisations that are in receipt of mandatory rate relief although it should be noted that each organisation can only receive a maximum of £2000 discretionary rate relief. This change was introduced to ensure that the funding available can be used to help the maximum number of organisations.

Sports clubs generally do not have charitable status for non-domestic rates purposes, but they can apply for this status through the Inland Revenue. If they meet certain criteria they will then receive mandatory rate relief. We do not give top up DRR where sports clubs have this status. Sports clubs without charitable status can apply for DRR and the % relief varies 10% to 50% depending on whether the club runs a licensed bar.

Organisations must apply every year.

Organisations are asked to provide governance and financial information as part of the process. On receipt of the application a stop is put on the collection pending a decision to award. The decision is made by the Health and Partnerships Cabinet lead following advice from an advisory panel including DBC officers and County Durham Community Foundation. Minutes of the panel meeting are then circulated to all Members who can call-in any decision. Following the end of the call-in period applicants and Revenues and Benefits are notified of the outcome.

The budget is £34,000 and the spend last year was less than this at £18,195. Last year 40 organisations applied for this support and the amounts granted ranged from £55 to £2000. The impact of stopping this support will therefore be minimal for most organisations but the cumulative effect will need to be assessed as it will hit CAB, DAD, Age UK, FirstStop and others who will be affected by other proposals. Where the group is a small group it should be possible to fund raise for the amount required especially as we need to provide a lead in of 12 months as we have to give 12 months' notice of any changes.

Human Resources Impacts		Asset Management Impacts	Decommissioning Costs	Cost Shunting
No. of posts to be deleted	None	Detail any released buildings/building space Identify disposal or requisition issues	In addition to HR and Asset costs identify any others e.g. early contract termination costs	Is there any known or potential to increase costs elsewhere within Council budgets
No. of potential redundancies	None			
Estimated Redundancy costs	£NIL			

Financial Summary					
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Estimated reduction to budget	0	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
Redundancy Costs	0	0	0	0	0
Asset Implication	0	0	0	0	0
Decommissioning Costs	0	0	0	0	0
Known Cost Shunting	0	0	0	0	0
NET Budget Reduction	0	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000

### Equality Impacts

Overview is EIA needed?		Protected Characteristics									
Put 'x' in relevant box if the proposal:		'x'	Comments, including any charge across the options. Include the number of people affected, where known		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put 'x' in the box in the Impact column if there are positive (P) or negative (N) equality impacts. Leave box blank if there are no potential equality impacts</li> <li>Put L, M, H or ? in relevant column using following descriptions:                      L = sustainable adjustment in daily routine                      M = significant reorganisation or change                      H = life changing or limiting impact on quality of life                      ? = not known at this stage.</li> </ul>		Explain decision, level of impact and any change across the options		Yes	Brief Details	
Affects	Service users				Impact	Level					
	Employees				P	N	L/M/H/?		Have Cumulative Impacts been identified?	Yes	Some organisations hit buy this proposal will have been affected by ASC proposals
	The wider community			Age					Have unlawful impacts been identified?		
	Significantly affects how services are delivered?			Race					Are there opportunities to advance equality?		
	Have a significant effect on partner organisations?			Sex					Are there opportunities to foster good relations?		
	Affect services known to be important to particular protected groups?	X	Some organisations supporting protected characteristic groups will be affected including DAD and Gay Advice Darlington	Gender Reassignment					Have any other options been explored and discounted?		
	Affect different protected groups in different ways?		No	Disability							
	Relate to service areas with known inequalities		Some organisation deliver services to reduce inequality.	Religion or Belief							

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Sexual Orientation				
Pregnancy or Maternity				
Marriage/Civil Partnership				

MTFP – 2016/17 – Equality Screenings. This screening tool is to gather information on potential equality impacts to inform decision making. It is not an equality impact assessment. EIA will be done at a later stage where appropriate. All proposals must have an equality screen document. Decision makers must have equality screening information before any decision is taken. DBC is at risk of legal challenge if decision makers do not have this information.