

## Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

### Stage 1 Scoping and Assessing for Relevance

#### Section 1 Details of the Proposal

<p><b>A. Title of Proposal:</b></p>	<p>RESPONSE TO SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT'S FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE CALL FOR VIEWS ON MANAGING SCOTLAND'S PUBLIC FINANCES</p>
<p><b>B. What is it?</b></p>	<p>A new Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/> A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>C. Description of the proposal:</b> (Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the proposal being developed or reviewed (what are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes, including the context within which it will operate)</p>	<p>The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a Scottish Borders Council response to a call for views from the Scottish Parliament's Finance Public Administration (FPA) Committee titled: 'Managing Scotland's Public Finances: A Strategic Approach'. The report articulates the council's response for the call for views, highlighting support for the strategic priorities suggested by Scottish Government. It notes the need for long-term, flexible, and sustainable funding for local government, as well as more consolidated and long-term approach to policy.</p>
<p><b>D. Service Area:</b> <b>Department:</b></p>	<p>Corporate Policy</p>

<b>E. Lead Officer:</b> (Name and job title)	Alexandre Belle – Corporate Policy Advisor
<b>F. Other Officers/Partners involved:</b> (List names, job titles and organisations)	Michael Cook – Senior Policy Advisor
<b>G. Date(s) IIA completed:</b>	29/07/2024

## Section 2 Will there be any impacts as a result of the relationship between this proposal and other policies?

<del>Yes</del> / No (please delete as applicable)
If yes, - please state here:

## Section 3 Legislative Requirements

<b>3.1 Relevance to the Equality Duty:</b>
<p><b>Do you believe your proposal has any relevance under the Equality Act 2010?</b> (If you believe that your proposal may have some relevance – however small please indicate yes. If there is no effect, please enter “No” and go to Section 3.2.)</p> <p>No – While the management of Scotland’s Finances is of relevance to the Equality Act 2010, the report itself does not contain proposals related to new policies or projects, or impacting existing policies or projects. Rather, the report limits itself to expressing SBC’s views on strategic questions related to public finance management as it related to local authorities funding, public sector reform, and the strategic priorities underpinning public sector actions. As such, the report will not have an impact on people with protected characteristics.</p>

<b>Equality Duty</b>	<b>Reasoning:</b>
<b>3. Elimination of discrimination (both direct &amp; indirect), victimisation and harassment.</b> <i>(Will the proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)</i>	
<b>B. Promotion of equality of opportunity?</b> <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)</i>	
<b>C. Foster good relations?</b> <i>(Will your proposal help to foster or encourage good relations between those who have different equality characteristics?)</i>	

<b>3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal? (You should consider employees, clients, customers / service users, and any other relevant groups)</b>				
Please tick below as appropriate, outlining any potential impacts on the undernoted equality groups this proposal may have and how you know this.				
	Impact			Please explain the potential impacts and how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
<b>Age</b> Older or younger people or a specific age grouping	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Disability</b> e.g. Effects on people with mental, physical, sensory impairment, learning disability, visible/invisible, progressive or recurring	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.

<b>Gender Reassignment/ Gender Identity</b> anybody whose gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex assigned to them at birth	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Marriage or Civil Partnership</b> people who are married or in a civil partnership	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b> (refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to <b>maternity</b> leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, <b>protection</b> against <b>maternity</b> discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth),	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Race Groups:</b> including colour, nationality, ethnic origins, including minorities (e.g. gypsy travellers, refugees, migrants and asylum seekers)	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Religion or Belief:</b> different beliefs, customs (including atheists and those with no aligned belief)	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Sex</b> women and men (girls and boys)	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> , e.g. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual	X			See above, the report will have no impact as it is only focused on expressing the Council's views on the management of Scotland's finances, not creating, revising, or implementing new policies or projects.

### 3.3 Fairer Scotland Duty

This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage when making strategic decisions.

The duty is set at a strategic level - these are the key, high level decisions that SBC will take. This would normally include strategy documents, decisions about setting priorities, allocating resources and commissioning services.

#### Is the proposal strategic?

Yes/ No (*please delete as applicable*)

**If No go to Section 4**

**If yes, please indicate any potential impact on the undernoted groups this proposal may have and how you know this:**

	Impact			State here how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
<b>Low and/or No Wealth</b> – 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.				
<b>Material Deprivation</b> – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies				

<b>Area Deprivation</b> – where you live (e.g. rural areas), where you work (e.g. accessibility of transport)				
<b>Socio-economic Background</b> – social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income				
<b>Looked after and accommodated children and young people</b>				
<b>Carers</b> paid and unpaid including family members				
<b>Homelessness</b>				
<b>Addictions and substance use</b>				
<b>Those involved within the criminal justice system</b>				

### **3.4 Armed Forces Covenant Duty (*Education and Housing/ Homelessness proposals only*)**

This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to the three matters listed below in Education and Housing/ Homelessness matters.  
This relates to current and former armed forces personnel (regular or reserve) and their families.

**Is the Armed Forces Covenant Duty applicable?**

**Yes/ No**

If "Yes", please complete below	
<b>Covenant Duty</b>	<b>How this has been considered and any specific provision made:</b>
<b>The unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the armed forces;</b>	
<b>The principle that it is desirable to remove disadvantages arising for Service people from membership, or former membership, of the armed forces;</b>	
<b>The principle that special provision for Service people may be justified by the effects on such people of membership, or former membership, of the armed forces.</b>	

## **Section 4 Full Integrated Impact Assessment Required**

*Select No if you have answered "No" to all of Sections 3.1 – 3.3.*

**Yes/ No** *(please delete as applicable)*

If yes, please proceed to Stage 2 and complete a full Integrated Impact Assessment

**If a full impact assessment is not required briefly explain why there are no effects and provide justification for the decision.**

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<b>Signed by Lead Officer:</b>	Alexandre Belle
<b>Designation:</b>	Corporate Policy Advisor
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Counter Signature Director:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	