Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)
SUMMARY (Publishing Form)

Title of Policy/Function/Service:	**The Closure of Community Facilities**
Directorate/Department: **Head of Service:**	Education and Lifelong Learning Glenn Rodger
Telephone No: **Email Address:**	ceaston@scotborders.gov.uk
Names/ Job titles of Assessors	Colin Easton, Policy Manager
Summary of Policy / Service /Function aims:	There are currently 16 operational Community Centres and 16 operational Public Halls. A savings target of £100k from the closure of Community Centres and Public Halls has been set for financial year 2016/17. This action is budget driven. Closures will occur at the conclusion of the current programme of Community Asset Transfers. This action will be centred on the underperforming, underutilised Halls and Community Centres which demonstrate low community investment and involvement.
Strands Impacted: **Please note:** If you leave any box blank in this section you will have decided that your proposed service or function has no impact on that particular strand.	Age x Disability x Gender x Race x Religion or Belief x Sexual Orientation x Poverty/Social Exclusion x Health ☐ x
Summary of key issues arising and decisions made	. Public Halls and Community Centres are neutral civic spaces promoting a welcoming and inclusive ethos. They create safe, secure space for equalities groups to meet and Community Centres in particular are dedicated to providing a framework of support for equalities groups that ranges from the provision of space at very low cost or free to dedicated support programmes. The closure programme will aim to safeguard accessibility for and work with equalities groups. However, the end result of this action will be the reduction in available public space.
Summary of key recommendations	The closure programme will aim to safeguard and sustain the community facilities frequently used by equalities groupings. The impact of the programme on equalities groups will be a foreground consideration – the potential loss of accessible and affordable space, and dedicated support programmes and the risks of displacement
Agreed by Head of Directorate	Name: Glenn Rodger Date: 04/12/13