

Equality Analysis

Please refer to the guidance for carrying out Equality Impact Assessments is available on the intranet [LINK TO BE ADDED]
 Text in blue is intended to provide guidance – you can delete this from your final version.

What are the proposals being assessed?	Review of management costs within CSF to deliver savings over 2016/18 – CSF 2015-07
Which Department/ Division has the responsibility for this?	CSF Cross cutting

Stage 1: Overview	
Name and job title of lead officer	Director of CSF
1. What are the aims, objectives and desired outcomes of your proposal? (Also explain proposals e.g. reduction/removal of service, deletion of posts, changing criteria etc)	In the light of the level of savings needed across CSF and the impact on the size and scope of the department to review service structures and to design new structures to enable the department to reduce management costs and remain fit for purpose. At this stage we expect this will require a reduction of 13 posts from a total of 268FTE. There will be a focus on core functions in education and social care and we will redesign our workforce across a smaller overall department.
2. How does this contribute to the council's corporate priorities?	CSF delivers the council's statutory education, children's social care, early years and youth justice and broader statutory functions relating to children schools and families. The department is down-sizing but must remain fit for purpose with appropriate spans of management to operate a safe and effective set of services within the reduced resources available. A smaller workforce will reduce our ability to work on cross cutting issues and new developments.
3. Who will be affected by this proposal? For example who are the external/internal customers, communities, partners, stakeholders, the workforce etc.	The leadership and management team of the department with be most affected and there will need to be consultation with staff and partners as we deliver integrated children's services through our Children's trust and MSCB partnerships
4. Is the responsibility shared with another department, authority or organisation? If so, who are the partners and who has overall responsibility?	This proposal cuts across CSF but will need to be considered by CMT and partners as it may impact on the department's ability to contribute to shared work and objectives internally and externally. We will use the Council's agreed HR policies and procedures for restructuring. An EA will be developed for the service change staffing proposals as and when we are able to be clearer about the exact number of staff reductions required, the affected divisions and services. We will require new systems to be embedded, primarily (MOSAIC) and to have embedded flexible working across the department. Work is already underway in terms of developing the CSF workforce to be more highly skilled and flexible, therefore, meeting the

increased demands with a reduced number of staff.

Stage 2: Collecting evidence/ data

5. What evidence have you considered as part of this assessment?

Provide details of the information you have reviewed to determine the impact your proposal would have on the protected characteristics (equality groups).

CSF's workforce is diverse and the profile shows that BME staff and women are well represented at most layers in the organisation. We are below our target for employees with disabilities but have some evidence of colleagues with disabilities not identifying themselves formally out of choice. The development of proposals to reshape the department's management structures will be undertaken through the council's agreed processes and there will be particular consideration of the impact of any changes on protected groups. Detailed impact assessments will be undertaken as the project is initiated and throughout the process. HR will provide both advice and challenge to ensure impact is not disproportionately felt on protected groups. The council has statutory duties as an employer which it will also need to fulfil and will need to reconcile any competing requirements across these different legislative areas. During the review of our processes we will ensure they are LEAN.

Page 50

Stage 3: Assessing impact and analysis

6. From the evidence you have considered, what areas of concern have you identified regarding the potential negative and positive impact on one or more protected characteristics (equality groups)?

Protected characteristic (equality group)	Tick which applies		Tick which applies		Reason Briefly explain what positive or negative impact has been identified
	Positive impact		Potential negative impact		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Age					At this stage of process it is not possible to evidence impact for the different characteristics, however, detailed assessments will be undertaken throughout the development and implementation stages to ensure impact does not fall disproportionately on particular protected groups (staff reductions are being realised via: deleting a vacant post in School Org and two members of the joint leadership team requesting VR).

Disability					See above
Gender Reassignment					See above
Marriage and Civil Partnership					See above
Pregnancy and Maternity					See above
Race					See above
Religion/ belief					See above
Sex (Gender)					See above
Sexual orientation					See above
Socio-economic status					See above

7. If you have identified a negative impact, how do you plan to mitigate it?

N/A

Stage 4: Conclusion of the Equality Analysis

8. Which of the following statements best describe the outcome of the EA (Tick one box only)

Please refer to the guidance for carrying out Equality Impact Assessments is available on the intranet for further information about these outcomes and what they mean for your proposal

- Outcome 1** – The EA has not identified any potential for discrimination or negative impact and all opportunities to promote equality are being addressed. **No changes are required.**
- Outcome 2** – The EA has identified adjustments to remove negative impact or to better promote equality. **Actions you propose to take to do this should be included in the Action Plan.**
- Outcome 3** – The EA has identified some potential for negative impact or some missed opportunities to promote equality and it may not be possible to mitigate this fully. **If you propose to continue with proposals you must include the justification for this in Section 10 below, and include actions you propose to take to remove negative impact or to better promote equality in the Action Plan. You must ensure that your proposed action is in line with the PSED to have 'due regard' and you are advised to seek Legal Advice.**
- Outcome 4** – The EA shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination. **Stop and rethink your proposals.**

Stage 5: Improvement Action Plan

9. Equality Analysis Improvement Action Plan template – Making adjustments for negative impact

This action plan should be completed after the analysis and should outline action(s) to be taken to mitigate the potential negative impact identified (expanding on information provided in Section 7 above).

Negative impact/ gap in information identified in the Equality Analysis	Action required to mitigate	How will you know this is achieved? e.g. performance measure/ target)	By when	Existing or additional resources ?	Lead Officer	Action added to divisional/ team plan?
To review proposals and implementation at key points to ensure EA is not disproportionate.	Undertake EA's at key stages of the process: design; implementation	EA's undertaken	To be determined as part of programme	Existing	CSF Business partner	

Page 53

Note that the full impact of the decision may only be known after the proposals have been implemented; therefore it is important the effective monitoring is in place to assess the impact.

Stage 6: Reporting outcomes

10. Summary of the equality analysis

This section can also be used in your decision making reports (CMT/Cabinet/etc) but you must also attach the assessment to the report, or provide a hyperlink

Programme management to include an overview and actions to mitigate any potential negative equalities implications, to be developed with HR Business Partner and DMT (CSF).

Stage 7: Sign off by Director/ Head of Service			
Assessment completed by	Carol Cammiss	Signature:	Date:
Improvement action plan signed off by Director/ Head of Service	Yvette Stanley	Signature:	Date:

Safer Merton Savings 2017-18 - Alternative for E&R 43

What are the proposals being assessed?	Re-profiling of Safer Merton savings for 2017-18
Which Department/ Division has the responsibility for this?	Environment and regeneration

Stage 1: Overview	
Name and job title of lead officer	Chris Lee, Director of E&R
1. What are the aims, objectives and desired outcomes of your proposal? (Also explain proposals e.g. reduction/removal of service, deletion of posts, changing criteria etc)	<p>The revised proposal will see Safer Merton achieve savings of £70,000 through refining non-essential spend rather than through staff reductions as previously proposed. The Safer Merton Manager has undertaken review of every single budget line within the services full budget profile and has identified a range of efficiencies to be made. The service will operate only with essential spend requirements and we will remove large, non-statutory service costs alongside trimming back on budgets which have previously been underspent against. By making savings from each cost line we will achieve budget reduction without the need to further reduce staffing levels</p> <p>This would mean that we can maintain our current offers in key business areas such as ASB, Domestic Violence and Abuse, Neighbourhood Watch, Integrated Offender Management and the partnerships analytical support</p>
2. How does this contribute to the council's corporate priorities?	This is a financially driven target to ensure that Safer Merton contributes to E&Rs, and in turn, the councils, saving targets
3. Who will be affected by this proposal? For example who are the external/internal customers, communities, partners, stakeholders, the workforce etc.	There will be minimal effect on our customers as the savings targets do not affect staffing. There may be some impact on campaigns, due to cuts in communications budgets, but actual service delivery is maintained.
4. Is the responsibility shared with another department, authority or organisation? If so, who are the partners and who has overall responsibility?	<p>The delivery of Community Safety functions are the statutory responsibility of all. Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, every service and partner needs to consider the impact of crime and ASB under all that they do</p> <p>This work is overseen and driven by the Safer Merton team whom co-ordinate the work</p>

Page 55

Stage 2: Collecting evidence/ data

5. What evidence have you considered as part of this assessment?

Provide details of the information you have reviewed to determine the impact your proposal would have on the protected characteristics (equality groups).

Through the annual strategic assessment and through changes in the London Mayor we have identified that our previous savings proposals would have negatively impacted upon our residents, businesses and visitors within the borough. Merton is a safe borough and has been consistently. Further staff cuts could put this status at risk.

The re-profiling should allow the Safer Merton Partnership to maintain recent success and build on this moving in to the new financial year and subsequent electoral periods.

Stage 3: Assessing impact and analysis

6. From the evidence you have considered, what areas of concern have you identified regarding the potential negative and positive impact on one or more protected characteristics (equality groups)?

Protected characteristic (equality group)	Tick which applies		Tick which applies		Reason Briefly explain what positive or negative impact has been identified
	Positive impact		Potential negative impact		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Age	X				If the proposals are agreed there are likely to be significant positive impacts on the community at large as we maintain our status as a safe borough
Disability	X				As above
Gender Reassignment	X				As above
Marriage and Civil Partnership	X				As above
Pregnancy and Maternity	X				As above
Race	X				As above
Religion/ belief	X				As above
Sex (Gender)	X				As above
Sexual orientation	X				As above
Socio-economic status	X				As above

Equality Analysis Improvement Action Plan template – Making adjustments for negative impact

This action plan should be completed after the analysis and should outline action(s) to be taken to mitigate the potential negative impact identified (expanding on information provided in Section 7 above).

Negative impact/ gap in information identified in the Equality Analysis	Action required to mitigate	How will you know this is achieved? e.g. performance measure/ target)	By when	Existing or additional resources?	Lead Officer	Action added to divisional/ team plan?

Note that the full impact of the decision may only be known after the proposals have been implemented; therefore it is important the effective monitoring is in place to assess the impact.

Stage 4: Conclusion of the Equality Analysis

8. Which of the following statements best describe the outcome of the EA (Tick one box only)

Please refer to the guidance for carrying out Equality Impact Assessments is available on the intranet for further information about these outcomes and what they mean for your proposal


Page 57

OUTCOME 1

OUTCOME 2

OUTCOME 3

OUTCOME 4

Stage 5: Sign off by Director/ Head of Service			
Assessment completed by	Neil Thursday, Safer Merton Manager	Signature: 	Date: 19/09/19
Improvement action plan signed off by Director/ Head of Service	John Hill, Head of Public Protection	Signature:	Date:

Equality Analysis

Please refer to the guidance for carrying out an Equality Analysis.
 Text in blue is intended to provide guidance – you can delete this from your final version.

What are the proposals being assessed?	Introduction of self-service libraries at off peak times in branch libraries. Consolidation of managers at branch libraries and staff reductions at all library sites.
Which Department/ Division has the responsibility for this?	Community and Housing / Libraries

Stage 1: Overview	
Name and job title of lead officer	Annette Acquah – Libraries Transformation Manager
1. What are the aims, objectives and desired outcomes of your proposal? (Also explain proposals e.g. reduction/removal of service, deletion of posts, changing criteria etc)	<p>As part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy, libraries along with all services are required to deliver savings. This proposal will deliver a significant part of the libraries savings target whilst ensuring that all libraries remain open and current opening hours are maintained. There will however be some impact on the quality of service delivered.</p> <p>This proposal includes the introduction self-service libraries at branch sites during quiet periods, shared management roles across branch sites, staff reductions across all libraries. In order to achieve this staff roles will need to be redefined with an increased reliance on volunteers and security guards for the continued delivery of services. The alternative delivery model for libraries will deliver a total saving of £190,000.</p>
2. How does this contribute to the council’s corporate priorities?	<p>In the set of guiding priorities and principles adopted in July 2011, the council set out its commitment to provide a certain level of essential services for residents with the continued provision of everything that is statutory being the top priority of “must” services. The Council also highlights its commitment to doing all that it can to help residents who aspire. In particular it sets out keeping the borough as a good place for the young to grow as one of its priorities.</p> <p>Merton Library Service falls under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 which places a statutory duty on all local authorities to provide a “free and efficient” library service to residents. Whilst library services must be provided with free access to membership, books and information, authorities can decide on how these services are to be delivered.</p> <p>This proposal enables the continued provision of a statutory library service. It sees libraries acting as an</p>

	<p>enabler through the development of partnerships to deliver added value services such as initiatives to help young people to develop their literacy skills and employability sessions to support the unemployed and those looking to improve their career prospects.</p> <p>The savings proposed will deliver a significant portion of the libraries savings target set as part of the Council's MTFS.</p>
<p>3. Who will be affected by this proposal? For example who are the external/internal customers, communities, partners, stakeholders, the workforce etc.</p>	<p>The library service is open to anyone living, working, learning or visiting the borough and is intended to benefit all. Some library users reside in neighbouring boroughs that are in close proximity to a Merton library. There are over 65,000 customers that regularly use libraries with over 124,000 registered library members. In 2015/16 there were approximately 1,150,000 visits to a Merton library and 232,472 customers accessed library services online.</p> <p>The service currently has a staffing workforce of 43.56 FTE with approximately 340 active volunteers supporting service delivery. Security guards are timetabled in to provide support and enable the continued delivery of services. All library staff, volunteers and security guards will be affected by the proposals.</p>
<p>4. Is the responsibility shared with another department, authority or organisation? If so, who are the partners and who has overall responsibility?</p>	<p>There are a number of partnerships in place to support and enable the delivery of library services. Key partners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The London Libraries Consortium for the sharing of Library Management Systems and Stock procurement contracts across 18 local authorities - Merton Voluntary Services Council-for the delivery of the Home Visits Library Service and support with volunteering arrangements - Organisations such as the Alzheimer's Society, Next Steps Career Service, University of the Third Age and Explore Learning for the delivery of health, employability support, lifelong learning, children's activities and other added value services in libraries. - External contractors assigned to carry out cleaning, building maintenance, and other works in libraries.

Stage 2: Collecting evidence/ data

5. What evidence have you considered as part of this assessment?

Provide details of the information you have reviewed to determine the impact your proposal would have on the protected characteristics (equality groups).

<p>Evidence reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outcome of previous consultation exercises including the Working Age and Older People Library Non-User Survey, Annual Residents Survey, Public Library User Surveys, Opening Hours Survey, Library Staff Surveys and staff consultation on the alternative delivery

model.

- Analysis of library customer profiles including breakdown by age, gender, ethnicity and disability.
- Service monitoring reports looking at volunteer and partner statistics as well as library usage data including visitor figures, self service usage, issue figures, active usage data etc.
- National and local statistics including Merton Observatory, census data and CIPFA benchmarking data
- Insight gathered from library managers, frontline staff, volunteers, partners, security guards, customers and other feedback.
- Quarterly complaints and comments reports.

Summary of key findings:

- High usage of libraries with 62% of Merton residents registered as library members and 32% of residents regularly using library services.
- Wimbledon, Morden and Mitcham Libraries accounted for 69% of all visits to a Merton library.
- There is a higher than average active use of libraries among people from a Black ethnic or mixed race background with 38% and 36% respectively of these populations actively using libraries.
- Usage is lowest among the white population with only 23% of this group actively using libraries. 45% of library users are from a white background.
- 32% of the Asian population actively use libraries, this is consistent with active usage across the entire Merton population.
- 22% of active users have registered a disability. 22% of active library users with a disability have a learning difficulty and 15% have a mental health condition. 0.3% of users have a mobility related disability.
- 42% of library users are male, 56% are female. The gender of 2% of active users is unknown.
- 98% of users rate opening hours as very good (54%), good (37%) or adequate (9%).
- Satisfaction is well above the London average with 82% of residents rating library services as good to excellent
- 96% of customer transactions are completed through self-service machines.
- 74% of all library transactions take place between 10am and 12pm and 1pm and 5pm on weekdays.
- Libraries were generally quiet over the lunch hour with transaction levels falling to three or less per hour on occasion in four of the seven libraries.
- Only 5% of transactions took place between 5 and 7pm across all libraries.
- Usage is highest among children aged 5-9. 84% of the Merton population aged 10-14 years and 37% of those aged 0-4 years actively use libraries.
- Usage of libraries progressively declines from the age of 15 years onwards with an average of 9% of those aged 75years + using libraries.

Stage 3: Assessing impact and analysis

6. From the evidence you have considered, what areas of concern have you identified regarding the potential negative and positive impact on one or more protected characteristics (equality groups)?

Protected characteristic (equality group)	Tick which applies		Tick which applies		Reason Briefly explain what positive or negative impact has been identified
	Positive impact		Potential negative impact		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Age		x	x		<p>During self-service periods there will be a reduced staffing presence with lone working in place to safeguard the interests of young people and vulnerable adults.</p> <p>Termly library visits are arranged for all Merton school classes to encourage the habit of reading for pleasure from a very young age. A reduction in staffing capacity could restrict the ability to continue to deliver these.</p>
Disability			x		<p>During self -service periods there will be limited support for people with disabilities to access services.</p> <p>The majority of library customers with a disability have a mental health condition or a learning disability. Staff have been trained to support customers with a mental health problem and customer support will be reduced during self-service periods.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment		x		x	Limited data is held to ascertain whether there is any potential impact.
<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership		x		x	Limited data is held to ascertain whether there is any potential impact.
<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy and Maternity		x		x	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race	x		x		<p>There are a wide range of social activities delivered in libraries to promote diversity and community cohesion. With a reduction in staffing levels it is expected that fewer activities and events will be offered.</p> <p>There will be an increased reliance on security guards and volunteers for service delivery. Having a volunteer force that reflect the diversity of the community served will help develop our understanding of the local residents served.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/ belief		x		x	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sex (Gender)		x		x	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation		x		x	
<input type="checkbox"/> Socio-economic status		x	x		Many services are currently offered to support those looking to enter into employment and/or progress their careers. A reduced staffing resource could impact on the capacity to continue to coordinate and deliver these.

7. If you have identified a negative impact, how do you plan to mitigate it?

- We will seek to maintain opening hours through the introduction of self service periods during quiet periods. A security guard and volunteer presence will be maintained at all times to provide support for all customers and in particular to safeguard the vulnerable and support people with disabilities.
- Ensure that all security guards have enhanced training in safeguarding and disability awareness.
- All staff and security guards will receive training in supporting people with a learning disability.
- All security guards will receive training in supporting customers with mental health problems
- Reduce school visit schedule whilst ensuring that all school children have a quality interaction with their library service over the course of an academic year. We will work with primary schools to develop new initiatives as well as browse and borrow sessions which will involve children accessing services with minimal staff input. Offering services that are less resource intensive will ensure that we continue to promote and encourage the active use of libraries with reduced capacity.
- We will proactively engage with community groups to develop services and activities that are well tailored to their needs.
- To seek to develop a volunteer force that further reflects the diversity of the community served.
- Further develop partner working relations with other organisations to offer a wide range of employability support services in libraries.

Page 62

Stage 4: Conclusion of the Equality Analysis

8. Which of the following statements best describe the outcome of the EA (Tick one box only)

Please refer to the guidance for carrying out Equality Impact Assessments is available on the intranet for further information about these outcomes and what they mean for your proposal

- Outcome 1** – The EA has not identified any potential for discrimination or negative impact and all opportunities to promote equality are being addressed. **No changes are required.**
- Outcome 2** – The EA has identified adjustments to remove negative impact or to better promote equality. **Actions you propose to take to do this should be included in the Action Plan.**
- Outcome 3** – The EA has identified some potential for negative impact or some missed opportunities to promote equality and it may not be possible to mitigate this fully. **If you propose to continue with proposals you must include the justification for this in Section 10 below, and include actions you propose to take to remove negative impact or to better promote equality in the Action Plan. You must ensure that your proposed action is in line with the PSED to have ‘due regard’ and you are advised to seek Legal Advice.**
- Outcome 4** – The EA shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination. **Stop and rethink your proposals.**

Stage 5: Improvement Action Plan

9. Equality Analysis Improvement Action Plan template – Making adjustments for negative impact

This action plan should be completed after the analysis and should outline action(s) to be taken to mitigate the potential negative impact identified (expanding on information provided in Section 7 above).

Negative impact/ gap in information identified in the Equality Analysis	Action required to mitigate	How will you know this is achieved? e.g. performance measure/ target)	By when	Existing or additional resources?	Lead Officer	Action added to divisional/ team plan?
Safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults	To ensure that a security guard presence is maintained in libraries at all times	Security guards in libraries during all opening hours.	End of March 17	Existing	DC	Yes
	To seek to recruit a team of volunteers to provide support in libraries during self-service periods.	Volunteer cover during self-service periods				
	To ensure that all security guards receive safe guarding training	100% of security guards receive safeguarding training				
Reduced capacity school activities	Work with schools to develop a consolidated library offer	40% reduction in the staff time spent coordinating school activities	June 2017	Existing	AA	Yes
	Develop and coordinate browse and borrow sessions for children	Maintenance of number of children actively using libraries				
Reduced support for people with mental health conditions	All security guards trained in supporting customers with mental health problems	All security guards trained to identify and support customers with mental health problems	End of March 2017	Existing	DC	Yes
Limited support for people with learning difficulties	All staff and security guards receive training in supporting customers with a learning difficulty	100% of security guards complete training. Mystery shopper exercises	End of March 2017	Existing	DC	Yes

		and customer feedback				
Restricted access to services for those with mobility issues	Awareness training for all security guards and select volunteers	Number of volunteers and security guards trained	End of March 2017		DC	Yes
Risk of reduced access to services for ethnic minority groups	Engagement workshops held with ethnic minority groups	2 workshops held to gather insight. Priority areas consolidated into service model	End of March 2018		AA/JI	Yes
Limited support for those seeking employment or to develop their career prospects	Identify and establish working relations with partners to provide employability support sessions in libraries.	Weekly employability support sessions available in libraries in the deprived wards of the borough and where there is a demand.	End of March 2017		AA	Yes

Note that the full impact of the decision may only be known after the proposals have been implemented; therefore it is important the effective monitoring is in place to assess the impact.

Page 64

Stage 6: Reporting outcomes

10. Summary of the equality analysis

This section can also be used in your decision making reports (CMT/Cabinet/etc) but you must also attach the assessment to the report, or provide a hyperlink

This Equality Analysis has resulted in an Outcome <u>2</u> Assessment
<p>The Equality Analysis in this assessment identifies any potential negative impact of these proposals. The Equality Analysis action plan will be managed by the Library, Heritage & Adult Education Service and reports will be provided to members and officers as and when required.</p> <p>This proposal will ensure that all libraries remain open and are accessible to all of the community but acknowledges that reduced capacity will mean that levels of support for customers and the breadth of community engagement will be reduced but focused on key groups.</p>

Stage 7: Sign off by Director/ Head of Service			
Assessment completed by	Annette Acquah Service Transformation Manager	Signature:	Date: 21 September 2016
Improvement action plan signed off by Director/ Head of Service	Anthony Hopkins Head of Libraries, Heritage and Adult Education Services	Signature:	Date: 22 September 2016

This page is intentionally left blank