

**Record of decision that Equality Impact Assessment is not required**  
(July 2013)

**DECISION TAKEN AT FEBRUARY 2015 – Version 16.02.15**

**Directorate and service area**

BES – Trading Standards & Planning Services

**Name and contact of officer(s) taking decision that EIA not required**

Andy Robson – 01609 534802

**What are you proposing to do?**

**Background**

The 2020 Savings Plan will see a reduction of £784,000 from the Trading Standards Service base budget over the period 2015/16 to 2017/18. This reduction will have an impact on future service delivery. The original proposals to meet the savings target included a cessation or reduction in service in the following areas:

- Further reductions or complete cessation in proactive high risk programmed inspections including Safety of Sports Grounds inspections and a cessation in all medium risks visits (except those relating to reactive enforcement)
- Cease provision of all business advice to North Yorkshire businesses (except for Primary Authority statutory arrangements)
- Cease community based enforcement – No Cold Calling Zones & Weight Restricted Orders
- Safeguarding – cease all preventative measures and support work. Reduction in reactive investigation work in line with new TS Priority Tasking Matrix.
- Public Health work – cease all food, tobacco and alcohol and project work.
- Develop and implement a TS Priority Tasking Matrix based on parameters such as consumer detriment, safety and vulnerability. The impact of this is that not all reactive work will be undertaken at the current levels achieved prior to the 2020 savings reductions.
- A staff restructure will be required to take account of the overall budget reduction of £784,000 by 2017/18. Future available resources will dictate future levels of service delivery.

**Current position**

At the time of writing the Service is undertaking and developing a number of 2020 savings mitigation projects. These projects if successful will lessen the impact on some of the above areas. Detailed below is the current position in respect to those mitigation projects:

- **Further reductions or complete cessation in proactive high risk programmed inspections including Safety of Sports Grounds inspections and a cessation in all medium risks visits (except those relating to reactive enforcement).** The Service has secured some National Trading Standards funding for the period of 2014 – 2017 to deliver some of the high risk programmed inspections but only those in respect to animal feeding stuffs.
- **Cease provision of all business advice to North Yorkshire businesses**

**(except for Primary Authority statutory arrangements).** The Service has secured some NYCC corporate funding in respect to new business growth to provide regulatory advice to support new North Yorkshire businesses. For non- Primary Authority businesses the Service is looking into developing a business advice strategy to determine whether it could offer a chargeable business advice service.

- **Cease community based enforcement – No Cold Calling Zones & Weight Restricted Orders.** The Service is trying to secure some funding from HAS to implement a proposal of a collaborative safeguarding project involving this Service, HAS and North Yorkshire Police. An area that may not have been mitigated where there are EIA considerations is No Cold Calling Zones. However this funding should allow the continuation of some NCCZs in line with the revised prioritisation policy introduced in 2014/15. The TS Priority Tasking Matrix will be used to determine what future levels activity will be required in respect to Weight Restricted Orders.
- **Safeguarding – cease all preventative measures and support work. Reduction in reactive investigation work in line with new TS Priority Tasking Matrix.** The Service is trying to secure some funding from HAS to implement a proposal of a collaborative safeguarding project involving this Service, HAS and North Yorkshire Police.
- **Public Health work – cease all food, tobacco and alcohol project work.** The Service has secured some funding for the period of 2014 – 2017 to deliver an annual service delivery plan in respect to alcohol and tobacco. The Service is trying to secure some funding from HAS to implement a proposal to deliver an annual service delivery plan in respect to healthier food.
- **Develop and implement a TS Priority Tasking Matrix based on parameters such as consumer detriment, safety and vulnerability. The impact of this is that not all reactive work will be undertaken at the current levels achieved prior to the 2020 savings reductions.**
- **A staff restructure will be required to take account of the overall budget reduction of £784,000 by 2017/18. Future available resources will dictate future levels of service delivery.** The success of the mitigation projects will identify any deficit in the savings target and therefore determine the size of the restructure required. This is an area where there are EIA considerations.

### **EIA Position**

One area that will need an EIA is for any Staff Restructures that maybe required in 2017/18. **Update** – December 2016 – No staff restructures are planned in 2017/18

This record for the purposes of EIA deals with all the other reductions or cessation of service delivery detailed in the ‘current position’ section the above.

### **Why are you proposing this?**

In order to deliver the 2020 Savings Plan of removing £784,000 from the Trading Standards Service base budget over the period 2015/16 to 2017/18.

### **Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources?**

Yes – removal of £784,000

**Will this proposal change anything for customers or staff? What will change?**

Yes – some customers will not receive the existing levels of service delivery. Areas affected are listed above in the background section.

**Will the proposal make things worse for people with protected characteristics (age, disability, sex, disability, gender reassignment, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership)? (Customers, staff etc.). How do you know? Do you have any evidence to support your assessment?**

No – the impact on service delivery in the main affects North Yorkshire businesses. This impact has been assessed and the changes in service delivery could have an impact on our overall communities but not specifically on equality strands.

The reduction of Weight Restricted Orders enforcement affects communities that have WROs in situ. This impact has been assessed and the changes in service delivery could have an impact on our communities with WROs in situ but not specifically on equality strands.

**If there might be a negative impact on people with protected characteristics can this impact be reduced? How?**

N/A

**Could the proposal have a significant negative impact on some people with protected characteristics or a less severe negative impact on a lot of people with protected characteristics? If “Yes” more detailed analysis should be undertaken and an EIA completed.**

No

**Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities (e.g. disabled people’s access to public transport)?**

No

**Could the proposal have a greater negative impact on people in rural areas?**

No

**Could the proposal have a worse impact on people with less money?**

No

**Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics?**

No

<b>Do the answers to the previous questions make it reasonable to conclude that there will be no or very limited adverse impacts on people with protected characteristics?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Will there be no or limited adverse impacts on people in rural areas?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Will there be no or limited adverse impacts on people with low incomes?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Further analysis and full EIA Required</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Decision not to undertake EIA approved by (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>	G R Venn, Assistant Director (TS&PS)	
<b>Date:</b>	16.2.15	