Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Equality Impact Assessment / Equality Analysis

Budget Proposals

This template has been developed for the specific purpose of analysing the equality impact of proposals that have been put forward as part of budget setting. Use this template to identify what impact or likely impact the proposal will have on people with protected characteristics.

Title of savings proposal	Targeted charges for materials that require specialist disposal			
Growth or Savings/Income?	Income	**FTE Reduction/Increase**	0	
Brief Description and Aim *(no more than 100 words)*	The Council already charges for certain wastes that fall outside of the Council's statutory household waste collection obligations, such as plasterboard and rubble. This proposal seeks to continue charges for other non-household wastes, e.g. gas bottles and vehicle tyres to help recover additional costs of handling, transport and treatment of these wastes, whilst keeping household waste disposal free at the point of use. The approach is consistent with other local authorities. This proposal would make permanent the charges introduced in Q3 of 2026/27 to support the in-year budget.			
Budget Reduction / Growth Value *(note year 2 value is the increase/decrease on year 1)*	**Year**	**2027/28**	**2028/29**	**2029/30**
	Value (£000)	50		

Directorate/Service area and Cabinet Portfolio	Place
Impacts to Service Delivery *(no more than 100 words)*	No adverse impact anticipated to service delivery. The charges are for non-household materials brought to the Council for recycling and / or disposal. Neighbouring authorities, including North Somerset and Somerset, already operate similar charges. There is scope to review this policy, and it will be closely monitored to ensure it recovers costs, remains proportionate, and supports residents to use the correct disposal routes.
Delivery Risk Rating (High/Medium/Low) *(Please detail reasons and actions to reduce risk)*	Low risk. The Council already charges for waste it is not legally required to collect from households, such as plasterboard and rubble. Charges for gas bottles and vehicle tyres were introduced in Q3 of 2026/27. Continuing these charges will help cover handling, transport and treatment costs and prevent commercial waste being illegally disposed of as household waste at Household Recycling Centres. Household waste disposal remains free. Other local authorities take a similar approach. Residents will receive clear information before arrival and should pay online in advance. Those arriving without pre-paying can pay online by smartphone or, without smartphone or internet access, by card with staff assistance. Cash will not be accepted. Most residents have free or lower-cost alternatives: branded gas bottles can usually be returned free to suppliers or manufacturers, and tyres are generally easiest to recycle through garages when replaced. Residents needing Recycling Centre disposal can book and pay through the Council website.

Do the aims of this proposal link to any other budget proposals? *(no more than 100 words)*	Income / Commercialisation / Transformation
Consider whether this proposal has any knock-on impacts to other services. If so, please provide service and detail *(no more than 100 words)*	The proposal does not conflict with other Council policies. It supports the Council's approach to safe and responsible waste disposal, cost recovery for non-household waste, and maintaining household waste disposal free at the point of use.

Assessment of impact: 'Equality analysis'

Use the spaces below to demonstrate you have analysed how this proposal:

- Meets any needs of equality groups or helps promote equality in some way.
- Could have a negative or adverse impact for any of the equality groups - and if so, mitigating actions.
- Could have potential knock-on effects for other service areas or create problems because of cumulative impacts.

	All equality areas/characteristics	How this proposal might advance equality	Potential negative or adverse impacts - and what steps can be taken to mitigate this	Potential knock-on impacts for other service areas/other proposals
1	**Sex**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
2	**Pregnancy & maternity**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
3	**Gender reassignment**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
4	**Disability**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	Residents with certain disabilities may be less able to shop around for alternative disposal options and could face additional transport costs if they need to dispose of these items. This will	None identified

			be mitigated by clear information on free or lower-cost disposal routes, reasonable charge levels, and monitoring of customer feedback or complaints after implementation.	
5	**Race**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
6	**Sexual orientation**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
7	**Marriage and civil partnership**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
8	**Religion/belief**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
9	**Age**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	Older residents on fixed incomes may be disproportionately affected by additional charges and may also be less confident using online payment routes. This will be mitigated through clear pre-arrival information, staff support for card payment on site where needed, advice on free or lower-cost alternatives, and monitoring of feedback after implementation.	None identified .
	B&NES Local Priority			
10	**Socio-economically disadvantaged**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	Residents on fixed or low incomes may be disproportionately affected by additional charges. This will be	None identified

			mitigated by setting charges as low as possible to cover costs, clearly signposting free or lower-cost alternatives, and reviewing charges and usage data through the annual fees and charges process We will use a variety of communication methods to ensure residents are aware of free or lower-cost disposal routes. Branded gas bottles can usually be returned to the supplier or manufacturer at no cost, and tyres are usually most easily recycled through the garage when replacement tyres are fitted.	
11	**Rural communities**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	Rural communities may be more likely to use gas bottles for heating, cooking or outdoor activities and may have fewer convenient alternative disposal options. This will be mitigated by clear information on supplier take-back routes, reasonable charge levels, and monitoring of Recycling Centre usage, feedback and fly-tipping reports after implementation. We will use a variety of communication methods to	None identified

			ensure residents are aware of free or lower-cost disposal routes. Branded gas bottles can usually be returned to the supplier or manufacturer at no cost, and tyres are usually most easily recycled through the garage when replacement tyres are fitted.	
12	**Armed Forces Community**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	No negative impact identified on basis of this characteristic	None identified
13	**Care Experienced**	No specific impact identified on basis of this characteristic	People with care experience face overlapping social disadvantages which may be disproportionately affected by additional charges. This will be mitigated by setting charges as low as possible to cover costs, clearly signposting free or lower-cost alternatives, and reviewing charges and usage data through the annual fees and charges process.	None identified

Once completed, this equality analysis template needs to be approved by your director/ their nominated senior officer.

Following this sign off, send a copy to the Equalities Team (equality@bathnes.gov.uk)

Name of officer(s) conducting equality analysis:

Signed off by: Simon Porter (Director or nominated senior officer)

Date: 05/11/26

For assistance in completing this template and/or to discuss the findings please email Equality@Bathnes.gov.uk to arrange a time to do this.