INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Name of the activity being assessed	 Introduction of a Nominal Charge for Re:Fresh Activities Decommissioning of specialist exercise services where nominal charge is not agreed 					
Directorate / Department	Public Health	ublic Health Service Re:Fresh Programme Assessment lead Beth Wolfenden				
Is this a new or existing activity?	□ New⊠ Existing	-	Responsible manager / director for the assessment Shirley Goodhew			
Date EIA started	13/04/2016	Implemen	tation date of the activity	01/07/2016		

SECTION 1 - ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITY

How was the need for this activity identified?	The Public Health grant has been reduced and therefore budget pressures have compelled the Public Health Department to scrutinise all current services and make commissioning decisions going forward. The Culture Leisure and Sport (CLS) department delivers a number of commissions which require scrutiny in order to make the necessary savings of £238k. Considering all options, the option of introducing a nominal fee (may be £1.50 max) for adult users of the re:fresh programme, whilst, firstly, maintaining a free walking programme for all and, secondly, a continued free leisure offer for pregnant and postnatal mums (up to 1 year) as well as children and young people, may prevent the need to decommission a number of other specialist exercise services delivered by CLS which may have a far wider impact on service users.
What is the activity looking to achieve? What are the aims and objectives?	The main aim of this activity is to maintain the full provision of the range of services delivered by CLS, whilst enabling service users access to a heavily subsidised programme of physical activity which in turn will help make efficiencies that have become a necessity in light of the budget cuts. The total amount for the re:fresh commission of £183,500 from total savings required of £238,000 will be saved. The introduction of a nominal charge for adults users of the re:fresh programme will help protect funding for other specialist services within the CLS commissions that meet the needs of the Blackburn with Darwen (BwD) population and are aligned with neighbouring Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) locality areas recently re tendered by Lancashire County Council (LCC).
	Objective: To make savings in line with the reduction of the Public Health grant To protect specialist services Ensure the service is still available and accessible for all, regardless of any changes
Services currently provided (if applicable)	The service is currently provided by CLS and provides a programme of free activity across BwD. Activities include: • Swimming • Gym

Who else will be involved in undertaking the equality analysis and impact assessment?

Please identify additional sources of information you have used to complete the EIA, e.g. reports; journals; legislation etc.

Public Health are working with CLS to identify the budget impacts on the introduction of a nominal fee to identified re:fresh activities. BwD have been in a relatively unique position offering free leisure since 2008 and the uptake has been excellent, with a stable level of use over the previous two years 2013-15. However, there has been a reduction in use this last financial year due to the changes in operational hours at Shadsworth and Daisyfield centres. BwD Leisure also offers paid memberships and a pay as you go offer, of which the uptake of has increased over the same time period.

ISNA Summary Review 2014-15

http://bwdhub.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Summary-Review-2014.pdf

PHOF Health Improvement Data

http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework#page/0/gid/1000042/pat/6/par/E12000002/ati/102/are/E06000008

Fair Society Healthy Lives Marmot Review 2010

http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/projects/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review

PH27 Weight management before during and after pregnancy https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/PH27/chapter/Introduction

PH41 Physical activity: walking and cycling https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH41

PH54 Exercise Referral Schemes

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph54

PH17 Physical Activity for Children and Young People

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph17

PH47 Weight Management: lifestyle services for overweight or obese children and young people

https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH47

PH35 Type 2 Diabetes Prevention: populations and community level interventions

https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH35

PH42 Obesity: Working with local communities

https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH42

PH25 CVD Prevention

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/PH25

CG43 Obesity Pr	revention	
https://www.nice	e.org.uk/guidance/CG43	
Sporting Future:	A new strategy for an active nation	
https://www.gov.	.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486622/Sporting_Future_A	ACCESSIBLE.pd
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Who are you consulting with? How are you consulting with them? (Please insert any information around surveys and consultations undertaken)

A consultation took place in 2010 (enclosed below) which suggested that the introduction of a nominal fee would be largely acceptable. Overall most service users would continue to do something if free leisure was no longer available and 1 in 3 would continue as usual. The introduction of a nominal fee may affect the total number of visits per week but not the overall numbers attending a minimum of once a week. Whilst this consultation took place 6 years ago, in the current climate of budget cuts and service cuts the introduction of a nominal charge appears to be largely palatable.

BwD re:fresh programme evaluation

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council re:fresh Programme Evaluation

*re:fresh

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Who does the activity impact upon?*	Service users	⊠ Yes	□ No	☐ Indirectly	The introduction on a nominal fee for this service directly impacts on service users that benefit from the free leisure offer via the re:fresh programme because a large proportion of free activity sessions for adults will become chargeable. However it can be argued that the decommissioning of specialist exercise services will have a greater impact on the most vulnerable residents in the borough due to the disease profile in the most deprived areas of BwD and the ageing population. If these services were no
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^{*}If no impact is identified on any of the protected characteristics a full EIA may not be required. Please contact your departmental Corporate Equality & Diversity representative for further information.

Does the activity contribute towards meeting the Equality Act's general Public Sector Equality Duty? Refer to p.3 of the guidance for more information A public authority must have 'due regard' (i.e. consciously consider) to the following:			
DUTY	DOES THE ACTIVITY MEET THIS DUTY? EXPLAIN		
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act (i.e. the activity removes or minimises disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristic)	This activity will not directly eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the 2010 Equality Act, however, neither will it contribute to this. Budget reductions are unavoidable and should the specialist services be decommissioned the disadvantages may be much greater than the introduction of a nominal fee for adults accessing the re:fresh programme. As there will be a blanket charge across all activities for adults (except ante and post-natal mums) there is no discrimination against a particular group of individuals.		
Advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (i.e. the activity takes steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people)	There is the potential that certain groups may no longer access the re:fresh programme should the nominal fee be imposed, but there will continue to be a positive impact for children and young people and for ante and post-natal mums who will be able to continue to access free of charge. Advancing the opportunity for these groups to access free of charge will positively impact on the health and wellbeing of the borough in years to come, through a strong prevention ethos of education around the benefits of physical activity on health and wellbeing and promoting long term behaviour change in our children and young people. The population level walking and cycling programme will remain free of charge for all. Decommissioning the specialist exercise programmes will place those most at need of specialist support and rehabilitation at risk of not accessing the evidence based support for rehabilitation and improved quality of life particularly older adults at risk of or who have suffered an injurious fall which has or may result in hip replacement surgery and increased burden on social care.		
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (i.e. the function encourages people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low)	The 2012 Blackburn with Darwen Residents Survey states that 41% of respondents are likely to regularly meet and talk to people of a different ethnic group at sports or fitness activities highlighting the importance of sport and physical activity as a vehicle for promoting community cohesion. Should the nominal fee not be imposed the free programme would be significantly reduced and place some facilities at risk of further reduced hours or possible closure. The 'at risk' facilities are situation in BwD's most deprived and diverse areas. The closure of these facilities would have far reaching consequences for the health and wellbeing of these vulnerable communities and reduced the opportunity to foster good relations across the community. A reduced programme and the decommissioning of specialist exercise services would reduce access for older adults for whom many rely on the weekly social contact that the sessions provide to reduce isolation.		

ASSESSMENT	Is a full EIA required?	⊠ Yes	□ No					
	Please explain how you have reached your conclusion (A lack of negative impacts must be justified with evidence and clear reasons, highlight how the activity negates or mitigates any possible negative impacts)							
As this activity relates to the potential decommissioning of three specialist exercise services and the introduction of a nominal fee for adults accessing the re:fresh programme, which is likely used by a number of individuals with protected characteristics, it has been concluded that a full EIA is required.								
Assessment								

Hell

Date

29/04/2016

SECTION 3 – ANALYSIS OF IMPACT

Does the activity have the **potential** to:

- positively impact (benefit) any of the groups?
- **negatively** impact/exclude/discriminate against any group?
- **disproportionately** impact any of the groups?

Explain how this was identified – through evidence/consultation.

Any negative impacts that are identified within the analysis need to be captured within the action plan in Section 4

N.B. Marriage & Civil Partnership is only a protected characteristic in terms of work-related activities and NOT service provision

Characteristic	Positive	Negative	Don't know	Reasons for positive and/or negative impact Please include all the evidence you have considered as part of your analysis	Action No.
Age				Decommissioning the specialist exercise services would affect people of all ages and whilst there will be a free leisure offer this would be a reduced service and may affect specific groups by the nature of the sessions cut back e.g. reducing community classes will affect mainly older adults or reducing gym sessions will mainly affect young people from BME backgrounds. Whilst introducing a nominal fee will affect all adults there will still be a free walking and cycling programme for all and access for children and young people in our care will remain unaffected.	1
Disability				CLS provide the Motivate project for people with disabilities and this will not be affected by the activities proposed however decommissioning the specialist services may affect some service users who are registered as disabled and may wish to access a specialist programme for rehabilitation or support with weight loss	2
Gender reassignment				As previously mentioned, all adults may have to pay a blanket charge of £1.50 for re:fresh activities, whilst ante and post-natal women and children and young people will continue to receive the service free of charge. These charges will be relevant and consistent regardless of gender reassignment and it is not anticipated that this characteristic will face are direct or indirect discrimination as a result.	
Marriage & Civil Partnership				N/A	
Pregnancy & Maternity	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		As the nominal charges will not apply to ante and post-natal mums there will be no negative impact for this group however the potential decommissioning of the specialist weight	3

The introduction of a nominal fee may become a barrier for adults from the most deprived areas who may simply not be able to afford to pay the £1.50 fee. This may have a further impact on the health outcomes within the most deprived in BwD. However, if the option to decommission services was taken there may be an even greater impact on deprived communities in being unable to access specialist support and advice when they require it.

Blackburn with Darwen Bo	orough Counc	cil	EIA version [2.0]
			Two of the borough leisure facilities are in two of the most deprived communities and have been the subject of reviews over the years and as a result have reduced opening hours. The majority of use at these facilities is via the re:fresh programme and if the charge is not agreed in this round of budget cuts there will be significant cuts to the free leisure programme next year which would almost inevitably result in the closure of Shadsworth and Daisyfield leisure centres.	
			Pressure will also be placed on the clinical CLS services as more residents may potentially suffer heart attacks and strokes with no access to the specialist prevention services which address the management of obesity, hypertension and diabetes all of which are major risk factors for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD). There would be a substantial pressure placed on the Well Being Service via the Health Trainer element of the service whose work is largely with those from the most deprived communities.	
			Maintaining free leisure provision for children and young people in our care will help to address obesity and reduce the prevalence of diabetes and CVD in the longer term as the young people are able to make sport and physical activity a part of their lifestyle.	
Carers			As there would be a blanket charge this group would not be directly disadvantaged should a nominal fee be introduced. Decommissioning specialist services may affect carers as there will not be a service available for the person being cared for which will limit physical benefits brought about by being physically active and having the specialist advice and support required for their individual condition. Further pressure will be placed on the CLS clinical programmes which may also lead to long waiting lists and reduced access to rehabilitation opportunities Re:fresh will remain free for children and young people in our care even in the event of the nominal fee being agreed but there would be a disadvantage to this group if weight management services for children were decommissioned reducing opportunities for children	7
Other [please state]			being looked after.	
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	No
Does the activity raise any issues for community cohesion?	In the event that the nominal fee is introduced the activity will exist at its current level and impact positively on community cohesion. The re:fresh programme will be very heavily subsidised and will encourage attendance from all through the wide range of activities available in a variety of venues across the borough
Does the activity contribute positively towards community cohesion?	If a charge is not agreed there would be an extensive reduction in provision through the specialist programmes and a reduction in activity through re:fresh which would impact greatly on community cohesion. The 2012 Blackburn with Darwen Residents Survey stated that 41% of respondents are likely to regularly meet and talk to people of a different ethnic group at sports or fitness activities highlighting the importance of the re:fresh programme as a vehicle for promoting community cohesion.
Does the activity raise any issues in relation to human rights as set out in the Human Rights Act 1998?	No
Does the activity support / aggravate existing departmental and/or corporate risk?	Is the activity on the departmental risk register? If it is not, should it be? No

CONCLUSIONS OF THE ANALYSIS

Action following completion of the impact assessment					
It is important that the correct option is The action plan must be completed as	,	ings of the analysis.			
☐ No major change in the activity	☐ Adjust activity	□ Continue with activity	☐ Stop and reconsider activity		
Please explain how you have reach	ed your conclusion	<u> </u>			
are not mandated, they have been ide of the introduction of a nominal fee for	ntified as an opportunity to relie adults to access the re:fresh pr				
funding to mobilise, empower and edu programme. The HCP programme wil	cate the community on the bendle the key to rolling out the pla	ed communities, however work will be done vi- efits of active travel, physical activity and in in anned Physical Activity campaign into communication of the nominal fee not be agreed as	ncreasing access to the universal activity unities across the borough through the strong		
The proposed nominal fee of £1.50 is	very heavily subsidised compar	red to our neighbours in Blackpool (£3 per gyı	m session, £2 per swim), Preston (£2.70		

Active +) and Burnley (£3.50 per session) and even more so when compared to the standard adult price of activities within leisure facilities e.g. swim £4.05 and gym and fitness classes £ 5.80 per activity. The universal walking and cycling programme will continue to be available free of charge across the life course. Re:fresh will continue to be free for children and young people and for ante and post-natal mums to encourage the best possible start in leading a healthy lifestyle and improving the long term health profile of the borough.

ACTION PLAN

Action No.	What is the negative / adverse impact identified?	Actions required to reduce / mitigate / eliminate the negative impact	Resources required	Responsible officer(s)	Target completion date
1	Adults paying a nominal fee for activities within the re:fresh programme Decommissioning specialist exercise services for all ages	Monitor the use of the re:fresh programme by adults across the borough by activity to compare the use pre and post fee introduction Promote the free walking and cycling programme through the re:fresh programme, health practitioners, Wellbeing Service, HCP and network of volunteers Further develop the universal walking and cycling activity programme to meet the needs of adults in BwD Increasing Health Trainer (HT) support through the Wellbeing Service for referrals to receive 1-1 support in the absence of specialist exercise services which can only be done with funding from CCG Signposting to online weight management support through validated, evidence based tools	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active travel Increased capacity in Wellbeing Service by seeking support from CCG Review of evidence based online sources of support	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren Alison Abbott	Ongoing
2	Decommissioning specialist exercise services for service users with a registered disability	Referral back to clinical services e.g. physiotherapy, Musculoskeletal (MSK), for support and rehabilitation Promote the free walking and cycling programme, where appropriate, through the re:fresh programme, health practitioners, Wellbeing Service, HCP and network of volunteers Further develop the universal walking and	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren Alison Abbott	Ongoing

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		cycling activity programme to meet the needs of service users with disabilities in BwD Increasing HT support through the Wellbeing Service for referrals to receive 1-1 support in the absence of specialist exercise services which can only be done with funding from CCG Referral into Tier 3 weight management services for those BMI >35 Signposting to online weight management support through validated, evidence based tools	Increased capacity in Wellbeing Service by seeking support from CCG Review of evidence based online sources of support		
3	Decommissioning weight management service as part of the maternal healthy weight pathway	Signposting to online weight management support through validated, evidence based tools	Review of evidence based online sources of support	Beth Wolfenden Amy Greehalgh	Ongoing
4	Introduction of nominal fee for BME ladies to access ladies only classes	Promotion of ladies only free universal walking and cycling activities Further develop the universal walking and cycling activity programme to meet the needs of BME ladies in BwD	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme to meet the needs of BME ladies by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active travel	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren	Ongoing
5	Introduction of nominal fee for ladies accessing re:fresh activities due to cultural sensitivity or personal preference	Promotion of ladies only free universal walking and cycling activities Further develop the universal walking and cycling activity programme to meet the needs of ladies in BwD	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme to meet the needs of ladies by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren	Ongoing

			the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active travel		
6	Introduction of a nominal fee for adults in the most deprived communities Decommissioning specialist exercise services including weight management	Monitor the use of the re:fresh programme by adults across the borough by activity to compare the use pre and post fee introduction Promote the free walking and cycling programme through the re:fresh programme, health practitioners, Wellbeing Service, HCP and network of volunteers Further develop the universal walking and cycling activity programme to meet the needs of adults in BwD Increasing HT support through the Wellbeing Service for referrals to receive 1-1 support in the absence of specialist exercise services which can only be done with funding from CCG Signposting to online weight management support through validated, evidence based tools	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active travel Increased capacity in Wellbeing Service by seeking support from CCG Review of evidence based online sources of support	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren Alison Abbott	
7	Impact on carers through the decommissioning of specialist exercise services including weight management	Referral back to clinical services e.g physiotherapy, MSK, for support and rehabilitation Promote the free walking and cycling programme, where appropriate, through the re:fresh programme, health practitioners, Wellbeing Service, HCP and network of volunteers Further develop the universal walking and cycling activity programme to meet the needs of service users with disabilities in BwD Increasing HT support through the Wellbeing	Development and promotion of the universal activity programme by service redesign Redesign the HCP to be a model which mobilises the community and workforce in the borough to promote physical activity in a wider context including active travel Increased capacity in Wellbeing Service by	Beth Wolfenden Richard Brown Mark Warren Alison Abbott	

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	Service for referrals to receive 1-1 support in the absence of specialist exercise services	seeking support from CCG	
	which can only be done with funding from CCG	Review of evidence based	
		online sources of support	
	Signposting to online weight management support through validated, evidence based tools		
	Signposting to carers support services via the Wellbeing Service to assist in reducing carer burden		

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The responsibility for establishing and ma arrangements should be built into the per	intaining the monitoring arrangements of the EIA action plan lies with the service completing the EIA. These formance management framework.
Monitoring arrangements for the complete undertaken by the Management Accounts	on of EIAs will be undertaken by the Corporate Equality & Diversity Group and the oversight of the action plans will be ability Framework.
	e.g. via Service Management Team; Service Leadership Team; Programme Area Meetings
If applicable, where will the EIA Action Plan be monitored?	Via contract review meeting with CLS.
How often will the EIA Action Plan be	e.g. quarterly as part of the MAF process
reviewed?	Quarterly as part of contract review meetings.
	It should be reviewed at least every 3 years to meet legislative requirements
When will the EIA be reviewed?	12 months.
Who is responsible for carrying out this review?	Beth Wolfenden

SIGNATURE OF EIA LEAD OFFICER	Chodfeel
DATE COMPLETED	29/04/2016

SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMENTAL E&D LEAD	Jodere Bibhy
DATE SIGNED	29/04/2016
This signature signifies the acceptance of the responsibility to publish the completed EIA as per the requirements of the Equality Act 2010	

SIGNATURE OF HEAD OF SERVICE /
DIRECTOR

DATE SIGNED

15/06/2016

This signature signifies the acceptance of the responsibility and ownership of the EIA and the associated Action Plan (if applicable)