

APPENDIX 6

Proposal Title	Council Saving Options
Proposal Text	Assurance over how we deliver and report agreed savings.

TOPIC TITLE:	Council Savings options
DATE OF SUBMISSION:	18 April 2019

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT			
QUESTION	RESPONSE	RESPONSE JUSTIFICATION	
1	Does the issue affect a number of people living in Argyll and Bute across multiple wards or, if restricted to a single or small number of wards, would its scrutiny have a wider impact across the council?	Yes	The Council cannot continue to delivery the level of service due to reducing resources so require to make a number of savings, which may include staff and service reduction. These savings may affect residents across Argyll and Bute.
2	Does the issue concern an area of poor performance or an emerging issue (meaning there is no comprehensive performance data available)?	No	In February 2018, the Council agreed 28 Service Package Policy Options. These savings are recurring in nature. As per the report to P&R on the 14 February 2019 of the 28 savings options, 13 (46%) have already been delivered, 6 (21%) are on track to be delivered as per their timescale, 4 (14%) have still to be implemented, 2 (9%) have a potential shortfall and 3 (10%) are delayed until 2019/20. Updates on the service options are reported as a standing agenda item to P&R. As at 14 February, 3 of the 4 still to be implemented were not due to be delivered until later years. Of the 3 options delayed justification for the delay has been provided to P&R. The level of reporting and the relatively minor level of slippage against the total identified savings options does not suggest poor performance that would merit scrutiny.
3	Can scrutiny add value - i.e. is performance likely to improve as a result of scrutiny?	No	See response to question 2.
4	Does the issue relate to a service area with a revenue and/or capital budget in excess of £100k or, in the case of an emerging issue, is there a realistic expectation that the revenue and/or capital budget will exceed £100k?	Yes	As per the budget pack presented to Council in February 2019 the proposed savings are £3.96 million, £4.14 million and £3.97 million for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 respectively.
5	Is the issue being addressed by another committee (area or strategic) or been subject to review in past 18 months?	Yes	Policy and Resources Committee monitor the delivery of savings options as a standing agenda item.
Does the issue pass to stage 2 assessment?		Fail	
QUESTION	RESPONSE	RESPONSE JUSTIFICATION	
6	Is the scrutiny activity timely - i.e. will it be possible to implement changes at the current time?		
7	Is there adequate resources in place to scrutinise the issue effectively?		
8	Is it an issue which has attracted public attention and/or highlighted by residents?		
9	Does it address an area highlighted by the Council's risk management process or other audit/scrutiny reports?		
Stage 2 Assessment Outcome		Fail	