

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_R1__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer : Detlev Munster (Strategic Head of Property and Commercial)**Service:** Property and Commercial**Activity** Swanley meeting point business hub**No. of Staff** 2.0

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Realign net budget to reflect lower income levels	CBBHUB	90	One-off

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Occupancy levels at Meeting Point are significantly lower than those projected in the business plan. Income at Meeting Point is expected to therefore be lower with stabilisation potentially occurring in Year 5. Funding is therefore required to maintain the service at Meeting Point. The increase also takes account of Business rates

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Externally, our key stakeholders are local businesses based in Swanley, the wider Sevenoaks District and its neighbouring environs. Other stakeholders include community groups who will be able to hire the premises for community meetings and events. The premises is also likely to be used for training and adult learning opportunities. Current tenant base would also be affected.

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

A key risk is a reputational risk and the Council not fulfilling its Council Plan and EDS commitments.

Additional risks include: vacant premises costs including business rates if an alternative use cannot be found; need to re-purpose staff.

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

High – This is a key Council and EDS priority to support businesses.

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	126
Income	(94)
Net Cost	32

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	126
Income	(94)
Net Cost	32

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

The 25/26 year will see Meeting Point completing its second year of operation and entering its third year. The Centre opened in June 2023. The business plan envisaged that Meeting Point would achieve stability in year three, but achieving occupancy levels is proving challenging. While offices are well used and the meeting venues are well used, casual hotdesking use is below par.

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_R4__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Service: Development Management

Activity: Planning Income

No. of Staff 26.18 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Reduction in anticipated income achieved through Planning Application Fee Income	DVDEVCT 94300 3009	200	One-off
Ecology impact work increase in the cost of advice from KCC	DVDEVCT 60000 3011	26	On-going

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Analysis of the income of this service indicates that we are no longer achieving the amount set out in the budget.

Income for this service is dependent on the number of planning which are significantly decreased due to external market forces.

Increase in the fee for the provision of specialist ecology advice and guidance from Kent County Council concerning local planning regulatory and statutory compliance.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Planning Applicants & Internal Customers

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

Minimal impact upon service delivery as SCIA is proposed to reflect actual change in income to more accurately reflect the achievable income

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)**

High

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	1,237
Income	(1,369)
Net Cost	(132)

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	1,237
Income	(1,369)
Net Cost	(132)

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

The Cost Centre Budget is the Development Management Budget DVDEVCT the Service Centre Budget is the same as the aforementioned.

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA __R5_ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Service: Development Management

Activity: Local Development Plan

No. of Staff 10.45 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Additional Work Requirement and additional costs due National Planning Policy Framework revision by Central Government.	PRLOCPL PRDCONSU PRDEVIDN PRDEXAMN PRCONSV	180	An additional £540,000 split over the next three years. £180,000 additional spend per year.

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Additional work now likely to be required on the Local Plan. The consultation suggests there could be a mechanism to recover new costs, but it could amount to up to £750,000. Roughly divided in three. We have around £70,000 per year transferring to the Local Plan reserve already, so over the three years it could result in a deficit of around £540,000, so £180,000 additional spend for each of the next three years.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Internal and external customers

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

Minimal impact upon service delivery as SCIA is proposed to reflect actual change in income.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)**

High

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	734
Income	0
Net Cost	734

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	734
Income	0
Net Cost	734

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_R6__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Service: Planning & Regulatory Services

Activity: Planning

No. of Staff 45.73 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Increased Software Costs	DVDEVCT & EHSERVE	60	On-going

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Suppliers are increasingly impacting on our ambition for service delivery due to reliance on their unique and bespoke planning software products. Their implemented incremental changes means that associated additional costs are incurred due to improvements and upgrades to the current software architecture and planning systems requirements.

The Council currently utilises a number of necessitated software products to facilitate the everyday functions of the Council. The software products are essential for delivering the needs and expectations of customers and stakeholders.

The current products are required and exceed the current allotted budget. The costs will increase year-on-year with development and change. Procurement exercises will be/are undertaken to ascertain the most cost effective products on the market that fulfil the requirements but nevertheless many products are bespoke or indeed unique.

Software is an integral part of the Council's performance. It is important to set aside sufficient budget to cover the anticipated future expense.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

External and Internal Customers

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

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Efficiencies achieved within service delivery as SCIA is proposed to reflect actual change in expenditure due to digitalisation modernisation force majeure.

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

High

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	9,384
Income	(7,322)
Net Cost	2,062

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	12
Income	(0)
Net Cost	12

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

The Cost Centre is Planning Services, The Service Budget is Planning

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_R7__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Service: Environmental Health

Activity: Stray Dogs

No. of Staff 11.99 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Growth to kennel budget to account for changes expected with a new contract due August 2025 and associated fees.	EHSERVE 60000 2001	15	On-going

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

The current stray dog contract is due to expire end of July 2025, currently the contractor accepts the treatment costs associated with vet bills, through their charity. As a result, the current cost of a vet bill to SDC is a maximum of £250 (per stray dog).

This is unlikely to continue with a new contractor and hence the full vet cost will need to be covered by SDC, this is an unknown amount and will depend on number of stray dogs collected and those needing vet treatment.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

External customers will be positively affected by the SCIA approval to ensure we have an allocated budget for this service. Unknown impact to any new kennel service contractor.

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

Without the increase to budget, to cover the VET fees within this stray dog service and moving into 25-26 financial years new contract, we will not be able to effectively provide this statutory service. There would likely to be an impact on other service areas.

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

High

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)**

Operational Cost	855
Income	(31)
Net Cost	824

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	43
Income	(1)
Net Cost	42

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

The Cost Centre Budget is the Environmental Health Service Budget EHSERVE, and the Service Centre Budget is the same as the aforementioned.

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

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SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA __R10_ (25/26)

Portfolio: Housing and Health

Chief Officer: Sarah Robson

Service: Homelessness

No. of Staff 6.55 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Homelessness	74100 / HSHOMFM / 9999	200	One-off

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Since the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, all Councils (nationally) have seen an increase in the number of households presenting as homeless or threatened with homelessness. As a result, this Council has seen an increase in the use and cost of temporary and emergency accommodation.

The length of time customers stay in temporary accommodation is often longer due to lack of suitable and affordable move on accommodation in the district, in both the private and social rented sectors.

The cost of living has placed further pressures on the homelessness service, alongside new refugee resettlement schemes (Homes for Ukraine, Afghan etc), asylum dispersal, early prison releases and increased domestic abuse placements as a result of the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act.

Changes to the private rented sector has resulted in private landlords leaving the sector. At present, no additional burdens funding has been identified by the new Government to support these pressures.

The Housing Service is funded through a mix of core budget and external funding. Over the past few years, the Council's Housing Service has worked hard to minimise the use of temporary and emergency accommodation, which up until early Spring this year, had seen numbers placed into interim accommodation decrease. The Housing Services continues to deliver a range of housing options and solutions, including a landlord incentives scheme, support with rent deposit and rent in advance and via Quercus Housing, the Council's affordable housing company, which has delivered 52 new affordable homes in the Sevenoaks District.

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The Council has sought partnerships with local partners, including West Kent Housing Association and the charity HfT, which has brought forward supported accommodation units at Vine Court Road and Orchard Close, alongside accommodation for single mums and women at Stay Green House.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Homeless households.

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

The cost of expensive temporary accommodation, including nightly paid accommodation places a budget growth pressure on the Council.

The Council has not received any indication from Government whether funding to support homelessness via the Homelessness Prevention Grant and Rough Sleeping Initiative will be made available in the new financial year, together with any additional burdens funding for other homelessness pressures facing local housing teams. This funding is critical in supporting staffing, support services and the nightly paid temporary accommodation costs for homeless households.

The Council has a statutory duty to assess the housing needs of households who present as homeless. As demand for homeless services continues, without additional growth funding, the Housing Service would be unable to meet its statutory duties under the Homelessness Prevention Act duties which includes the provision of interim accommodation.

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

High

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	674
Income	(175)
Net Cost	518

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)**

Operational Cost	674
Income	(175)
Net Cost	518

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the Council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The decision recommended through this paper will have a significant impact on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults who are homeless or threatened with homelessness if the Council does not have the budget to provide accommodation for those that are roofless and have no other alternative housing options.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_11__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer : Finance and Investment / Adrian Rowbotham

Service: Finance

Activity Financial system

No. of Staff 13 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Agresso Cloud Licences, Support, Training & Development, ERP SaaS Services	YCKT / 56900	120	Ongoing
Agresso Cloud Migration	YCKT / 56900	28	One-off
Total		148	

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) has been using Agresso as its financial system for over 10 years. During that time, it has been upgraded in terms of systems versions and also developed to support Direct Services by the implementation of the field services module and the removal of TASK.

For the entirety of that time it has been an onsite solution, meaning it is housed at Argyle Road, in our server rooms. This has worked well and ensured reasonably low running costs.

We are in partnership with Tandridge District Council (TDC), and this allows us to achieve lower licensing costs, as most of Unit 4's pricing structure is in bands and the partnership also allows us to share knowledge and support each other with Agresso related issues.

It was planned to update to the latest onsite version of Agresso but Unit 4 announced that it would no longer be supporting onsite solutions, and all customers would need to be in contract to migrate to the cloud solution by December 2024 if they wished to continue to use Agresso and for that system to be supported.

The announcement from Unit 4 came as a surprise and similarly to other Councils, Sevenoaks & Tandridge were not impressed with the approach Unit 4 has taken.

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However, in reality it has left us with little choice. From meeting with other Finance System providers, the time frame to move to a completely new finance system would be 12 – 18 months from the date of procurement. This would mean that there would be an unsupported system and should the system fail or other systems that feed into Agresso stop working it would leave the Council at significant risk.

The Society of District Council Treasurers asked the question as to which finance systems were councils using and of the 120 that responded, 33 currently use Agresso.

The finance system is being procured via the 13th iteration of the G-Cloud Framework

This SCIA reflects the growth relating to the cost of migration and the annual costs for licences, support, training & development. The migration costs have been reduced by 50% as the implementation will be undertaken in partnership with Tandridge District Council. The current budget is a net position of £26,507 which has been removed from the growth shown in table 1 to partly fund the above.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

SDC staff and external customers

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

The system will be hosted on the cloud by Unit 4. The user interface and functionality of the system will be greatly improved

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

Low

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)**

Operational Cost	25
Income	(4)
Net Cost	21

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	56
Income	(29)
Net Cost	27

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment]

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_12__(25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer : Finance and Investment / Adrian Rowbotham

Service: Finance

Activity: External Audit

No. of Staff 0 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
Increase in the external audit fee	CXCRPM G / 63000	100	Ongoing

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

The external audit fee is procured on a 5 year contract and Sevenoaks, like most over authorities sign up (agreed by Council) to be part of a national procurement scheme that is operated by the PSAA. The renewal of the contract was due for the 2023/24 Finance year's accounts. Following that tender process the fees have increased by 150%.

There has been no changes to our accounts or significant issues with our audit that would justify this large increase. However, the requirements on audit firms has increased in recent years and audit firms have difficulty with staff retention as well as undertaking the required audit work to meet audit regulations within the previous contract price. We have also seen the number of firms tendering for the contract reduce as Deloitte and BDO have withdrawn from the audit of the public sector and other firms taking a smaller share of the market,.

It is a statutory requirement for the Financial Statements to be audited and in reality the Finance Statements themselves and their audit are incredibly technical in nature so that local firms would not be able to undertake the audit from a technical and auditor capacity perspective.

This SCIA is for the annual growth in the external audit fee.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Members, residents.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service
(include Risk Analysis)**

No change to the service

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

Low

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	1,221
Income	(1)
Net Cost	1,220

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	90
Income	
Net Cost	90

**Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to
Advisory Committee (if appropriate)**

This budget sits within Corporate Management and the existing budget is £62,330 for the external audit fee of the Financial Statements.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Key Implications**Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment]

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_R13__ (25/26)

Portfolio / Chief Officer: Adrian Rowbotham

Service: Direct Services

Activity: Domestic Waste and Recycling

No. of Staff 0 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)
A budget is required for the replenishment of reusable recycling bags and a small supply of clear sacks.	DSREFSA / 50800 will be FAA	40	On-going

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Following the roll out of the reusable recycling bag to around 45,000 properties across the district there remains around 5,000 that, for operational reasons need to remain on clear sacks. Going forward we will also need to buy a small top up stock of reusable recycling sacks.

Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:

Residents in the identified 5,000 properties, such as New Ash Green, mobile home parks and some flats.

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

We need to continue to supply, free of charge clear sacks to around 5,000 properties twice a year. Failure to do this would result in a problem for residents to present their domestic waste, as required by s46 Environmental Protection Act 1990, as amended.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Risk to Service Objectives**

Medium level of Risk.

Cost Centre 2024/25 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	202
Income	(11)
Net Cost	191

Service Budget 2024/25 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA)

Operational Cost	202
Income	(11)
Net Cost	191

Further information on Cost Centres & Service budget. To give context to Advisory Committee (if appropriate)

Key Implications**Equality Assessment**

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to be Net Zero by 2030. There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SCIA_16__(25/26)

Portfolio: Housing and Health

Chief Officer: Sarah Robson

Service: Leisure

No. of Staff 0 FTE

Details of proposed change	Cost Centre & Account Code of Budget	2025/26 Growth / (Saving) £000	Later Years Comments (ongoing, one-off, etc.)	
			£000	
Leisure contract	TBC	430	2026/27	368
			2027/28	289
			2028/29	269
			2029/30	262
			2030	28

Box 1. Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

In April 2023, Full Council approved for an interim leisure operator, Everyone Active to be appointed to operate the Edenbridge and Sevenoaks Leisure Centres and Lullingstone Park Golf Course for a period of two years on an open book basis. The two-year interim contract comes to a close in spring 2025.

In April 2024, a report was presented an update to Cabinet providing an update on the longer-term procurement exercise, which has now concluded following final negotiations and is now subject to the relevant approvals.

Cabinet gave its approval to proceed with the procurement of a leisure operator contract for Edenbridge and Sevenoaks Leisure Centres and Lullingstone Park Golf Course for 5 years (with an option to extend for a further two years, subject to satisfactory performance) in accordance with the strategy set out in the report.

The Leisure Operator Award report was presented to People & Places committee 10 December 2024

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Box 2. Key Stakeholders Affected:**

Residents, sports clubs, schools (swimming lessons).

Box 3. Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

The Council has no statutory obligation to provide sport, leisure or recreation, services and facilities. Tamworth Council is an example council, which doesn't own any leisure centres. This is unlike many other demand driven legally mandated services, such as planning, housing, licensing and environmental health, which we do have a legal duty to provide.

When many other councils have made the decision to reduce or close their leisure centres and swimming pools due to rising costs and financial pressures, the Council's members have continued to promote good health and wellbeing in the District, which can be seen through its investment of over £20 million into a new leisure centre in Swanley and by Full Council's commitment of £1.83 million to ensure the leisure facilities in Edenbridge, Swanley and Lullingstone remained open to the public.

Given the negative impact that closing one or more centre would have on the health and wellbeing of the districts residents and those that attend the many sports clubs based at the centres, members have elected to ensure the ongoing provision of leisure in the District.

Risk to Service Objectives (High / Medium / Low)

Medium

Cost Centre 2025/26 Budget (£'000)

Operational Cost	114
Income	(20)
Net Cost	94

SERVICE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Service Budget 2025/26 (relating to the area affected by this SCIA) £000**

Operational Cost	98
Income	(20)
Net Cost	78

Equality Assessment

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this paper directly impact on end users. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people. The results of this analysis were set out in the report to Cabinet on 14 March 2024 – visit

<https://cde.sevenoaks.gov.uk/documents/s56820/13%20-%20Appendix%20C%20Equality%20Impact%20Assessment%20-%20Leisure%20Options%20Report.pdf?J=5>

Climate Change Implications

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the council's ambition to tackle the challenge of climate change.

There is no perceived impact regarding either an increase or decrease in carbon emissions in the district, or supporting the resilience of the natural environment.

Wellbeing

The Council has no statutory obligation to provide sport, leisure or recreation, services and facilities. This is unlike many other demand driven legally mandated services, such as planning, housing, licensing and environmental health, which we do have a legal duty to provide. However, it recognises the importance of having these facilities, their contribution to health and wellbeing and what they mean to our communities.