

Report on	Draft Response to The Department for the Economy's Spending Plans for 2023/2024
Date of Meeting	6 th July 2023
Reporting Officer	Joe McGuckin, Head of Strategic Services and Engagement
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Policy Engagement and Equality Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from elected members of the draft consultation response developed on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council in response to the consultation on The Department for the Economy's Spending Plans for 2023/2024.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland announced the 2023/24 Budget on 27 April 2023. Since then, various government departments have commenced public consultations on their own specific 2023/24 Budgets.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	This draft consultation response states recognises that although the Council accepts the difficult financial situation that DFE faces, we as a Council are not in support of the nature and level of the cuts proposed.
3.2	The consultation primarily seeks views in relation to the Equality Impact upon S75 groups in relation to the budget. The response indicates that a negative impact can be identified across the majority of S75 groupings.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management:

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: External response. Screening not required.
	Rural Needs Implications: External response. Completing an Impact Assessment on a consultation would be disproportionate. However, Rural Needs has been raised as part of the consultation response.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that Council approve the draft response and provide any additional commentary that would add to the content of the response.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Draft Consultation Response to The Department for the Economy's Spending Plans for 2023/2024