

Budget Improvement Impact Advisory Group (BIIAG) – Minutes of Meeting

Date	Time	Location
02 August 2022	13:00 – 14:30	Microsoft Teams Meeting

No.	Action	Who	When
1.	Set up follow up meetings with those who requested them	Budget Improvement team	By end of September
2.	Members to share any evidence in relation to impacts/pressures re: forthcoming budget round with BI team over the coming weeks	All members	Over coming weeks
3.	Set up task and finish group to consider short term actions to improve SIIA	Budget improvement team	Before next meeting
4.	Arrange follow up session for those unable to attend today	Budget Improvement Team	ASAP

1. Welcome and Introduction

- 1.1. Members were welcomed to the meeting of the Budget Improvement Impact Advisory Group (BIIAG) and apologies were given for moving this meeting to summer due to extenuating circumstances. Members were thanked for completing their membership agreements and a request for any outstanding membership agreements to be sent to the BIT mailbox as soon as possible.
- 1.2. Members were advised that the minutes from the last meeting had been circulated and all actions had been completed. No amendments were noted.
- 1.3. It was noted that the Budget Improvement Team had attended two sessions organised by the Bevan Foundation and WCVA. If anybody else has any events where they feel it would be useful for the BIT us to attend, please get in touch.
- 1.4. Members had previously highlighted the importance of working with young people and the budget. Work is underway with the Children and Young Peoples team to further explore how we can engage young people in the annual budget process and the process of improving the budget in the long term. It is expected that further information on this work will be provided at the next meeting.

2. Presentation on the Strategic Integrated Impact Assessment (SIIA)

A presentation was delivered on the SIIA.

3. Questions and reflections on presentation

- 3.1. The group were invited to provide reflections or ask questions relating to the presentation. The group were encouraged to provide feedback on the SIIA. Key areas of discussion included:

- Using an intersectional approach within the SIIA
- The difference between the SIIA and IIA (Integrated Impact Assessment)
- How to balance the level of detail published within the SIIA summary document e.g. Environmental Assessments are detailed and complex, how much detail should be included.
- The need to have a specific focus in the SIIA on carbon and nature
- Ensuring the most appropriate use of language.
- The role of the SIIA in wider Welsh Government policy areas
- The role of the case studies and how they could be improved
- The possible value of the SIIA being a standalone document as well as being included in the draft budget documentation
- How to share evidence for consideration

AP: Members to email BIP with any relevant sources of information over the coming weeks to inform forthcoming budget round.

- 3.2. The Group recognised there is a need to review options and solutions of where we go next on impact assessment requiring the Group's help. There are a range of options to be involved in this work to take forward for best impacts.
- 3.3. Some members of the group would find value in having individual meetings with some examples of good and bad things in the strategic process.

AP: BIT to arrange individual meetings on request.

- 3.4. Purpose of the BIIAG is to work together to improve budget and tax processes utilising the collective knowledge and expertise to the benefit of us all.
- 3.5. Our BIIAG workplan has already outlined that our next meeting was intended to discuss different techniques of impact assessment in greater detail. Team advised we are also happy to have individual conversations separately if needed.

4. Update on next steps for SIIA, Oral statement for Gender Budget, Fiscal update and Autumn plans

- 4.1. The conversation on the SIIA will not stop today and this process will continue to evolve not only in this budget round but in future years. Members were encouraged to get in touch with the BI team where they would like to get more involved with refining the SIIA.

AP: Set up task and finish group to consider short term actions to improve SIIA.

- 4.2. Group were informed that the Budget Improvement team will reflect on the conversation to bring together the discussion and consider the most appropriate next steps. We will contact members as appropriate based on the actions.
- 4.3. The next meeting is going to take this discussion to the next level of detail looking at the different types of tools used to assess impacts. A request for members to get in touch with us if they would like a short slot at the next meeting to share knowledge of assessing impact in your area of expertise. If you know of an expert in this area who is not a member, please let us know and we can look to invite speakers in. As a group we can then explore what we need to do to bring these approaches together to take an intersectional approach to impact assessment specifically in relation to the budget.

AP: If members would like to provide more specific detail on impact assessment tools, they have experience of in a future meeting, or would like to highlight any external speakers who we may benefit hearing from. Please get in touch with the team.

- 4.4. An update was provided in writing following the Ministers oral statement on Gender Budgeting. If anybody would like any further discussion on this or would like to ask any questions, please get in touch with the team.

5. AOB - Meeting Review and close

- 5.1. **Future meetings** – The next meetings are scheduled for
- 28 September
 - 07 December

A webpage has been set up on the WG website with the details of this group. The page contains an overview of the purpose of our group, the TOR and workplan and minutes will be uploaded once they have been approved by the group. This is to ensure we are being transparent in our approach and people can find out more about the group itself. You will find the webpage here:
<https://gov.wales/budget-improvement-and-impact-advisory-group>

- 5.2. The TOR does not include names of members but does include organisation names. Uploaded minutes will be generalised and not include initial or names of members.
- 5.3. An electronic equality questionnaire will be sent to all members, it is completely anonymous. We would appreciate if everybody could complete it to help us with our own reporting and monitoring of the group's membership.