

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Development Plan Scheme 2024 - Draft proposals for engaging on the Local Development plan

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|------------------------|---|
| Assessment ID | IIA-001861 |
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| Approved By | Paul Macari |
| Approved On | Tuesday January 23, 2024 |
| Publication Date | Wednesday January 24, 2024 |

1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

IAA of proposal within a draft Development Plan Scheme with the General Public using the Engage Aberdeenshire platform and to collect views on a draft document.

During screening 5 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 3 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing
- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 5 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 2 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by paul.macari2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

2. Screening

| | |
|---|-----|
| Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres? | No |
| Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities? | No |
| Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources? | Yes |
| Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community? | No |
| Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity? | No |
| Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics? | Yes |
| Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council? | Yes |
| Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome? | No |
| Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights? | Yes |
| Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing? | Yes |

3. Impact Assessments

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Children's Rights and Wellbeing | No Negative Impacts Identified |
| Climate Change and Sustainability | No Negative Impacts Identified |
| Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty | Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated |
| Health Inequalities | Not Required |
| Town Centre's First | Not Required |

4. Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

4.1. Wellbeing Indicators

| Indicator | Positive | Neutral | Negative | Unknown |
|-------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Safe | | Yes | | |
| Healthy | | Yes | | |
| Achieving | | Yes | | |
| Nurtured | | Yes | | |
| Active | | Yes | | |
| Respected | Yes | | | |
| Responsible | Yes | | | |
| Included | Yes | | | |

4.2. Rights Indicators

| | |
|--|---|
| UNCRC Indicators upheld by this activity / proposal / policy | Article 12 - Respect for the views of the child |
|--|---|

4.3. Positive Impacts

| Impact Area | Impact |
|-------------|--|
| Included | Young people are a key sector of the community who may have their own perspective on issues that affect them both now, as children, (such as availability of play spaces) and in the future as they mature into adulthood and seek homes and jobs. |
| Responsible | The Development Plan Scheme recognises that young people may have significant and real concerns about the environment that they currently live in and will mature to in adulthood. The Development Plan Scheme recognises that these interests are not trivial and young people can act responsibly when giving their views on environmental topics. |
| Respected | The Development Plan scheme recognises that a plan for the future will have a profound effect on children as they mature to adulthood and they have a clear interest in being involved in deciding what that future should be. |

4.4. Evidence

| Type | Source | It says? | It Means? |
|------|--------|----------|-----------|
|------|--------|----------|-----------|

| Type | Source | It says? | It Means? |
|----------------|---|--|--|
| Other Evidence | Engagement with School Youth Forums and Community Youth workers | Early engagement was undertaken with School Youth Forums on the importance and relevance to them of the Local Development Plan. It was clear from these meetings that young people care deeply about the future that they will inherit and are keen to be involved in the decisions relating to future land use and land use strategy. | Targeted and appropriate effort is required to engage with young people at least on a par with that conducted for the general public |
| Other Evidence | Analysis of submissions to the Proposed Local Development Plan 2020 | Although not audited observation by staff is that young people were disproportionately represented as respondents to the general consultation on issues, or on the Proposed Local Development Plan 2020 compared to the adult population. | Specific actions are required to encourage and empower young people to be involved in the preparation of the Local Development Plan. |

4.5. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

Engagement took place through a discussion with the Aberdeenshire Youth Council consisting of democratically elected representatives from all youth participation groups in Aberdeenshire, including the Pupil Participation Forum, Community Youth Platforms, and Specific Interest groups. An online survey for young people was circulated.

4.6. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

A significant part of the Local Development Plan is development of future ideas for the provision of accessible open and play spaces, and promoting of networks of services accessible by active travel. Young people (who have a lived in experience that is dominated by an inability to use a motor car) will have a specific perspective on the issues.

4.7. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

Evaluation of submissions and ideas from young people are not subjected to any form of discrimination from officers. Good ideas are supported no matter their source, and there is no means of testing the age of those who make submissions to assist in preparing the Local Development Plan.

4.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Positive activities are promoted to encourage young people to engage with the Local Development Plan and no account is taken of the age of correspondents in the evaluation of

submissions made to inform the Local Development Plan.

5. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

5.1. Protected Groups

| Indicator | Positive | Neutral | Negative | Unknown |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Age (Younger) | | | Yes | |
| Age (Older) | | Yes | | |
| Disability | | | Yes | |
| Race | | Yes | | |
| Religion or Belief | | Yes | | |
| Sex | | Yes | | |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | | Yes | | |
| Sexual Orientation | | Yes | | |
| Gender Reassignment | | Yes | | |
| Marriage or Civil Partnership | | Yes | | |

5.2. Socio-economic Groups

| Indicator | Positive | Neutral | Negative | Unknown |
|--------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Low income | | Yes | | |
| Low wealth | | Yes | | |
| Material deprivation | | Yes | | |
| Area deprivation | | Yes | | |
| Socioeconomic background | | Yes | | |

5.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

| Impact Area | Details and Mitigation |
|---------------|---|
| Age (Younger) | <p>Lack of understanding of the concepts and processes being promoted</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Consultation documents reviewed for plain language. Our engagement has complied with appropriate National Standards for Community Engagement by identifying and seeking to overcome barriers to participation by this audience.</p> <p>Timescale Before publication of the consultation document</p> |

| Impact Area | Details and Mitigation |
|-------------|---|
| Disability | <p>Lack of understanding of the concepts and processes described</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Previous experience has shown that due to the traditional methods of engagement that engaging with some hard to reach groups presents additional challenges. Notwithstanding this the national standards for community consultation provide advice and guidance for Authorities in how to engage with traditionally hard to reach groups which will be incorporated into the engagement strategy. In tandem with this the lived experience network will also assist in ensuring as wide and effective engagement as possible is undertaken.</p> <p>Timescale During the consultation process</p> |

5.4. Evidence

| Type | Source | It says? | It Means? |
|----------------|--|---|---|
| Other Evidence | Observational experience from previous consultations | Previous experience has shown that due to the traditional methods of engagement that engaging with some hard to reach groups presents additional challenges. Notwithstanding this the national standards for community consultation provide advice and guidance for Authorities in how to engage with traditionally hard to reach groups which will be incorporated into the engagement strategy. In tandem with this the lived experience network will also assist in ensuring as wide and effective engagement as possible is undertaken. | Officers will work to engage as far as possible with all groups on the LDP. |

5.5. Engagement with affected groups

There are no regulations regarding the scope and nature of public engagement published by the Scottish Government. Best practice from the National Standards for Community Engagement have been adopted.

5.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

Invitations were issued to collective groups and representatives were chosen by those groups to engage with us.

5.7. Evidence of engagement

Specific feedback was collected through the EngageAberdeenshire LDP hub and reported through that medium to all parties.

5.8. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Lack of ability to understand complex problems is not something that can be mitigated against

While there are challenges with engagement given the nature of the subject material including concepts, terminology the consultation process will comply with national standards for consultation and officers will work other services to ensure as far as possible that the consultation process is accessible to all.

6. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

6.1. Emissions and Resources

| Indicator | Positive | Neutral | Negative | Unknown |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Consumption of energy | Yes | | | |
| Energy efficiency | | Yes | | |
| Energy source | | Yes | | |
| Low carbon transition | | Yes | | |
| Consumption of physical resources | Yes | | | |
| Waste and circularity | | Yes | | |
| Circular economy transition | | Yes | | |
| Economic and social transition | | Yes | | |

6.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

| Indicator | Positive | Neutral | Negative | Unknown |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Quality of environment | | Yes | | |
| Quantity of environment | | Yes | | |
| Wildlife and biodiversity | | Yes | | |
| Infrastructure resilience | | Yes | | |
| Council resilience | | Yes | | |
| Community resilience | | Yes | | |
| Adaptation | | Yes | | |

6.3. Positive Impacts

| Impact Area | Impact |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Consumption of energy | Online consultation reduces the need to travel |
| Consumption of physical resources | Online consultation reduces the need for the production of printed material |

6.4. Evidence

| Type | Source | It says? | It Means? |
|----------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Other Evidence | Experience from previous consultations | Fully on-line engagement has not raised issues with the key client groups in the past and represents good use of resources when trying to engage with the general public across the whole of Aberdeenshire. | Online engagement is appropriate |

6.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Only positive impacts have been identified.

7. Action Plan

| Planned Action | Details | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|----|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| No action proposed. Mitigation that we have undertaken on the document to be approved addresses the negative impacts | <table><tr><td>Lead Officer</td><td>Piers Blaxter</td></tr><tr><td>Repeating Activity</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>Planned Start</td><td>Friday December 15, 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Planned Finish</td><td>Friday December 15, 2023</td></tr><tr><td>Expected Outcome</td><td>No Action required</td></tr><tr><td>Resource Implications</td><td>No Action required</td></tr></table> | Lead Officer | Piers Blaxter | Repeating Activity | No | Planned Start | Friday December 15, 2023 | Planned Finish | Friday December 15, 2023 | Expected Outcome | No Action required | Resource Implications | No Action required |
| Lead Officer | Piers Blaxter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repeating Activity | No | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Planned Start | Friday December 15, 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Planned Finish | Friday December 15, 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Expected Outcome | No Action required | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Resource Implications | No Action required | | | | | | | | | | | | |