Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

BSL Local Plan

Assessment ID	IIA-001816
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1. Overview

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

Scottish Government published the BSL National Plan on 6 November 2023. The British Sign Language Act requires public bodies in Scotland to publish a local plan within 6 months of the publication of the National Plan. This IIA relates to the Aberdeenshire BSL Plan 2024-30 and has been developed collaboratively with colleagues in Aberdeenshire Health& Social Care Partnership. Consultation has taken place with the deaf community in Aberdeenshire via the Engage platform as well as face to face with Aberdeen Deaf Club. We have promoted the development of the local plan using SignVine a social media page specifically for the deaf community in Aberdeenshire, through Aberdeenshire See Hear strategy group and the Lived Experience Forum.

During screening 6 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
- Health Inequalities

In total there are 11 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 3 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by kate.bond@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?	Yes
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?	No
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?	Yes
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	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	No Negative Impacts Identified
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 2 - Non-discrimination Article 3 - Best interests of the child Article 4 - Protection of rights Article 6 - Life, survival and development Article 12 - Respect for the views of the child Article 23 - Children with disabilities Article 28 - Right to education Article 29 - Goals of education Article 31 - Leisure, play and culture

4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Achieving	The BSL Plan actions enables children who are deaf to achieve within Education by having mechanisms in place to ensure they are included
Healthy	The BSL Plan action encompasses the Health and Wellbeing of children
Included	The BSL Plan actions enables children who are deaf to achieve within Education by having mechanisms in place to ensure they are included
Nurtured	The BSL Plan allows children to grow and develop in an environment that develops their resilience and a positive identity.
Respected	The BSL Plan actions enables children who are deaf to be respected

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Scottish Government consultation and BDA research	Priorities developed to ensure children and young people who are deaf, are included, and accessibility issues overcome	Local Plan reflects these priorities enabling them to learn and be included, taking away barriers.

4.5. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People
Working closely with the Sensory Support Team who are in daily contact with the children

4.6. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People
The BSL Plan supports children and young people's health and wellbeing as a priority area and the actions reflect this

4.7. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights
The BSL Plan will enable children to be included and their needs met, ensuring they have access to the support they require

4.8. Overall Outcome
No Negative Impacts Identified.

The BSL Plan has only positive outcomes for the deaf community

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. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Age (Older)	The BSL plan will have positive impacts to Age (Older) as the actions look to ensure they have access to services mirroring the priorities nationally.
Age (Younger)	The BSL plan will have positive impacts to children and young people due to the actions that provides the support within education and transitioning into work
Disability	Our Local BSL Plan has a positive impact to everyone in the deaf community
Disability	The BSL Plan has positive impacts on BSL Users across Aberdeenshire as the actions covers the priorities stated in the National plan within a local context.

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Data	Scottish Government data	Meeting the priorities will ensure Scotland is the best place to live, visit and learn	Our Local Plan will meet the needs of the deaf community

5.5. Engagement with affected groups
Internal and external Engagement has been carried out through Engage Aberdeenshire, as well as engaging the deaf community in person at the deaf club. The sensory support team have also been involved as they have front line experience of needs.

5.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups
The deaf community have been involved through the sensory support service, seehear group, the Deaf Club and through an online Engagement exercise.

5.7. Evidence of engagement
Engagement took place via Engage Aberdeenshire and was shared with the Lived Experience Forum.   Findings have been documented and have fed into the development of our Local BSL Plan

5.8. Overall Outcome
No Negative Impacts Identified.

The BSL Plan provides positive outcomes to the deaf community

5.9. Improving Relations
Ongoing engagement and consultation is taking place to ensure the lifetime of the plan evolves as needs change

5.10. Opportunities of Equality
Learners and those transitioning into employment are one of the priorities alongside access to culture and arts.

6. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

6.1. Health Behaviours

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Healthy eating		Yes		
Exercise and physical activity	Yes			
Substance use – tobacco		Yes		
Substance use – alcohol		Yes		
Substance use – drugs		Yes		
Mental health	Yes			

6.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Exercise and physical activity	Working with NHS Inform and the local third and community sectors to identify and promote the range of community opportunities available for physical activity to BSL users. We will also work with Live Life Aberdeenshire to support people who are deaf to be physically active
Mental health	Working locally to look at supporting the national BSL plan to tackle Social Isolation.

6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Consultation	Services across Aberdeenshire and HSCP	What we can support BSL users on in the area of Health and Wellbeing	The actions reflect the national BSL plan at a local level

6.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

There are no negative impacts in the Local BSL Plan

7. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details	
Seek approval of our Local BSL Plan at the Committees	**Lead Officer**	Kakuen Mo
	Repeating Activity	No
	Planned Start	Monday March 18, 2024
	Planned Finish	Thursday May 30, 2024
	Expected Outcome	Local BSL Plan approved
	Resource Implications	Staff time
Publish BSL Plan	**Lead Officer**	Kakuen Mo
	Repeating Activity	No
	Planned Start	Monday May 06, 2024
	Planned Finish	Monday May 06, 2024
	Expected Outcome	Local BSL Plan Published
	Resource Implications	Staff time
Local BSL Plan translated into a BSL video and published	**Lead Officer**	Kakuen Mo
	Repeating Activity	No
	Planned Start	Friday March 01, 2024
	Planned Finish	Monday May 06, 2024
	Expected Outcome	Local BSL Plan video published on Aberdeenshire Council website
	Resource Implications	Staff time