

Integrated Impact Assessment

The purpose of Aberdeen City Council is to protect the people and the place of Aberdeen from harm, enabling them to prosper and supporting them in the event of harm happening.

The purpose of an Integrated Impact Assessment is to evidence that Aberdeen City Council are making decisions in an informed way, and that the impact of decisions made is understood and accepted. The legislation that is considered within this assessment are:

- Section 2 [Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics](#)
- Section 3 [Socio-Economic](#)
- Section 4 [Human Rights](#)
- Section 5 [Children and Young People’s Rights](#)

The term ‘policy’ is used throughout this document and applies to policies, proposals, strategies, provision, criteria, functions, practice, budget savings and activities that includes delivery of our services.

1. About the Policy

1.1 Title
Carbon Budget 2024/25
1.2 What does this policy seek to achieve?
<p>The report sets out the Council Carbon Budget for the financial year 2024-25. The carbon budget is a mechanism to improve monitoring of carbon emissions from Council assets and operations, in support of Council net zero targets.</p> <p>The Council must meet climate duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to contribute to the delivery of Scottish Government emission reduction targets, this includes a target of net zero by 2045.</p> <p>The carbon budget is set annually and the proposal includes information on monitoring processes and measures to improve these, the carbon budget for 2024/25 and forecast carbon budget position.</p> <p>Further dialogue is proposed to establish processes to review and mature the Council approach to carbon budget. Engagement with relevant officers would take place in the development of these processes.</p> <p>Information on the carbon budget has been incorporated in previous reports to Council and other committees. A Council Climate Change Report including data on Council carbon emissions is already produced annually and the report and a summarised version is available through the Council website, with key information shared through communication measures such as presentations. Stage 1 IIA has previously been completed for the annual Climate Change Report.</p>
1.3 Is this a new or existing policy?
Annual
1.4 Is this report going to a committee?
Yes
1.5 Committee name and date:
Council (Budget) 6 March 2024

1.6 Report no and / or Budget proposal number and / or Business Case reference number:

COM/24/059

Impacts

This section demonstrates the considerations that have been made in relation to the policy - and that the impact of proposals made is understood and accepted.

2: Equality Act 2010 - Protected Characteristics

Aberdeen City Council wants to ensure everyone is treated fairly. This section identifies the [protected characteristics](#) that the policy potentially affects and records the impact and mitigating steps.

2.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below groups?

Protected Characteristic	What is the impact?				
	Negative			Neutral	Positive
	High	Medium	Low		
Age				√	
Disability				√	
Gender Reassignment				√	
Marriage and Civil Partnership				√	
Pregnancy and Maternity				√	
Race				√	
Religion or Belief				√	
Sex				√	
Sexual Orientation				√	

2.2 In what way will the policy impact people with these protected characteristics?

A neutral impact on protected characteristics is assessed. The carbon budget is a mechanism to support and improve monitoring of carbon emissions from Council assets and operations. The proposal does not include specific carbon reduction actions, individual actions to reduce emissions would be developed and reported separately and subject to IIA at that time.

2.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?

The proposal covers internal emissions data, already reported annually to Scottish Government.

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations?

The carbon budget relates to Council assets and operations, consultation and engagement has included:

- Engagement with relevant officers for data collation and analysis, including officers in data and insights.
- Engagement on the carbon budget with Council managers.
- Consultation and engagement with officers involved in monitoring and delivery of the Council Climate Change Plan, including the Council Climate Oversight Group.
- Information on the carbon budget process is included in the Council annual Climate Change Report, reported to Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee and submitted annually to Scottish Government to meet statutory requirements.
- High level information is included in quarterly updates as part of wider performance reports to Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee.

Engagement will be ongoing as part of work to mature the carbon budget process and done through a range of communication channels.

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy (e.g. citizens, community groups, or other people/groups)?

The carbon budget is a mechanism to support emissions monitoring for Council assets and operations. Any individual actions to support emissions reductions would be developed and reported separately and any impacts would be assessed in IIAs relevant to those proposals.

2.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?

No negative impacts have been identified.

With mitigations in place, what is the new overall rating of the negative impact(s)?

High
Medium
Low
Negative Impact Removed

3: Socio-Economic Impacts

This section is used to consider the impact of the policy on people who might be **unemployed, single parents**, people with lower **education** or **literacy**, **looked after children**, those with **protected characteristics** as examples.

Use this guide to understand more on socio-economic inequalities: [The Fairer Scotland Duty: Guidance for Public Bodies \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

3.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below groups?

Group	Negative			Neutral	Positive
	High	Medium	Low		
Low income / income poverty – those who cannot afford regular bills, food, clothing payments.				√	
Low and/or no wealth – those who can meet basic living costs but have no savings for unexpected spend or provision for the future				√	
Material deprivation – those who cannot access basic goods and services, unable to repair/replace broken electrical goods, heat their homes or access to leisure or hobbies				√	
Area deprivation – consider where people live and where they work (accessibility and cost of transport)				√	
Socio-economic background – social class, parents' education, employment, income.				√	

3.2 In what way will the policy impact people in these groups?

A neutral impact is assessed. The carbon budget is a mechanism to support and improve monitoring of carbon emissions from Council assets and operations. Any individual actions to support emissions reductions would be reported separately and any assessment on impacts would be undertaken as part of that process.

3.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?
Relevant data from billing information for Council premises and from internal monitoring systems ie fuel use from fleet has been considered. This is data relevant to Council assets and operations and is being used to support monitoring and reporting requirements.
What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations?
Consultation and engagement with relevant Council Service Managers. Consultation and engagement on the carbon budget with the Council Climate Oversight Group. Any engagement and communication on individual actions to support the delivery of emissions reductions would be managed separately and any assessment on impacts would be undertaken as part of that process.
What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy? citizens, community groups, or other people/groups impacted by this policy?
n/a

3.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?
No negative impacts have been identified.
With mitigations in place, what is the new overall rating of the negative impact(s)?
High
Medium
Low
Negative Impact Removed

4: Human Rights Impacts

The Human Rights Act 1998 sets out the fundamental rights and freedoms that everyone in the UK is entitled to. It incorporates the rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into domestic British law. The Human Rights Act came into force in the UK in October 2000

The Act sets out our human rights in a series of 'Articles'. Each Article deals with a different right.

Use this guide to understand more about [Human Rights](#).

4.1 What impact could this policy have on Human Rights?

Human Rights Article	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Article 6: Right to a fair trial		√	
Article 7: No punishment without law		√	
Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence		√	
Article 9: Freedom of thought, belief and religion		√	
Article 10: Freedom of expression		√	
Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association		√	
Article 12: Right to marry and start a family		√	
Article 14: Protection from discrimination in respect of these rights and freedoms		√	
Article 1 of Protocol 1: Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property		√	
Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education		√	
Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to participate in free elections		√	

4.2 In what way will the policy impact Human Rights?

No negative impacts have been identified.

4.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?

No negative impacts have been identified.

If mitigations are in place, does this remove the negative impact?

No – negative impact remains

Yes – negative impact reduced

Yes - negative impact removed

5: Children and Young People’s Rights Impacts

The United Nations Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child’s life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights.

Children’s rights apply to every child/young person under the age of 18 and to adults still eligible to receive a “children’s service” (e.g. care leavers aged 18 – 25 years old).

The Conventions are also known as the “General Principles” and they help to interpret all the other articles and play a fundamental role in realising all the rights in the Convention for all children. They are:

1. Non-discrimination (Article 2)
2. Best interest of the child (Article 3)
3. Right to life survival and development (Article 6)
4. Right to be heard (Article 12)

You can [read the full UN Convention \(pdf\)](#), or [just a summary \(pdf\)](#), to find out more about the rights that are included.

5.1 What impact could this policy have on the rights of Children and Young People?

UNCRC and Optional Protocols	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Article 1: definition of the child		√	
Article 2: non-discrimination		√	
Article 3: best interests of the child		√	
Article 4: implementation of the convention		√	
Article 5: parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities		√	
Article 6: life, survival and development		√	
Article 7: birth registration, name, nationality, care		√	
Article 8: protection and preservation of identity		√	
Article 9: separation from parents		√	
Article 10: family reunification		√	
Article 11: abduction and non-return of children		√	
Article 12: respect for the views of the child		√	
Article 13: freedom of expression		√	

Article 14: freedom of thought, belief and religion		√	
Article 15: freedom of association		√	
Article 16: right to privacy		√	
Article 17: access to information from the media		√	
Article 18: parental responsibilities and state assistance		√	
Article 19: protection from violence, abuse and neglect		√	
Article 20: children unable to live with their family		√	
Article 21: adoption		√	
Article 22: refugee children		√	
Article 23: children with a disability		√	
Article 24: health and health services		√	
Article 25: review of treatment in care		√	
Article 26: social security		√	
Article 27: adequate standard of living		√	
Article 28: right to education		√	
Article 29: goals of education		√	
Article 30: children from minority or indigenous groups		√	
Article 31: leisure, play and culture		√	
Article 32: child labour		√	
Article 33: drug abuse		√	
Article 34: sexual exploitation		√	
Article 35: abduction, sale and trafficking		√	
Article 36: other forms of exploitation		√	
Article 37: inhumane treatment and detention		√	
Article 38: war and armed conflicts		√	
Article 39: recovery from trauma and reintegration		√	
Article 40: juvenile justice		√	
Article 41: respect for higher national standards		√	
Article 42: knowledge of rights		√	
Optional Protocol on a Communications Procedure		√	

5.2 In what way will the policy impact the rights of Children and Young People?

Neutral impacts on children and young people have been assessed. The carbon budget is a mechanism to support and improve monitoring of carbon emissions from Council assets and operations. Any individual actions to reduce emissions would be reported separately and any impacts on children and young people would be assessed in IIAs undertaken as part of that process.

5.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?	
No negative impacts have been identified.	
If mitigations are in place, does this remove the negative impact?	No – negative impact remains
	Yes – negative impact reduced
	Yes - negative impact removed

6: Sign Off

Any further positive or negative impacts on individuals or groups that have been considered?

No negative impacts have been identified. Any individual actions to support the delivery of emissions reductions would be reported separately and where required, would be assessed in IIAs undertaken as part of that process.

Overall summary of changes made as a result of impact assessment.

n/a

Outline of how impact of policy will be monitored.

Monitoring is part of the carbon budget process. Monitoring includes quarterly provisional emissions updates and collation of annual emissions data which is reported to Scottish Government. Further support, consultation and guidance on the carbon budget for relevant Council managers is set to take place in 2024/25. The development of the carbon budget is an ongoing process. It will be refined in dialogue with relevant officers, through a range of communication channels and incorporate feedback and improvements.

If there are any remaining negative impacts after mitigation, what is the justification for why this policy should proceed.

n/a

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