

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

Aberdeen Planning Guidance: Health Impact Assessments

1.2 What does this policy seek to achieve?

This integrated Impact Assessment relates to a report to Planning Development Management Committee on 20 June 20204, the recommendations of which are as follows;

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approve the content of the draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance document; Health Impact Assessments (Appendix 1), and instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to, subject to any minor drafting changes, publish the draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance documents for an eight week non-statutory public consultation; and
- 2.2 Instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to report the results of the public consultation and any proposed revisions to the draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance to a subsequent Planning Development Management Committee within six months of the end of the consultation period

The policy provides guidance to Policy WB1: Healthy Development of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2023, and Policy 23: Health and Safety of the Scottish Government’s National Planning Framework 4. The documents outlines the importance town planning has in helping to create health places, and the steps developers have to follow for completing a Health Impact Assessment, and planners will use to assess when a Health Impact Assessment is required for a proposal or document. The Aberdeen Planning Guidance document will help applicants, planning officers and other stakeholders and will ensure a consistent approach to decision making. The document is to be subject to a public consultation.

1.3 Is this a new or existing policy?

This is a new document. The principles for its development are enshrined within the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2023, and the National Planning Framework 4.

1.4 Is this report going to a committee?

Yes

1.5 Committee name and date:

Planning Development Management Committee – 20 June 2024

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

CR&E/24/190

1.7 Function and Cluster:

City Regeneration & Environment / Strategic Place Planning

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					X
Disability					X
Gender Reassignment				X	
Marriage and Civil Partnership				X	
Pregnancy and Maternity					X
Race				X	
Religion or Belief					X
Sex					X
Sexual Orientation				X	

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

The draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance document is expected to have a positive impact on a number of groups. The document asks that a health impact assessment is required for planning development proposals or planning documents to aid an understanding on the impact of development on population health / public human health and reducing or preventing health inequalities, and those which could have a significant adverse effect on population health will be required to work through the Health Impact Assessment process outlined in the document. The health impact assessment itself requires the assessment of a number of protected characteristics. The proposal (development type or document) and the locational context are considered in the Health Impact Assessment process.

It is considered the draft planning guidance document will have a positive impact on the following protected characteristic; age, disability, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief and sex.

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?

Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network provides the template and best practice examples for completing the Health Impact Assessments.

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

The draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance document has been worked up with development management, NHS Grampian Public Health Directorate, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, with support from Public Health Scotland.

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 document will be subject to a period of public consultation before being report back to committee.

2.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

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

N/A – no Negative impacts have been identified, therefore no mitigations are required.

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.					X
Low and/or no wealth – those who can meet basic living costs but have no savings for unexpected spend or provision for the future					X
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					X
Area deprivation – consider where people live and where they work (accessibility and cost of transport)					X
Socio-economic background – social class, parents' education, employment, income.					X

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

The document asks that a health impact assessment is required for planning development proposals or planning documents to aid an understanding on the impact of development on population health / public human health and reducing or preventing health inequalities, and those planning development proposals or planning documents which could have a significant adverse effect on population health will be required to work through the Health Impact Assessment process outlined in the document.

The health impact assessment requires consideration of the impact of the proposed development on people of low socio-economic status, and consideration of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation therefore could have a positive impact on the groups mentioned above.

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?

Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network provides the template and best practice examples for completing the HIA.

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

The document has been worked up with development management, NHS Grampian Public Health Directorate, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, with support from Public Health Scotland.

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?

The document will be subject to a period of public consultation before being report back to committee.

3.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

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

N/A – no Negative impacts have been identified, therefore no mitigations are required.

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

4.2 In what way will the policy impact Human Rights?

It is not anticipated the draft Aberdeen Planning Guidance will have a neutral impact on human rights. The document is used to aid an understanding on the impact of development on population health / public human health and reducing or preventing health inequalities. It will not be used to assess the impact on an individual’s health, as this is met by other legislative process, regulatory functions and other planning guidance documents within the suite of planning documents Aberdeen City Council has.

4.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

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

N/A – no Negative impacts have been identified, therefore no mitigations are required.

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			X
Article 2: non-discrimination			X
Article 3: best interests of the child			X
Article 4: implementation of the convention		X	
Article 5: parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities		X	
Article 6: life, survival and development			X
Article 7: birth registration, name, nationality, care		X	
Article 8: protection and preservation of identity		X	
Article 9: separation from parents		X	
Article 10: family reunification		X	
Article 11: abduction and non-return of children		X	
Article 12: respect for the views of the child		X	
Article 13: freedom of expression		X	
Article 14: freedom of thought, belief and religion			X
Article 15: freedom of association			X
Article 16: right to privacy		X	
Article 17: access to information from the media		X	
Article 18: parental responsibilities and state assistance		X	
Article 19: protection from violence, abuse and neglect		X	
Article 20: children unable to live with their family		X	
Article 21: adoption		X	
Article 22: refugee children		X	
Article 23: children with a disability			X
Article 24: health and health services			X
Article 25: review of treatment in care		X	
Article 26: social security		X	
Article 27: adequate standard of living		X	
Article 28: right to education		X	
Article 29: goals of education		X	
Article 30: children from minority or indigenous groups		X	

Article 31: leisure, play and culture			X
Article 32: child labour		X	
Article 33: drug abuse		X	
Article 34: sexual exploitation		X	
Article 35: abduction, sale and trafficking		X	
Article 36: other forms of exploitation		X	
Article 37: inhumane treatment and detention		X	
Article 38: war and armed conflicts		X	
Article 39: recovery from trauma and reintegration		X	
Article 40: juvenile justice		X	
Article 41: respect for higher national standards		X	
Article 42: knowledge of rights		X	
Optional Protocol on a Communications Procedure		X	

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

The document is used to aid an understanding on the impact of development on population health, public human health and reducing or preventing health inequalities. The health impact assessment requires consideration of the impact of the proposed development or document on people of different age groups, which includes children. Therefore, it is considered there are a number of areas where the health impact assessment of planning developments or documents may have a positive impact on children by ensuring they are considered.

5.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

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

N/A – no Negative impacts have been identified, therefore no mitigations are required.

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?
N/A
Overall summary of changes made as a result of impact assessment.
No changes have been made as a direct result of the impact assessment, as no negative impacts have been identified. The Aberdeen Planning Guidance is nevertheless expected to have positive impacts on some protected groups / features, as outlined above.
Outline of how impact of policy will be monitored.
Through alteration of plans, strategies and development proposals in light of the outcome of Health Impact Assessments, and through regular monitoring which takes place on the use of all policies in the Aberdeen Local Development Plan.
If there are any remaining negative impacts after mitigation, what is the justification for why this policy should proceed.
N/A – no negative impacts have been identified that require mitigation.

Assessment Author	Donna Laing
Date	30/05/2024
Chief Officer	David Dunne
Date	30/05/2024