

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Reduction to the budget to provide Grant Fund supporting Aberdeenshire Business

Assessment ID	IIA-001124
Lead Author	Gary Hughes
Service Reviewers	Paul Macari, Martin Brebner
Subject Matter Experts	Suzanne Rhind, Kakuen Mo, Christine McLennan
Approved By	Paul Macari
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1. Overview

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

Impact of proposed budget saving of removing grant funding from Economic Development.

During screening 3 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
- Town Centres First

In total there are 0 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 12 negative impacts, of these negative impacts, 10 have been mitigated and 0 cannot be mitigated satisfactorily.

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?	Yes
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?	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?	No
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?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated

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 27 - Adequate standard of living
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4.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Consultation	Staff knowledge and expertise	Reducing grant funding may have an impact on local economies	Local economies may not grow and thrive without business support intervention.

4.4. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

No formal consultation

4.5. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

n/a

4.6. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

n/a

4.7. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Staff advice will offer some support to businesses

I don't believe the economic development budget should be reduced as this may have a detrimental effect on the local economy. Increased unemployment may lead to worse outcomes for young people.

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
Area deprivation	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Low income	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Seek external funding for economic development projects. Use staff time and Business Gateway to provide advice where possible.</p> <p>Timescale Ongoing</p>
Low wealth	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale on going</p>
Material deprivation	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>
Socioeconomic background	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Consultation	Service staff knowledge and understanding	Informal consultation on impact	impact is difficult to accurately forecast

5.5. Engagement with affected groups

No engagement

5.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

n/a

5.7. Evidence of engagement

n/a

5.8. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Alternative methods of support may be available

Econ dev do not think its budgets should be cut.

5.9. Improving Relations

Clear communication avenues

Agreed objectives and common understanding

5.10. Opportunities of Equality

It doesn't

6. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

6.1. Local Factors

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Town centre assets			Yes	
Footfall			Yes	
Changes to road layouts		Yes		
Parking		Yes		
Infrastructure changes		Yes		
Aesthetics of the town centre			Yes	
Tourism			Yes	
Public safety		Yes		
Town centre business			Yes	
Cultural heritage and identity		Yes		
Social and cultural aspects		Yes		

6.2. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Aesthetics of the town centre	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale on going</p>
Footfall	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On goind</p>

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Footfall	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>No mitigation has been entered for this impact.</p>
Town centre assets	<p>A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Other sources of funding will be investigated.</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>
Town centre assets	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>No mitigation has been entered for this impact.</p>
Town centre business	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>
Tourism	<p>Town centre assets: A reduction in economic development activity will reduce support to businesses leading to increased chances of existing businesses closing and start-ups failing. In turn this will lead to rising unemployment and increased poverty. These impacts may be concentrated in pockets leading to a downward spiral of worsening deprivation and social economic problems.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Alternatives to be explored</p> <p>Timescale On going</p>

6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Internal knowledge and critical thinking	Options for supporting town centres will be reduced if budgets are cut.	Less support for town centres

6.4. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Other funding sources may be available.

Econ dev does not want its budgets to be reduced.

7. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
Alternative ways of stimulating local economies and addressing market failure will be investigated.	<p>Lead Officer Gary Hughes</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Monday April 03, 2023</p> <p>Planned Finish Wednesday March 27, 2024</p> <p>Expected Outcome Alternatives likely to be limited</p> <p>Resource Implications There will be less resource</p>