

**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

EIA Version	Date	Author	Changes
1	22.01.21	G Penman	

Stage 1: Title and aims of the activity (“activity” is an umbrella term covering policies, procedures, guidance and decisions including those that affect services the council delivers).	
Service	Infrastructure Services
Section	Roads, Landscape and Waste Services
Title of the activity etc.	Flood Management: Reduce Flood Risk Planning Consultee Role
Aims and desired outcomes of the activity	<p>As a consultee on planning applications the Flood Risk team adds value to the planning process by acting as a consultee on planning applications relating to flooding or drainage issues. The team have a vested interest, particularly as flooding authority, that development should not result in increased flood risk.</p> <p>There is however scope to reduce the volume of applications that the team are consulted on. Little value is added when an application is concerning drainage issues for a few houses. Therefore, it is proposed that the team stop being consulted on these it would reduce the workload and reduce costs. These applications often result in numerous “back and forth” dialogue.</p> <p>Stopping consultations small-scale drainage issues should achieve a saving of around £25k in staff costs.</p>
Author(s) & Title(s)	Gavin Penman – Service Manager (Projects)

Stage 2: List the evidence that has been used in this assessment and explain what it means in relation to the activity you are assessing.		
Evidence	What does it say?	What does it mean?
Internal data (customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).	Flood Risk & Coast Protection team. Staff salary allocations shown through completion of timesheets.	The team spend around 40% of their time (their time spend on planning applications) on small-scale developments.

Internal consultation with staff and other services affected.	None	
External consultation (partner organisations, community groups, and councils).	None	
External data (census, available statistics).	None	
Other (general information as appropriate).	None	

**Stage 3: Evidence Gaps.**

Are there any gaps in the information you currently hold?	No
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**Stage 4: Measures to fill the evidence gaps.**

What measures will be taken to fill the information gaps before the activity is implemented? These should be included in the action plan at the back of this form.	Measures:	Timescale:

Stage 5: What steps can be taken to promote good relations between various groups/areas?

These should be included in the action plan.

N/A

Stage 6: How does the policy/activity create opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity?

N/A

Stage 7a:

Are there potential impacts on protected groups?

The protected groups covered by the equality duty are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Who is affected by the activity or who is intended to benefit from the proposed activity and how? Complete the table below for each protected group by inserting "yes" in the applicable box/boxes below.

	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unknown
Age – Younger/Older			YES	
Age - Older			YES	
Disability			YES	
Race – (includes Gypsy Travellers)			YES	
Religion or Belief			YES	
Sex			YES	
Pregnancy and maternity			YES	
Sexual orientation – (includes Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual)			YES	

Gender reassignment – (includes Transgender)			YES	
Marriage and Civil Partnership			YES	

Stage 7b: Do you have evidence or reason to believe that this policy, activity etc. will or may impact on socio-economic inequalities?

This is about trying to be fair to everyone. Part of that is realising that not everyone may be starting at the same place. Some individuals and families may have low income, may have very little or no savings which means they are living from month to month therefore changes to council policies/services may have a greater adverse impact on them.

On this basis you should consider potential impacts on individuals/families by:

- Place: on specific vulnerable areas or communities (SIMD, regeneration, rural) e.g. housing, transport.
- Pockets: household resources, (Income, benefits, outgoings) ability to access a service
- Prospects: peoples life chances e.g., Access to, or ability to access employment, training, services (such as council or health) or support.

Groups of people who may be impacted include, but not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployed</li> <li>• Single parents and vulnerable families</li> <li>• People on benefits</li> <li>• Those involved in the criminal justice system</li> <li>• People in the most deprived communities</li> <li>• People who live in rural areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pensioners</li> <li>• Looked after children</li> <li>• Careers including young carers</li> <li>• Veterans</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Single adult households</li> <li>• People who have experienced the asylum system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those leaving the care setting including children and young people and those with illness</li> <li>• Homeless people</li> <li>• People with low literacy/numeracy</li> <li>• People with lower educational qualifications</li> <li>• People in low paid work</li> <li>• People with one or more protected characteristic</li> </ul>
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Please complete by inserting “yes” in the applicable box/boxes below.

Socio-economic disadvantage	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unknown
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Pockets: Low income/income poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing			YES	
Pockets: Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future			YES	
Pockets: Material deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies			YES	
Place: Area deprivation – where you live, where you work			YES	
Prospects: Socioeconomic background – social class i.e. parents education, employment and income , educational achievement.			YES	

**Stage 8: What are the positive and negative impacts?**

Impacts.	Positive (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)	Negative (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)
Please detail the potential positive and/or negative impacts you have highlighted above. Detail the impacts and describe those		

affected.		

**Stage 9: Have any of the affected groups/areas been involved, engaged with or consulted?**

If yes, please give details of how this was done and what the results were. If no, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating steps?	N/A
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**Stage 10: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce negative impacts?**

	Mitigating Steps	Timescale
These should be included in any action plan at the back of this form.		

**Stage 11: What monitoring arrangements will be put in place? How the EIA will be used to monitor the proposal**

These should be included in any action plan (for example customer satisfaction questionnaires).	N/A
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**Stage 12: What is the outcome of the Assessment?**

Please complete the appropriate box/boxes	1	No negative impacts have been identified –please explain.
	The savings proposed by this activity relate to staff costs. The savings proposed will allow the team to focus on other valuable activities in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan.	
	2	Negative Impacts have been identified, these can be mitigated - please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen.

	3	The activity will have negative impacts which cannot be mitigated fully – please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen

\* Stage 13: Set out the justification that the activity can and should go ahead despite the negative impact.

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Stage 14: Sign off and authorisation.

Sign off and authorisation.	1) Service and Team	Infrastructure Services: Roads, Landscape and Waste Services	
	2) Title of Policy/Activity	Reduce Flood Risk Planning Consultee Role	
	3) <b>Authors:</b> I/We have completed the equality impact assessment for this policy/activity.	Name: Gavin Penman Position: Service Manager Date: 22/01/2021 Signature: Gavin Penman	Name: Position: Date: Signature:
		Name: Position: Date: Signature:	Name: Position: Date: Signature:
	4) Consultation with Service Manager	Name: Gavin Penman Date: 22/01/2021	
5) Authorisation by Director or Head of Service	Name: Philip D McKay Position: Head of Service Date: 01/03/2021	Name: Position: Date:	

	6) If the EIA relates to a matter that has to go before a Committee, Committee report author sends the Committee Report and this form, and any supporting assessment documents, to the Officers responsible for monitoring and the Committee Officer of the relevant Committee.	Date:
	7) EIA author sends a copy of the finalised form to: equalities@aberdeenshire.gov.uk	Date:



