

# Aberdeenshire Council

## Integrated Impact Assessment

### Budget Impact Assessment - Discretionary Planning Charges

Assessment ID	IIA-001034
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Approved By	Paul Macari
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# 1. Overview

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

The Planning Legislation - Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 & fee regulations (published in April 2022) (Town & Country Planning Act (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 2022)) makes provision for discretionary charging for Planning Authorities regarding elements of the planning decision making process. As a phased approach, the Planning Service are looking at discretionary charging for EIA Screening and Scoping Charges for Renewable Energy Developments and Pre-application Charges for National and Major Developments.

During screening 0 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 0 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

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

A detailed action plan with 0 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?	No
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?	No
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?	No

## 3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Not Required
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required

## 4. Justification

The discretionary costs will be imposed on developers/energy companies with regards the processes required prior to submitting a planning application or in some instances Section 36 applications (which are applications submitted to the Government, where the Council is the consultee). Pre application work can be as resource intensive as the formal application/consultee work (Sect 36) where there are statutory fees. Currently there is no charge by Aberdeenshire Council for these pre application stages although other Councils do charge for these services. To allow charging would potentially enable more resources to be directed to pre application work (including EIA screening & scoping) which will enable the Council to provide a higher quality, more focused and timelier pre application Service and fall in line with the Scottish Government's focus on promoting and encouraging pre application through its focus on the transformation of planning. More resource to carry out pre application will strengthen delivery of major development and development associated with renewables to enable national targets for the delivery of zero carbon and adequate housing to be met. There are no negative impacts expected nor any mitigation required. National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) encourages and promotes the facilitation of development that addresses the global emergency and nature crisis, with expected outcomes of net zero carbon and nature positive places, It is anticipated that as a result of NPF 4, the Scottish Government's renewable targets and the newly adopted LDP 2022 there will be a greater focus on renewable proposals of varying scales and major applications for allocated sites. Additional income will assist in resourcing large scale proposals in particular and have a greater ability to invest in their delivery, whilst covering all relevant and additional costs.