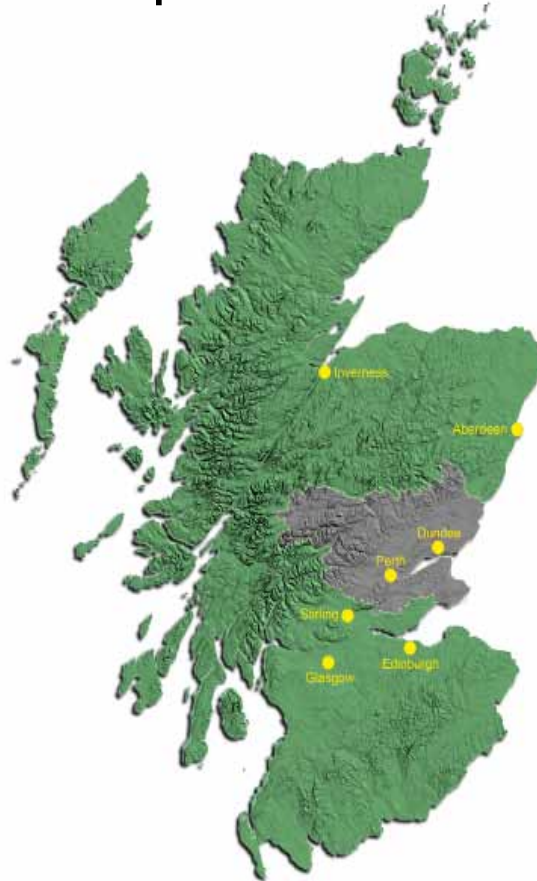


Main Issues Report Equalities Impact Assessment (2014)



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Introduction

1.1 The purpose of an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) is to help ensure that we do not discriminate and that where possible we utilise opportunities to promote equality.

1.2 An EqIA involves thinking through the potential consequences of policies and functions on both the identified equality target groups and society at large, making sure that as far as possible, any negative impacts are minimised or eliminated.

Main Issues Report

1.3 The Main Issues Report considers the big changes that will shape the next 20 years of our lives. It focuses on the key issues for the Proposed Plan which cannot easily be dealt with at local level alone and are best considered with at regional level where they are cross boundary.

1.4 The Main Issues Report is not a draft plan. It presents options for the scale of growth and for where development should and should not be in Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and North Fife; and it asks for your views on these and other issues. Some challenges are about implementing national responses to these issues. Engagement is more effective at this stage because the options are still open; they are less so later in the preparation process for the Strategic Development Plan.

Assessment Process

1.5 This document outlines the process that will be undertaken, in relation to the Main Issues Report consultation, and consists of three stages:

Stage One (January 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essential information is identified;• The aims of the Main Issues Report are outlined;• Information gathering takes place;• Assessment of impacts on equality;• Compliance assurance testing;• Monitoring and review; and,• Public reporting of the results.
Stage Two (April – June 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive Main Issues Report consultation takes place that is relevant and proportionate to the Plan process.
Stage Three (July – September 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of the Main Issues Report Consultation in light of the EqIA and its subsequent impact on the Proposed Plan.

Your Comments

1.6 Question: Do you have any comments on this draft Equalities Impact Assessment?

Stage One

Step 1: Identify Essential Information

Name of function or policy:	TAYplan Main Issues Report
Lead Officer for function/policy:	Pamela Ewen, Manager
Lead Service involved in the delivery of this function/policy:	TAYplan Strategic Development Planning Authority
Lead Service taking primary responsibility for this impact assessment:	City Development, Dundee City Council
Names of Officers carrying out Stage One:	Pamela Ewen
Officer Designation(s):	TAYplan SDPA Manager
Name of Officer carrying out Stage Two and Three:	Pamela Ewen
Officer Designation(s):	TAYplan SDPA Manager
Is this function or policy:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
Date of Impact Assessment:	January 2014

Others involved in the delivery of this function or policy:

1.7 Planning and Transport (Angus Council), Enterprise, Planning and Protective Services (Fife Council), The Environment Service (Perth & Kinross Council).

1.8 Most Council services in the four Local Authorities would be involved.

How have others (listed above) been involved in the Equalities Impact Assessment process?

1.9 This draft assessment will be considered and approved by the TAYplan Joint Committee and be published with the Main Issues Report, forming part of the suite of consultation documents. Responses will be used to finalise the assessment when the Proposed Plan is prepared.

Step 2: Outline aims of the function or policy

What are the main aims of the function or policy?

- 1.10 The main aims of the Main Issues Report are to:
- To look at what has changed from the Approved Strategic Development Plan (June 2012);
 - Take forward commitments in the Single Outcome Agreements and existing approved Structure Plans;
 - Consider the big changes that will shape the next 20 years of our lives;
 - Consider the strategic changes that are best dealt with at regional level; and
 - Provide options for key issues and ask for views on these and other issues.

Who are the main beneficiaries of the function or policy?

1.11 The citizens of Angus, Dundee City, North Fife and Perth and Kinross, and those with an interest in growing the economy of the region.

What are the intended outcomes of the function or policy?

1.12 The draft vision of the Main Issues Report is:

'By 2032 the TAYplan region will be sustainable, more attractive, competitive and vibrant without creating an unacceptable burden on our planet. The quality of life will make it a place of first choice where more people choose to live, work, study and visit, and where businesses choose to invest and create jobs.'

1.13 Recent work by TAYplan has focused on how the approved vision (2012) relates to outcomes. It is clear from this work that the ultimate outcome of the present vision is for people to have a better quality of life. This is underpinned by four intermediate outcomes that are collectively necessary to bring this about:

- More people are healthier;
- We live within Earth's Environmental Limits;
- We live, work and play in better quality environments; and,
- Through sustainable economic growth the regions image will be enhanced.

Why is this function or policy being assessed?

1.14 This assessment will help TAYplan ensure that the Main Issues Report does not discriminate, and enables the four Local Authorities to promote equalities.

Is the function of policy intended to increase equality of opportunity by permitting positive action or action to redress disadvantage?

Yes

No

Give details

1.15 The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 places an obligation on Scottish Ministers and planning authorities to perform their functions under the Act in a manner which encourages equal opportunities and observe current equal opportunity requirements. This legislation came into force in early 2009.

1.16 The Scotland Act 1998 defines equal opportunities as: ‘the prevention, elimination or regulation of discrimination between persons on grounds of sex or marital status, on racial grounds, or on grounds of disability, age, sexual orientation, language or social origin, or of other personal attributes, including beliefs or opinions, such as religious beliefs or political opinions.’

Step 3: Gather and Consider Evidence

1.17 What evidence will you use to identify any potential positive or negative impacts?

Evidence	Details
<p>Consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop held for TAYplan Steering Group and 14 Key Stakeholders to identify key issues and visioning (April 2013). • Regular meetings with the 14 Key Stakeholders and Steering Group/ Board to ensure full participation in the drafting of the Main Issues Report. • Pre-Main Issues Report Consultation held (April – June 2013). <p>Main Issues Report Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisements - TAYplan will advertise the consultation in 2 newspapers with the greatest circulation in the TAYplan area. • News Releases - Numerous news releases will be issued to the media, including newspapers, radio stations and websites across the TAYplan area. • Radio - TAYplan will seek to raise awareness of the consultation by providing information to the main radio stations covering the area. • Posters/ Leaflets - TAYplan will produce posters and leaflets, distributing these widely across the area, including distribution to Community Councils for onward dissemination to community groups, community notice boards and other prominent locations within each neighbourhood. • Online - The EqlA will be published and made available for comment alongside other consultation documents, in addition to regular news releases. • Workshops - A number of Public Events, Community Council and Elected Member briefings and engagement with Young People will be undertaken, through independent workshops with Planning Aid Scotland, across the TAYplan area, during the consultation period. • Online Consultation Portal - TAYplan will continue to use online questionnaires as the predominant means for responding to the consultation. A link to these will be available through the TAYplan website at the start of the consultation period. • Presentations - TAYplan will deliver a presentation to groups, where requested, including students at the University of Dundee and to school pupils. • Static Displays - Small static displays will circulate within the TAYplan area providing information on TAYplan, the consultation and the planned events. • Other Publicity - Other means of communication will be utilised by TAYplan, where required in the run up to and during the consultation period. <p>Full details of the Participation Statement are set out in the Consultation and Engagement Strategy (February 2014).</p>
<p>Research</p>	<p>Workshops on Adaptation to Climate Change, Retail study, Graphics research, Green Networks, Energy and a study with TAYplan's Universities to inform the Main Issues Report.</p>
<p>Officer knowledge and experience (including feedback from frontline staff)</p>	<p>Professional expertise of Council officers.</p>
<p>User feedback (including complaints)</p>	<p>Gathered through the comments received through the Approved Strategic Development Plan (June 2012) process.</p>
<p>Other</p>	<p>TAYplan's Housing Needs and Demand Assessment (HNDA) considered groups with particular touring needs e.g. gypsy travellers.</p>

Step 4: Assess Likely Impacts on Equality Strands

Equality Act 2010

1.18 The Equality Act was published in 2010. The Act introduces a new duty for public sector bodies to consider, in all the strategic decisions they make, how they will tackle the disadvantage some people face because of socio-economic disadvantage.

1.19 In view of this, it is considered appropriate to include additional Equality Target Groups: People with mental health illness; people in religious/faith groups; people with low income; homeless people; people involved in the criminal justice system; staff (of Dundee City Council, Perth & Kinross Council, Fife Council, and Angus Council) and people living in rural areas.

Which, if any, Equality Target Groups and others could be affected by this function or policy?

1.20 This assessment will be based on the draft vision and preferred spatial strategy of the Main Issues Report.

Equality Target Group	Positive Impact (+)	Neutral Impact (0)	Negative Impact (-)
Race *		0	
Disability	+		
Gender **		0	
LGB ***		0	
Belief		0	
Younger	+		
Older	+		
Mental health illness		0	
Religious/faith groups		0	
Low income	+		
Homeless	+		
Criminal justice system		0	
Staff		0	
Rural areas	+		
Others	+		

* Race includes Gypsies/Travellers

** Gender includes Transgender

*** LGB: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual

1.21 From the Groups you have highlighted above, what positive and negative impacts do you think the function or policy might have?

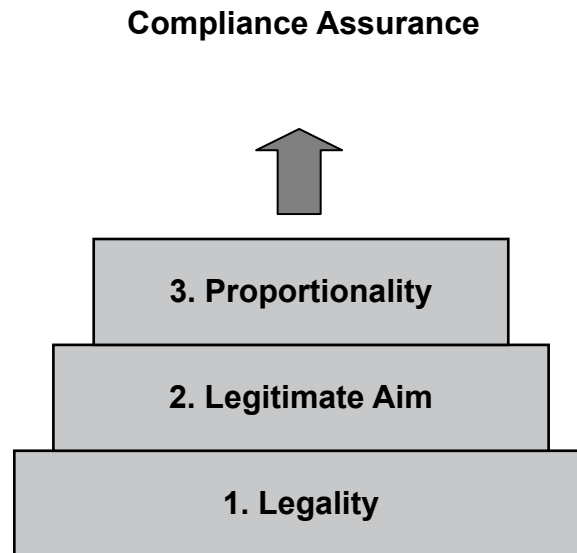
Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Disability – Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport including buses.	None identified
Younger People – Economic growth will increase employment opportunities. Providing a supply of housing. Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport. Targets to reduce demand for energy from new developments will reduce living costs. Improving quality of place.	None identified

Older People – Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport including buses. Targets to reduce demand for energy from new developments will reduce living costs and fuel poverty. Improving quality of place.	None identified
Low income – Economic growth will increase employment opportunities. Providing a supply of affordable housing. Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport. Targets to reduce demand for energy from new developments will reduce living costs.	None identified
Homeless – Providing a supply of affordable housing.	None identified
Rural areas – Increased accessibility to jobs, services and facilities.	None identified
Other – Economic growth will increase employment opportunities especially in regeneration areas. Improving quality of place. TAYplan’s Housing Needs and Demand Assessment has specifically considered each of the equality target groups, which has informed TAYplan’s housing recommendations.	None identified

If you have **not** identified any potential negative impacts go to Step 6 and detail your monitoring, reviewing and publishing arrangements.

Step 5: Apply the Three Key Assessment Tests for Compliance

1.22 Step 5 draws together all the steps of the Equalities Impact Assessment tool in ensuring that the application of a Council policy is non-discriminating.



1.23 Which equality rights may be directly or indirectly affected as identified in Steps 3 and 4?

Not Applicable

1.24 Legality – Where there is a negative impact is there a legal basis in the relevant domestic law?

Not Applicable

1.25 Legitimate Aim – Is the aim of the policy identified in Steps 1 and 2 a legitimate aim being served in terms of the relevant equality legislation?

Not Applicable

1.26 Proportionality – Is the impact of the policy proportionate to the legitimate aim being pursued? Is it the minimum necessary interference to achieve the legitimate aim?

Not Applicable

Step 6: Monitoring and Review

How will the implementation of the function or policy be monitored?

1.27 The Main Issues Report is not a draft Plan, and therefore does not include any policies or targets that require to be implemented.

How will the results of the monitoring be used to develop the function or policy?

1.28 The results of all monitoring will inform the Proposed and finalised Strategic Development Plan as well as the Local Development Plans of the four Local Authorities.

When is the function or policy due to be reviewed?

1.29 The Main Issues Report is due to be published in April 2014 and representations received will inform the subsequent Proposed Plan.

1.30 Work on the second Strategic Development Plan will commence in 2014.

Step 7: Public Reporting of Results

Summarise the results of the Equalities Impact Assessment. Include any action which has been taken as a result of the Equalities Impact Assessment. You must note if you have modified or consulted on the function or policy.

1.31 A pre-Main Issues Report consultation was undertaken in April – June 2013 provided early engagement with interested parties which has helped to identify any potential issues with consultation practice.

Positive Impacts

1.32 There will be positive impacts for some of the quality target groups in the following ways:

1.33 Disability – Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport including buses.

1.34 Younger People – Economic growth will increase employment opportunities. Providing a supply of housing. Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport. Targets to reduce demand for energy from new developments will reduce living costs. Improving quality of place.

1.35 Older People – Increased accessibility to new developments by non-car modes of transport including buses. Targets to reduce demand for energy from new developments will reduce living costs and fuel poverty. Improving quality of place.

1.36 Other – Economic growth will increase employment opportunities especially in regeneration areas. Improving quality of place.

1.37 This assessment will be published with the Main Issues Report for consultation and will be available online or on request from the Strategic Development Plan Team. The responses to the assessment will be reported to the TAYplan Joint Committee and used to inform the preparation of the Proposed Plan for submission to Scottish Ministers.

Next Steps

1.38 The initial (Stage One) assessment was conducted in January 2014 in advance of the publication and consultation of the Main Issues Report in April 2014. Following this consultation, Stage Two and Three of the Equalities Impact Assessment can take place from April to June 2014; detailed explanations of how the consultation was carried out and a review of consultation practice in light of feedback.

1.39 The final Equalities Impact Assessment will be produced in late 2010 and will provide detail of the representations received.