

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### Project Ref: PE-ASF-001 – Angus Schools for the Future (Brechin Rural Schools)

What is the proposed budget saving?

Through the council's Change Programme, a saving of £150,000 was set against the closure of Lethnot and Tarfside Primary Schools. As a result of statutory consultation both schools have been formally closed since November 2018 and the savings now need to be taken.

#### Screening Process

Does the proposed saving involve or have consequences for the people the council serves or employs? Yes

If yes, proceed to step 1 of the Full Equality Impact Assessment below.

### EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FULL ASSESSMENT

#### Step 1

What data/research is available to assess the likely impact of the proposed saving?

The proposals to close both schools were considered and consulted on in full in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. As part of this a full assessment was made of the impact of closures including the educational benefit and the community impact of the proposals.

Details can be viewed online via the following links:

[Report 282/18 – Closure of Tarfside School](#)

[Report 283/18 – Closure of Lethnot School](#)

[Lethnot Consultation Report](#)

[Tarfside Consultation Report](#)

It is noted that Lethnot school was mothballed in 2015 and Tarfside in 2016. Both schools were formally closed (endorsed by Scottish Government) in November 2018. The associated savings are now being taken from the primary non-devolved budget however there is no measurable impact arising from this decision. The schools have been out of operation for a number of years.

#### Step 2

Is there any reason to believe the proposal could affect people differently due to their protected characteristic ie age; disability; gender; gender re-assignment; pregnancy/maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation? Please state below each category that applies and give details alongside.

Age: When the proposals were first made for the closure of the schools, the main identified impact of the proposal was on children and their families living in the historic catchment areas. As there was sufficient alternative primary education provision available locally (and children have been accessing it for a number of years) any impact on age was therefore mitigated.

#### Step 3

Is there evidence to suggest that any part of the proposed saving could unlawfully discriminate against people? **No**

#### Step 4

Can the proposed saving be seen to favour one section of the community or deny opportunities to another? **No**

#### Step 5

Does the proposed saving advance equality?

**No.**

Or restrict equality? **No**

**Step 6**

Based on the work you have done, please state the level of impact for any of the equality groups of the proposed saving in terms of high, medium, low, unknown.

*Low – the schools are already closed and primary provision is being accessed elsewhere.*

**Step 7**

If during **Steps 2 - 5** there has been an adverse impact identified, consider if any adverse impact can be justified. **N/A**

**Impact Assessment Carried Out By:** Beth Reader – Manager Support Services

**Date:** 21 January 2020