



Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

Step 1

Name of Proposal - Angus Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP)

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment No

(A) If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics No

(iii) It is for information only No

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year No

(v) It is technical No

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

(B) If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment Yes

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Yes

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

Step 3

(i)Lead Directorate/Service: Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform - Policy & Partnerships

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 (1)

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/climate-change>

Public Sector Climate Change Duties 2020 Summary Report

(iii) What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

The overall aim and objective of the SECAP is to support Angus in its commitment to sustainable development, environmental management and the transition to a low-carbon economy. The SECAP will cover the entire county and provide a roadmap demonstrating how Angus can meet its climate commitments. The SECAP will concentrate on measures to reduce Green House Gas emissions, potential adaptation actions in response to the impacts of climate change and measures to provide sustainable, affordable and secure access to energy.

The SECAP sets out a series of concrete, deliverable actions with clear timelines and responsibilities and will be arranged according to 6 key sectors including Buildings; Energy; Transport; Land Use & Forestry; Agriculture & Food and Waste, as well as Governance and Process actions.

(iv) Is it a new proposal? Yes Please indicate OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function? No

Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees Yes

Job Applicants No

Service users Yes

Members of the public Yes

Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:

Urban Foresight was appointed under delegated authority in March 2020, to develop and produce the SECAP and associate documents. The commission was to be carried out in six phases however the impact of Covid-19 on the programme and the ability to carry out stakeholder engagement as per the original proposals resulted in an alternative delivery route to complete the evidence base.

Internal data (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

N/A

Internal consultation (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

Input was sought from a variety of stakeholders in the development of the SECAP. Key stakeholders included representatives from the council departments.

External data (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

External consultation (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

Key stakeholders included Sustainable Kirriemuir, Keep Scotland Beautiful, Circular Tayside, the Cairngorms National Park Authority, the National Farmers Union, Zero Waste Scotland, River South Esk Catchment Partnership and Friends of the Earth Tayside.

Other (general information as appropriate).

Step 6: Evidence Gaps.

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? **Yes/No**

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups?

Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.

Age

Impact –

Positive – Taking steps to mitigate and adapt to climate change not only has benefits for the environment but also for society. Climate actions delivered in Angus and surrounding area will support improved health and wellbeing, reduce poverty and inequalities and provide skills development for all ages with in the region.

Disability

Impact

Positive – The Angus SECAP actions will be fair, equitable and inclusive and consider all members of the community and will support those with disabilities.

Gender reassignment

Impact -

Positive – The Angus SECAP actions will be fair, equitable and inclusive and consider all members of the community and will support those undergoing gender reassignments.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact –
No impact

Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact-
No Impact

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact –
Neutral – All actions are available and accessible to all residents of Angus

Religion or Belief

Impact –
Neutral – All actions are available and accessible to all residents of Angus

Sex

Impact-
Neutral – All actions are available and accessible to all residents of Angus

Sexual orientation

Impact-
Neutral – All actions are available and accessible to all residents of Angus

Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

The SECAP will be a continually evolving document and the employment of a temporary SECAP officer to carry out engagement with all parties will be undertaken. The creation of a Community Climate Forum is proposed also and this will be open to everyone to contribute to the SECAP within Angus.

Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?

The strategy will be reported on annually with regular updates being presented to the Angus Community Planning Partnership which is a multi-agency body with key priorities around Climate change. This reporting will ensure any negative impacts are highlighted early on in the delivery of the strategy and can be mitigated as a collaborative approach.

Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.

No impacts have been identified to date

Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

In response to the evolving climate emergency, Angus Council has developed this Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan involving all Angus stakeholders and partners. The purpose of the SECAP is to support Angus in its commitment to sustainable development, environmental management and the transition to a low carbon economy. It provides a roadmap demonstrating how Angus can reduce its carbon emissions and increase the resilience of the region, whilst at the same time positioning Angus to capitalise on the significant economic opportunities offered by a low carbon economy.

Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?

Angus's commitment to reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change is reflected across several of its strategic policies including the Angus Community Plan 2017-2030¹, The Angus Local Development Plan 2016², The Angus Food Growing Strategy 2020 and the Angus Council Plan 2020-2024³. The Council Plan sets out a vision for Angus as a Great Place to Live, Work and Play under three themes of Economy, People and Place. The central priorities of the Angus Community Plan include:

1. Reducing child poverty;
2. Improving mental health and wellbeing; and
3. Improving accessibility and connectivity.

Although the SECAP focuses primarily on climate change it has the potential to influence many other aspects of society. It is important that it is implemented in a fair and equitable way, ensuring that the benefits can be enjoyed by every member of society without unfairly disadvantaging those who are most vulnerable. In order to maximise benefits, and ensure its successful delivery, it is also important that the SECAP is integrated and aligned with existing Plans, Policies and Strategies. Both of these principles are reflected in the SECAP core principles

Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

¹ Angus Community Plan 2017-2030. [Available here.](#)

² Angus Local Development Plan 2016. [Available here.](#)

³ Angus Council Plan 2019-2024. [Available here.](#)

Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?

Alongside the reduction of carbon emissions, there are also key targets related to other sectors. Scotland's Energy Strategy (2017) aims to generate over 50% of Scotland's energy consumption from renewable sources by 2030 and increase the productivity of energy use across Scotland by 30%. Alongside the efficient and sustainable production of energy, there is also the need to improve the energy efficiency of the building stock by improving insulation and reducing heat demand. The Fuel Poverty Act (Scotland) 2019⁴ sets ambitious targets to tackle fuel poverty with no more than 5% of Scottish households in fuel poverty, and no more than 1% of households being in extreme fuel poverty, by 2040.

The purpose of the SECAP is to support Angus Council in its commitment to sustainable development, environmental management and the transition to a low carbon economy. It provides a roadmap demonstrating how Angus can both reduce its carbon emissions and increase the resilience of the region to the potential impacts of climate change through concrete, deliverable actions.

The Angus commitment to reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change is reflected across several of its strategic policies including the Angus Community Plan 2017-2030⁵, The Angus Local Development Plan 2016⁶, The Angus Food Growing Strategy 2020 and the Angus Council Plan 2020-2024⁷. The Council Plan sets out a vision for Angus as a Great Place to Live, Work and Play under four themes of Economy, People, Place and Our Council. The central priorities of the Angus Community Plan include:

1. Reducing child poverty;
2. Improving mental health and wellbeing; and
3. Improving accessibility and connectivity.

Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.

The SECAP is intended to be a living, evolving document which will change through engagement with the people of Angus and as new opportunities and initiatives come forward. This first iteration of the SECAP, focuses on actions that are largely driven by the council and key public sector partners. As a major employer, landowner and energy consumer, the Council has significant influence over a large percentage of Angus' total carbon emissions.

The Council also acts as a developer (responsible for the design of new council housing); customer (responsible for sustainable procurement practices); enabler (providing leadership, education, advice, land use policy, business support); and protector (of the community, landscape and biodiversity). But no single person or organisation can tackle climate change alone. Through demonstrating strong political leadership and taking definite action, Angus Council seeks to inspire, encourage and enable residents, businesses and other public bodies to get involved and help drive the change to zero carbon. This is just the start of the journey, and as the SECAP goes forward the hope is to include even more partners, helping to secure a better, more sustainable future for everyone in Angus.

⁴ The Fuel Poverty (Scotland) Act. [Available here.](#)

⁵ Angus Community Plan 2017-2030. [Available here.](#)

⁶ Angus Local Development Plan 2016. [Available here.](#)

⁷ Angus Council Plan 2019-2024. [Available here.](#)

Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings? Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.

Low and/or No Wealth (e.g. those with 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).

Impact

Climate action delivered in and for Angus should:-

Be fair and equitable –To be successful, climate action will need to be balanced with social and economic concerns in the region, and initiatives should not disproportionately disadvantage low income communities. While the burden of addressing climate change is one shared globally, it should be recognised that many citizens are already economically and socially disadvantaged; action should be undertaken in such a way as to ensure the benefits are shared widely, while the costs do not unfairly burden those most vulnerable. Instead it should be recognised that poverty is itself a contributing factor to climate change and the right climate actions can offer opportunities for change towards a fairer and more equitable society.

Material Deprivation (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

Impact

Not Applicable

Area Deprivation (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport).

Impact

The strategy is an Angus wide document with particular emphasis on areas of highest deprivation as outlined by the Scottish index of Multiple Deprivation.

Socio-economic Background i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

Impact

The purpose of the SECAP is to support Angus Council in its commitment to sustainable development, environmental management and the transition to a low carbon economy. It provides a roadmap demonstrating how Angus can both reduce its carbon emissions and increase the resilience of the region to the potential impacts of climate change through concrete, deliverable actions.

Angus's commitment to reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change is reflected across several of its strategic policies including the **Angus Community Plan 2017-2030**⁸, The **Angus Local Development Plan 2016**⁹, The **Angus Food Growing Strategy 2020** and the **Angus Council Plan 2020-2024**¹⁰. The Council Plan sets out a vision for Angus as a *Great Place to Live, Work and Play* under three themes of *Economy, People and Place*. The central priorities of the Angus Community Plan include:

1. Reducing child poverty;
2. Improving mental health and wellbeing; and
3. Improving accessibility and connectivity.

Other – please indicate

Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.

In line with the principles of **working in close partnership** with community groups and **joined-up and integrated working**, co-operation and input was sought from a variety of stakeholders in the development of the SECAP. Key stakeholders included representatives from the council, community groups, businesses and third sector organisations.

The establishment of a Community Climate Forum in line with the stated principles of climate action being delivered in close partnership with local communities and being joined-up and integrated

Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?

Although the actions within the SECAP will be reviewed regularly, a full review of the actions will take place every 2 years to monitor progress and identify remedial actions, or new actions, that need to occur in order to achieve targets. This will ensure that the SECAP fully considers and reflects changes to technology, market conditions and environmental concerns

Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?

As part of this work the SECAP will have a dedicated page on Angus Councils web page containing all the relevant documents which will include this EIA/FSD which is also available on Angus Council Committee reports page.

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Mark Davidson - Manager – Tay Cities Deal (Angus) 11 October 2021

Reviewed by: Doreen Phillips – Equalities Officer Shelley Hague – Interim Service Leader: Policy & Partnerships 15 October 2021

Approved by: Shelley Hague – Interim Service Leader: Policy & Partnerships 15 October 2021

⁸ Angus Community Plan 2017-2030. [Available here.](#)

⁹ Angus Local Development Plan 2016. [Available here.](#)

¹⁰ Angus Council Plan 2019-2024. [Available here.](#)