



Appendix B6

Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

Step 1

Name of Proposal (includes e. g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions):

Follow a review of public transport provision, the proposed withdrawal of a public bus service from the Auchterhouse, Tealing and surrounding areas and the introduction of Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) scheme to serve this same area.

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment

~~Yes/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 | Yes/No |
| (ii) It is for information only | Yes/No |
| (iii) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year | Yes/No |
| (iv) It is technical | Yes/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/No

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

~~Yes/No~~

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: **Infrastructure & Environment, Roads & Transportation**

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

Yes - The Council has a duty under the 1985 Transport Act to:

- (a) **secure the provision of such public passenger transport services as the Council consider it appropriate to secure in order to meet any public transport requirement within their area which would not in their view otherwise be met. (Section 63)**
- (b) **formulate from time to time general policies as to the descriptions of services they propose to secure having regard to transport requirements relating to education and social work. (Section 63)**
- (c) **conduct themselves, in the course of exercising their powers so as not to inhibit competition between persons providing or seeking to provide public passenger transport services in their area. (Section 63)**
- (d) **have regard to the transport needs of the elderly and disabled. (Section 63)**
- (e) **secure the best value for money from their expenditure on public transport, taking into account the full range of the Council's responsibilities. (Section 88)**

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

- **To review the provision of public transport services in Angus and identify budget reductions. Alternative provision will then be developed in consultation with the affected community, although this provision will be vastly reduced and operate as a demand responsive transport service, rather than a fixed line bus service.**

(iv) Is it a new proposal? **Yes/No** Please indicate **OR**

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

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

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees **Yes/No**

Job Applicants **Yes/No**

Service users **Yes/No**

Members of the public **Yes/No**

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:

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

Passenger data is analysed from on bus ticket machines to monitor the usage of each service and determine its value to communities.

On vehicle surveys are carried out to engage with passengers and gather feedback relating to the local bus service.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Other (general information as appropriate).

Not applicable.

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.

We have unable to identify what the % of workers are using public transport services in Angus. This data set can only be gathered through on bus surveys, which we have been unable to undertake due to a combination of Covid19 restrictions and limited staff resources.

Staff resources have increased and Covid19 restrictions have been removed, which will allow us to develop this data set over the next year.

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**.

Yes.

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

Age

Impact: Negative. Young people, as well as elderly people, will have less opportunity to utilise concessionary travel schemes and these groups may have limited access to a private car. Alternative provision will then be developed in consultation with the affected community, although this provision will be vastly reduced and operate as a demand responsive transport service, rather than a fixed line bus service.

Disability

Impact: Negative. Accessible vehicles and supporting infrastructure are provided for people with a disability. However, there will be less opportunity to utilise the concessionary travel scheme, as a result of the reduction in service. The implementation of alternative provision will mitigate some of the impact.

Gender reassignment

Impact: Neutral.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact: Neutral.

Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact: Neutral.

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact: Neutral.

Religion or Belief

Impact: Neutral.

Sex

Impact: Neutral.

Sexual orientation

Impact: Neutral.

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.

No consultation undertaken with the groups potentially affected.

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)?

Not applicable.

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

The public transport network will remain virtually wholly intact, with the services being withdrawn considered to be the least impactful to the network and passengers, after a rigorous analysis of service provision.

The implementation of a DRT service will be piloted to reduce the negative impacts, and this will be developed in consultation with the affected communities.

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

The current fixed line bus service will no longer be affordable as a result of the need to reduce the Transport Revenue Budget. The fixed line bus service will therefore be withdrawn in full, and replaced with a pilot DRT service. This pilot will be funded by the additional savings made by withdrawing the fixed line service. This position will make the required budget savings, as well as maintain limited public transport links for the affected communities.

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?

The proposal seeks to maintain the public transport network in the best way possible, by continuing to provide public transport to access, healthcare, employment, education and local amenities.

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

No actions to be taken.

Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY – NOT APPLICABLE

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

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.

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

As noted in Step 13(B), the importance of monitoring and evaluating outcomes from the Strategy, Action Plan and deliverables do need to be strengthened.

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

With the published report to council committee.

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

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