



Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)

Angus Council Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028

| |
|---|
| CRWIA Stage 1 |
| Screening |
| Name of Strategy and Overall Aims |
| <p>Angus Council is committed to ensuring we meet our legal duties and international obligations in respect of human rights. In terms of children and young people, this requires respect for and the promotion of children's human rights as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) is Angus Council's strategic document for housing, it sets out the strategic direction, policies and plans that will enable the Council and partners to deliver high quality housing and related services to meet the needs of all local people. It builds on the existing LHS (2017-22) and associated actions.</p> <p>The LHS 2023-28 will clearly set out what the statutory housing responsibilities are and outlines the significant contribution housing makes across many segments of society, from helping create sustainable, connected places, supporting economic growth whilst reducing poverty and inequalities, to improving the health and wellbeing of all our residents, including children and young people.</p> |
| What aspects of the strategy will affect children and young people up to the age of 18? |
| <p><i>The Articles of the UNCRC and the child wellbeing indicators under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 apply to all children and young people up to the age of 18, including non-citizen and undocumented children and young people.</i></p> <p>All aspects of the LHS will affect children and young people's rights as this document deals with housing and related services to all people Angus. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • property condition • homelessness • availability and affordability of housing |

- fuel poverty
- particular needs housing
- regeneration of communities
- tackling poverty (Including child poverty)
- health and wellbeing

The strategy will also take account of wider equalities requirements and fairer Scotland duties to promote inclusive and cohesive communities.

What likely impact – direct or indirect – will the strategy have on children and young people?

We anticipate that the delivery of the LHS will bring benefits to all residents of Angus, including children and young people. It seeks to have a positive impact on reducing child poverty, fuel poverty, homelessness and improving children and young people's health and wellbeing.

Direct impacts are targeted at the most disadvantaged people within our communities and include elements such as:

- Preventing homelessness
- Improving the lives and opportunities of care experienced young people to provide a seamless transition to independent living with the provision of good quality homes with relevant wrap around support
- Rapid Rehousing
- Domestic Abuse Policy
- Improving links with other services such as Health and Social Care to ensure people have access to the right support at the right time
- Continuing with a Housing First approach for those with multiple and complex needs
- Increasing the provision of particular needs housing for people with disabilities including children and young people

Indirect impacts include:

- Promoting more inclusive cohesive communities to address inequalities and tackle discrimination
- Increasing the provision of affordable housing and employability
- Preventing and addressing homelessness for everyone
- Improving property condition across tenures
- Reducing fuel poverty and helping to tackle poverty
- Increasing the provision of particular needs housing
- Improving standards and services in the private rented sector

Further detail of indirect impact can be found in the strategy document.

Which groups of children and young people will be affected?

The LHS will affect the lives of people of all ages, sexes and backgrounds, living or with the intention of living in Angus in future and across all housing tenures. This will include children and young people up to the age of 18. We recognise, however, that there will be certain groups of children and young people who may be most influenced by the indirect impact of the strategy. These include, but are not limited to, the following groups:

- Children and young people living in poverty, including fuel poverty
- Children and young people with protected characteristics, or living in a household which include adult(s) with protected characteristics
- Children and young people who live in a household affected by Domestic abuse
- Children and young people at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- Care experienced children and young people.

Will this require a CRWIA?

Yes, the intended impact of the LHS is wide ranging and considers all housing stock within Angus as well as wider impacts on equalities and health and wellbeing and as such is a critical document to aid delivery.

CRWIA Stage 2

The CRWIA – Key Questions

Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the strategy?

List all relevant Articles of the UNCRC and Optional Protocols. All UNCRC rights are underpinned by the four general principles: non-discrimination; the best interests of the child; the right to life, survival and development; and the child's right to have their views given due weight.

Article 2 Non-discrimination

Article 3 Best interests of the child

Article 5 Parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities

Article 6 Life, survival and development

Article 8 Protection and preservation of identity

Article 10 Family reunification

Article 12 Respect for the views of the child

Article 13 Freedom of expression

Article 14 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Article 15 Freedom of association

Article 16 Right to privacy

Article 18(1,2) Parental responsibilities and state assistance

Article 18(3) Parental responsibilities and state assistance

Article 19 Protection from all forms of violence

Article 22 Refugee children

Article 23 Children with disabilities

Article 24 Health and health services

Article 27(1-3) Adequate standard of living

Article 30 Children of minorities/indigenous groups

Article 31 Leisure, play and culture

Article 32 Child labour

Article 33 Drug abuse

Article 34 Sexual exploitation

Article 35 Abduction, sale and trafficking

Article 36 Other forms of exploitation

Article 37(a) Inhumane treatment and detention

Article 39 Recovery and rehabilitation of child victims

What impact will the strategy have on children's rights?

The LHS aims to improve housing and housing related services in Angus and as such intends to have a positive impact across the range of housing and related issues such as:

- Improving housing and living conditions and tackling fuel poverty
- Improving access to accessible, affordable and sustainable homes
- Increasing the provision of specialist, accessible or adapted housing
- Tackling poverty, material and area deprivation through regeneration and increasing economic and employment opportunities
- Preventing and alleviating homelessness
- Tackling domestic abuse and providing safe places for people and their families to live
- Providing housing support to those who need it
- Reducing carbon emissions

- Improving environments and design of communities
- Improving health and wellbeing of all residents
- Implementing equality and Fairer Scotland duties

As such the LHS will impact positively on children's rights as the above measures contribute to the UNCRC general principles.

Will there be different impacts on different groups of children and young people?

All groups of children and young people will be impacted positively, although some specific actions or interventions are aimed at improving existing service provision for more disadvantaged groups. For example, the following are areas of specific focus within the LHS:

- Preventing and tackling homelessness and ensuring the provision of housing support where it is needed
- Improving the life chances and opportunities of looked after and accommodated children and young people and care experienced young people through a range of specific focussed actions to provide a seamless transition to independent living and the provision of good quality homes with the relevant wrap around support
- Improving access and affordability to good quality homes for single parent families adversely affected by poverty
- Continuing to take a rapid rehousing approach to homelessness including families with children and young people
- Tackling domestic abuse
- Improving linkages with other services such as Health and Social Care to ensure people have access to the right support
- Increasing the provision of specialist or adapted homes for people with disabilities including children and young people
- Continuing a Housing First approach for those with multiple and complex needs.

If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any group of children and young people, what options have you considered to modify the strategy or mitigate the impact?

There are no negative impacts on children and young people as a result of the implementation of the LHS.

How will the strategy contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland?

Outline how the implementation of the policy/measure will support public bodies in Scotland to meet their duties to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of children in their area, with wellbeing defined by eight wellbeing indicators. The indicators are: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included.

As a local authority, Angus Council has a duty to promote the safety, health and wellbeing of the communities in the area and meet the national outcomes identified by the Scottish Government. The LHS therefore links into wider health and social care plans as well as development and regeneration activity and crosses the multitude of departments and services operating within North Lanarkshire.

The LHS intends to assist in meeting the wellbeing indicators through the following activities:

Safe

- Creating safe and secure homes and spaces for everyone in our communities
- Tackling domestic abuse and providing safe places for people to live
- Providing housing support to those who need it
- Staff and wider partners awareness and training around protecting people processes and procedures
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Improving environments and design of homes and communities

Healthy

- Improving housing and living conditions
- Tackling fuel poverty
- Reducing carbon emissions
- Improving access to accessible, affordable and sustainable homes
- Preventing and alleviating homelessness
- Providing housing support to those who need it
- Increasing the provision of specialist, accessible or adapted housing
- Improving environments and design of communities
- Improving health and wellbeing of all residents

Achieving

- Tackling poverty
- Improving access to accessible, affordable and sustainable homes
- Preventing and alleviating homelessness

Nurtured

- Improving environments and design of communities
- Creating safe and secure homes and spaces for everyone in our communities
- Tackling domestic abuse and providing safe places for people to live
- Providing housing support to those who need it
- Developing pathways and protocols with wider partners that help nurture and support children and young people

Active

- Assisting in the creation and development of safe places for children and young people to play
- Contribute to the creation of sustainable communities which encourage and promote active travel, safe walking and cycling

Respected

- Implementing equality and fairer Scotland duties to eliminate discrimination

Responsible

- The LHS ensures we are held accountable for developing appropriate actions and for progressing those actions to a conclusion
- The LHS also places responsibilities on other partners and wider stakeholders in the delivery of specific actions
- Staff and wider partners awareness and training around protecting people processes and procedures

Included

- Supporting and encouraging participation of all residents in the development of the LHS
- Increasing the provision of specialist, accessible or adapted housing ensures those with specific needs feel more included
- Wider work around improving access to community services, employment, education or leisure activities

How will the strategy give better or further effect to the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?

Progress on the LHS and actions contained therein are monitored regularly and progress reported annually. This will provide some insight into how the LHS is contributing to children's wellbeing.

What evidence have you used to inform your assessment?

The development of the LHS takes account of a wide range of local and national data sources and evidence to identify areas where improvements or actions are needed. A suite of thematic evidence papers including papers specific to preventing and addressing homelessness, placemaking and communities and specialist housing and independent living as well as a review of the following data, plans and research:

- Area Profiles
- Housing Contribution Statement
- Housing Need and Demand Assessment
- Local Housing Systems Analysis
- Angus Local Development Plan
- Angus Community plan
- The Strategic Commissioning Plan
- The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan
- Tacking Child Poverty Delivery Plan
- Angus Health and Social Care Strategic Plan

Have you consulted with relevant stakeholders?

Numerous consultation events have taken place with various stakeholders and interested groups to inform the development of the LHS. A public consultation is also being carried out and feedback from this process will inform the finalised LHS.

Have you involved children and young people in the development of the strategy?

Our target audience is those aged 16 plus therefore there is limited input from younger children in the consultation process.

CRWIA Stage 3**Sign off and Authorisation****What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the CRWIA?**

The equalities impact assessment will be reviewed at least annually during the life of the LHS.

Where will this CRWIA be published?

This assessment will accompany a committee report detailing the final LHS and will be available to the public on the council's website.

Sign off and Authorisation (please state name, post and date for each)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Prepared by: | Lynne Warburton, Team Leader (Sustainable Communities) |
| Date: | 13 February 2023 |
| Authorised by: | Colin McGarva, Policy Officer (Sustainable Communities) |
| Date: | 12 October 2023 |