



Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

Angus Council Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028

HIA Stage 1
Screening
Name of Strategy and Overall Aims
<p>This HIA sets out to assess the impact of Angus Council's Local Housing Strategy (LHS) on the health and wellbeing of the residents in Angus with the aim of maximising health gain and minimising any negative impacts on health status.</p> <p>The 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>
Angus: Community and Health Profile
<p>There are an estimated 116,200 people living in Angus, a marginal increase of 790 (<1%) from 2010, and they form an estimated 54,378 households. Around 84,000 Angus residents reside in the 7 main towns, meaning there are around 32,000 people residing in what would be regarded as rural areas, just over 1 in 4 of the population.</p> <p>The National Records of Scotland (NRS) estimates that the Angus population may in fact marginally decline over the next 20 years with a significant drop in the number of children, young adults and working-age people, but also anticipating a large increase in the number of people aged over 65. This comes as no surprise, particularly the significant increase in the older population which will be experienced across Scotland. It does however also highlight</p>

that whilst people in the local area may choose not to start a family, younger working age people may opt to migrate from Angus and this will have consequences for our communities.

Through the LHS there is a requirement to ensure that housing meets a range of needs including the following key client groups:

- Older people
- People with a physical disability
- People with a mental health condition
- People with a learning disability

Older People

In Angus, the population of older people (pensionable age and over) is projected to increase by around 18% up to 2038. The most significant increase is in households over 75 years old which is projected to increase in number by around 72% (2018 NRS Population Projections). The needs and aspirations of our older population are changing as people are choosing to be supported to live at home independently.

People with a Physical Disability

The 2021 Housing Need and Demand (HNDA) Survey suggests that 14.5% of households in Angus include someone with a mobility or physical health issue. The survey suggests that 1,385 households had an unmet need for accommodation without stairs (46% of unmet demand for specialist housing) and 583 households had an unmet need for accommodation suitable for a wheelchair (19% of unmet demand for specialist housing).

People with a Mental Health Condition

While the existence of a mental health condition will not, in most cases, mean the individual has a housing need or require a particular type of housing, there are strong links between housing and mental health. People living in poor housing or experiencing homelessness are more likely to develop a mental health issue or have trouble managing an existing one. The 2021 HNDA survey suggests that 15% of households in Angus have someone in the household with a long-term mental health condition.

People with a Learning Disability

The HNDA (2021) estimated need for people with a learning disability is the highest need across the key care groups in Angus. Establishing the real levels of need at local levels and the specific accommodation requirements will require further work by the partnership. There are currently nine supported accommodation schemes in Angus, providing 52 health and social care commissioned tenancies/bed spaces for those with learning disabilities. The HNDA estimates a need for a further 133 commissioned tenancies to meet unmet and future needs.

Housing and Health

Housing has a crucial role to play in improving the health and wellbeing outcomes for individuals and families across Angus.

The provision of good quality, affordable accommodation is crucial in enabling people to live independently and safely at home. Housing has both a preventative role and an enabling role to play in improving outcomes and specialist provision is accommodation and services that may be appropriate when mainstream housing does not meet an individual's needs.

The National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes state that "people, including those with disabilities or long term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live, as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community". People should be enabled to live independently with freedom, choice, dignity and control through the availability of specialist provision across all tenures (i.e. accommodation and services that may be appropriate when mainstream housing does not meet an individual's needs).

Through the LHS there is a requirement to ensure that the housing meets a range of needs including:

- Older people
- People with a physical disability
- People with a mental health condition
- People with a learning disability

The LHS should set out our understanding of local need for specialist provision and our approach to planning strategically, in collaboration with the Angus Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP), to ensure a shared understanding of need in Angus and the approach and actions required to meet those needs.

Housing, Health and Social Care Integration

Health and social care integration provides stronger connections between health, social care and housing. Angus HSCP formally came into existence in April 2016. The Angus Integration Joint Board (IJB) – the Partnership's board of governance, strategy and scrutiny – became responsible for its delegated health and social care functions at the same time.

Angus HSCP is responsible for the delivery of social care and community based health services for all adults in Angus. The adaptations service was also delegated to the Angus HSCP and work is underway to consider the role of the Angus HSCP in delivering homelessness functions currently sitting as part of the Housing Officer role within the three Community Housing Teams. This recognises the vital role played by housing in a whole systems approach to improving people's health and wellbeing.

The Angus Housing Contribution Statement 2019-2022 (HCS) provides an overarching strategic statement of how the housing sector will support the work of the IJB to achieve the outcomes for health and social care. The HCS can be seen as the 'bridge' between the Local Housing

Strategy (LHS) and the Strategic Plan and demonstrates how we will work together to enable people to live independently and safely at home. We are currently working alongside Angus HSCP as they develop the Strategic Commissioning Plan for 2023 – 2026 and will develop a new HCS to set out the role and contribution of the local housing sector in meeting the outcomes and priorities identified for the next 3 years.

Will this require a HIA?

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.

HIA Stage 2

The HIA – Health Checklist

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.

Key Findings

The volume and range of consultations outlines the Council's hands-on approach when engaging with our service users and communities about housing and related matters. The responses enabled us to shape and adopt local policies and initiatives based on the needs of local people and stakeholders, considering the shifting priorities in people's everyday lives as a consequence of the pandemic, and the national approach outlined in Housing to

2040. The continuous programme of engagement has served to provide a solid evidence base for LHS consultation and development. Throughout the consultation it became apparent that the thinking was very much aligned and that the issues and challenges identified could be divided into two themes – Places and People. These themes were further developed to form the cornerstone of the LHS Delivery Plan.

The work in developing the LHS has identified a number of challenges that we will face in the coming years:

- Ageing population
- Increase in single person households
- The need to effectively address and eradicate homelessness
- Fuel poverty, mitigating against the impact of the cost of living crisis and climate change
- Empty Homes
- Addressing poor quality housing
- Recovery from a global pandemic
- Maximising community engagement
- Investing in the 20 minute neighbourhood concept

Housing has long been recognised as an important mechanism for improving people's health and wellbeing and for reducing health inequalities. By delivering on the LHS actions, we expect that the provision of affordable, warm and accessible housing that meets individual needs will be the foundation for people to achieve in other wider aspects of life such as educational attainment, employment and health and wellbeing.

Health Impact Checklist

Populations	How could these groups be affected by the proposal?
<p>Population Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people, children and young people • Women, men (include trans men and women and issues relating to pregnancy and maternity) • Disabled people (includes physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, long term medical conditions, mental health problems) • Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/ Travellers, non-English speakers) • Refugees & asylum seekers 	<p>The LHS's priorities and actions will be applicable to all population groups and residents of Angus.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with different religions or beliefs • Lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people • People who are unmarried, married or in a civil partnership • People living in poverty / people of low income • Homeless people • People involved in the criminal justice system • People with low literacy/numeracy • People in remote, rural and/or island locations • Carers (include parents, especially lone parents; and elderly carers) • Staff (including people with different work patterns e.g. part/full time, short term, job share, seasonal) 	
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Health Determinants

<p>What impact will the proposal have on health related behaviour?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diet & nutrition • Exercise & physical activity • Substance use: tobacco, alcohol or drugs • Sexual health • Learning & skills 	<p>Tackling housing induced poverty makes an important contribution to reducing child poverty/poverty which can help ensure a health diet and good nutrition.</p> <p>Promoting placemaking makes an important contribution to health and wellbeing ensuring that housing connectivity to greenspace and community amenities is considered in the investment of new and existing homes.</p> <p>The LHS seeks to build on already successful delivery models and positive partnerships to improve housing pathways and choices for people who use drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>The LHS is well aligned to economic development, both in terms of the impact of building new homes but also inclusive workforce opportunities.</p>
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	The LHS will have a positive impact.
<p>What impact will the proposal have on the social environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social status • Employment (paid or unpaid) • Income and income inequality • Crime & fear of crime • Family support & social networks • Stress, resilience & community assets • Participation & social interaction • Influence and sense of control • Identity and belonging 	<p>The LHS outlines the significant contribution housing makes across many segments of society, from supporting economic growth whilst reducing poverty and inequalities, to improving the health and wellbeing of all our residents. Housing is an integral element for sustainable communities where people can live happier and healthier lives.</p> <p>The LHS will have a positive impact.</p>
<p>What impact will the proposal have on the physical environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living conditions • Working conditions • Natural space • Pollution – air, water, soil • Climate change (waste, energy, resource use, transport patterns) • Unintentional injuries & public safety • Transmission of infectious disease 	<p>The LHS outlines aims to create sustainable, connected places, supporting economic growth whilst reducing poverty and inequalities.</p> <p>Climate change mitigation and adaptation has long been part of Angus Council's activities and several initiatives have been developed to support this.</p> <p>The LHS will have a positive impact.</p>
<p>How will the proposal impact on access to & quality of services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare • Transport and connections • Social services • Housing quality, mix, flexibility • Education provision • Culture, leisure and play provision 	<p>The provision of good quality, affordable accommodation in the right place with the right support is crucial in enabling people to live longer healthy lives, with independence and safely at home.</p> <p>Housing has both a preventative and an enabling role to play in this and the LHS sets out the contribution of the local housing sector towards ensuring there is adequate provision of appropriate housing and housing related support for those that need it.</p> <p>The LHS will have a positive impact.</p>
<p>What impact will the proposal have on equality?</p>	<p>LHS actions promote equality of housing opportunity for all, including households with protected characteristics by:</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrimination against groups of people • Promoting equality of opportunity • Tackling harassment • Promoting positive attitudes • Promoting good relations between different groups • Community capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving housing affordability • Increasing access to a range of housing options • Increasing access to specialist housing provision • Prevention of homelessness • Creating sustainable communities
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HIA Stage 3
Sign off and Authorisation

What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the HIA?

The HIA will be reviewed annually during the life of the LHS.

Where will this HIA 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.

Prepared by:	Lynne Warburton, Team Leader (Sustainable Communities)
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Date:	31/03/2023
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Authorised by:	Colin McGarva, Policy Officer (Sustainable Communities)
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Date:	12 October 2023
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