



## Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

### Step 1

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

*Angus Advocacy Strategic Framework 2023-2026*

### 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 a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics | Yes/No |
| (iii) It is for information only   | Yes/No |
| (iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year                                       | Yes/No |
| (v) 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  
Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

Yes/No  
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:

*Angus Health and Social Care Partnership and Angus Council*

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

*The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 placed a duty on local authorities to support adults who may be unable to safeguard themselves. The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 placed a duty on local authorities and health boards to collaborate to ensure the availability of independent advocacy services in their area.*

*Each HSCP are to have an advocacy strategic framework outlining services in their area and future plans. Each framework should span a minimum of 3 years.*

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

*The Angus Advocacy Strategic Framework outlines the strategic guidance for advocacy services delivery across Angus to those who are affected a mental disorder.*

*The plan covers services, information and advice for;*

- children and young people*
- adults and*
- carers*

*The Framework provides an overview of services available in Angus for those within the categories above. It also provides an action plan for 2023-2026. This will be monitored and delivered through the Angus Advocacy Planning Group.*

(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:

*Angus Independent Advocacy (AIA) has collated feedback received through 2021-2022 in their annual report. AIA used outcome tools at the start and end of an individual's advocacy partnership to measure the impact of advocacy support against their organisational outcomes. AIA gather personal stories from their advocacy partners to paint a picture of their advocacy journey. These are shared via their 'Hurrah Board'. AIA have used feedback surveys to gather information online (by direct link and QR code) from advocacy partners. AIA occasionally seek feedback from referrers and other professionals. AIA also collect statistical data in relation to the services they provide.*

*A draft of the Angus Advocacy Strategic Framework was share for local consultation in April 2023 along with a short survey for feedback. The feedback response was very low and the decision was made to carry out a second round of public engagement. This was more successful. Useful comments were received and the Framework was amended to reflect these.*

*Through the Angus Advocacy Planning Group key stakeholders are brought together to represent all those services involved in delivering advocacy across Angus and to be part the development of the Framework.*

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.

*Although a formal strategic needs assessment is yet to be carried out in Angus, we do know there are areas of unmet need as follows:*

- identified gaps for children and young people accessing advocacy services*
- people finding it challenging to access mental health advocacy services*
- informal concerns that children's mental health advocacy services are being provided by generic adult mental health services*

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 – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

Disability

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

Gender reassignment

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Religion or Belief

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Sex

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

## Sexual orientation

Impact – potentially positive –

Services, information advice are available for:

- children and young people with a mental disorder
- adults with a mental disorder
- carers

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.

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

*We need to carry out a formal strategic needs assessment across Angus, although we do know there are areas of unmet need as follows:*

- *identified gaps for children and young people accessing advocacy services*
- *people finding it challenging to access mental health advocacy services*
- *informal concerns that children's mental health advocacy services are being provided by generic adult mental health services*

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

N/A

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?

*This Framework will outline advocacy services delivered across Angus, the strategic guidance for delivering these services and the actions to be taken forward to improve accessibility.*

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

*This Framework will outline advocacy services delivered across Angus, the strategic guidance for delivering these services and the actions to be taken forward to improve accessibility.*

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.

N/A

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

*Any changes to service delivery will undergo an Equality Impact Assessment.*

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

*Angus Council's website - committee paper section.*

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

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