

# Aberdeenshire Council

## Integrated Impact Assessment

### Budget Pressure 24/25 - Waste Disposal

Assessment ID	IIA-001912
Lead Author	Diane Rotherham
Additional Authors	Claire Loney
Service Reviewers	Ros Baxter
Subject Matter Experts	Claudia Cowie, Kakuen Mo, Caroline Hastings, Annette Johnston
Approved By	Ewan Wallace
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# 1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

Assessment of budget pressure for waste disposal - this includes additional budget requirements with regards to Energy from Waste (EfW) in relation to an increase in the gate fee for 24/25, along with increases in relation to project management costs that include higher than estimated insurance costs as well as higher than estimated rates cost (based on what EfW facilities in Edinburgh and Dundee are being charged). There are also additional costs associated with grid downtime when electricity may require to be imported in to run the EfW which would be chargeable - there is an 8 week power shutdown planned by SSE on October/ November which not only will impact on the EfW costs however will also impact on the EfW income as there will be no electricity being generated during this period therefore loss of income for 2 months. Aberdeenshire Council is contractually obliged to pay the additional project management costs having a 47.93% share in the EfW facility.

As part of the disposal to EfW, waste requires to conform to a specific size or less therefore items of waste that cannot be compacted/broken down with the rollpackers require to go for shredding to ensure that the waste is reduced in size to meet the EfW specifications. This includes waste such as mattresses, large carpets, etc. A budget pressure was put forward for 23/24 for £300K, to which only £160K was approved. A budget pressure still exists for the remaining £140K. Without shredding the waste, the larger items will be deemed as non-conforming waste at the EfW facility and penalties/charges will apply in addition the normal rate with either a charge applied for the EfW contractor dealing with the non-conforming waste on the Councils behalf or the Council having to remove the non-conforming waste and arrange for shredding and return to EfW therefore the costs would increase if we were not to pre-treat (shred) the larger items of waste first. If the budget is not available for shredding the larger items of waste then the Council would have to stop accepting these items through the Recycling Centres and Bulky Uplifts.

During screening 2 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 2 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 0 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 3 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by [ewan.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:ewan.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

## 2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	No
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

## 3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	All Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required

## 4. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

### 4.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)		Yes		
Age (Older)		Yes		
Disability		Yes		
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

### 4.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income		Yes		
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation		Yes		
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

### 4.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Inter Authority Agreement (EfW Facility) / Ness Energy Contract	The IAA / Contract stipulates what Aberdeenshire Council is responsible to pay in costs relating to the management of the EfW facility, disposal of waste costs and acceptance of waste in relation to size restrictions.	Aberdeenshire Council is contractually obliged to pay the increases in costs in relation to the EfW facility and that the waste acceptance criteria in relation to size is adhered to.

### 4.4. Engagement with affected groups

No engagement required at present as this budget pressure relates to how waste is managed within the service based and should not impact on the public/communities.

### 4.5. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

No engagement required at present as this budget pressure relates to how waste is managed

within the service based and should not impact on the public/communities.

#### **4.6. Evidence of engagement**

No engagement required at present as this budget pressure relates to how waste is managed within the service based and should not impact on the public/communities.

#### **4.7. Overall Outcome**

No Negative Impacts Identified.

There are no negative impacts in relation to Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty relating to the budget pressure for Waste Disposal as the budget pressure is in relation to the costs for the Energy from Waste facility which does not have an impact on protected groups or socio-economic groups.

#### **4.8. Improving Relations**

Not required at present as budget pressure impact should only impact internally.

#### **4.9. Opportunities of Equality**

Not required at present as budget pressure impact should only impact internally.

# 5. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

## 5.1. Emissions and Resources

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy		Yes		
Energy efficiency		Yes		
Energy source		Yes		
Low carbon transition		Yes		
Consumption of physical resources		Yes		
Waste and circularity			Yes	
Circular economy transition		Yes		
Economic and social transition		Yes		

## 5.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment			Yes	
Quantity of environment		Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity		Yes		
Infrastructure resilience		Yes		
Council resilience		Yes		
Community resilience		Yes		
Adaptation		Yes		

## 5.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
<p><b>Quality of environment</b></p>	<p>If budget unavailable for shredding non-conforming waste (not meeting waste acceptance size) then the Council would have to consider not accepting waste types over a certain size at Recycling Centres and Bulky Uplifts. Householders would have to arrange, and pay, through a private waste contractor to collect and dispose of those waste items separately. This could cause further flytipping which would have a negative impact on the quality of the environment with the added cost of clearing the flytipping and still having to pay for the shredding of the waste prior to disposal through EfW.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      Yes</p> <p>Mitigation                      The electricity generated from the EfW facility generates an income for the Council. This income has been put forward as a saving however to mitigate the impact of the additional EfW and waste shredding costs, the electricity income saving could be used to absorb/offset these pressures. Would require the full electricity income to cover these pressures.</p> <p>Timescale                      From 1st April 2024 onwards</p>
<p><b>Waste and circularity</b></p>	<p>If budget unavailable for shredding non-conforming waste (not meeting waste acceptance size) then the Council would have to consider not accepting waste types over a certain size at Recycling Centres and Bulky Uplifts. Householders would have to arrange, and pay, through a private waste contractor to collect and dispose of those waste items separately. This could cause further flytipping with the added cost of clearing the flytipping and still having to pay for the shredding of the waste prior to disposal through EfW.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      Yes</p> <p>Mitigation                      The electricity generated from the EfW facility generates an income for the Council. This income has been put forward as a saving however to mitigate the impact of the additional EfW and waste shredding costs, the electricity income saving could be used to absorb/offset these pressures. Would require the full electricity income to cover these pressures.</p> <p>Timescale                      From 1st April 2024 onwards</p>

## 5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Confirm	Flytipping reports increase when Recycling Centres are closed or not accepting certain types of waste as in the instance when we stopped accepting tyres and asbestos.	If we were to stop accepting bulky waste that couldn't be compacted or crushed to accepted size then flytipping of this waste type would increase.

## 5.5. Overall Outcome

All Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

The negative impacts can be mitigated if the income from EfW electricity generation can be kept within the waste budget. This income has been put forward as a saving however to mitigate the impact of the additional EfW and waste shredding costs, the electricity income saving could be used to absorb/offset these pressures. Would require the full electricity income to cover these pressures.

## 6. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
<p>To retain income from electricity generated by EfW within the Waste Disposal budget and use the income to absorb/set off the additional costs related to the EfW facility.</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer</b> Claire Loney</p> <p><b>Repeating Activity</b> No</p> <p><b>Planned Start</b> Monday April 01, 2024</p> <p><b>Planned Finish</b> Monday March 31, 2025</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome</b> Available budget to cover known increases in EfW disposal and project management costs, and bulky waste shredding.</p> <p><b>Resource Implications</b> Electricity income to remain within Waste Disposal budget and not put forward as a budget saving.</p>