

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

| Stage 1: Transportation Services – November 2013 | |
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| Service | Infrastructure Services |
| Section (s) | Transportation |
| Title of the activity etc. | Roads Development, Car Parking, Transport Strategy, Roads Policy and Asset Management Budget |
| Aims of the activity | The aim is to set out how Aberdeenshire Council as local authority works with partners to manage and improve transport provision for the general public, considering directly how the transport networks contribute to the delivery of wider strategic priorities as identified in a range of local, regional, national and, indeed, international, policies including Climate Change Action Plans, Transport Strategies and the Single Outcome Agreement as well as Aberdeenshire Council's Strategic Priorities. |
| Author(s) & Title(s) | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div> Head of Transportation |

| Stage 2: List the evidence that has been used in this assessment. | |
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| Internal data (customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints). | <p>Aberdeenshire Council's Transportation Services have engaged with key stakeholders and the public using a variety of consultation methods. The following recent consultations provide an indication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Walking and Cycling Strategy (2008): Aberdeenshire wide consultation on key walking and cycling issues; 650 responses with 94% public responses and 6% official responses from organisations. The latter including agencies representing old and young people (e.g. The Boys Brigade as well as Over 50s groups). • Citizens Panel (2010): Citizens Panel survey with a comprehensive section on transport in Aberdeenshire; 650 responses. |
| Internal consultation with staff and other services affected. | |

Appendix 1

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| <p>External consultation (partner organisations, community groups, and councils).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transport Strategy (LTS) (2012): consultation as part of the LTS 2012; included key partners stakeholders and the public; over 450 public responses; further consultation with Councillors, communities and partners on a series of draft actions developed from the consultation responses which were considered by elected members and the vast majority of which were accepted. • Citizens Panel (2013): Citizens Panel survey with a section on transport to health appointments in Aberdeenshire; 750 responses. • Car Parking Survey (2013): 75 public comments received from residents. • A974 Corridor Improvements (2013): a series of consultation events with Council Officers, key stakeholders and representatives from communities along the A974, including local schools. <p>The results of those consultation exercises have been used to identify and address transportation related issues and challenges for Aberdeenshire. Specific research undertaken on selected issues, such as our work on electric vehicles and associated charging infrastructure and the award winning work to deliver our cycling and walking action plan has complemented information derived from the consultation exercises.</p> |
| <p>External data (census, available statistics).</p> | <p>A wide selection of external data sources, such as data from the 2011 Census, Aberdeenshire Small Area and Population Statistics, Road Traffic Reduction Act Report, Annual Accident Statistics, have been used to identify existing and projected socio-demographic and economic issues. Other data sources include: Annual Road Condition Survey, site specific Transport Assessments, Road Asset Management Plans.</p> |
| <p>Other (general information as appropriate).</p> | <p>Annual RTS monitoring report setting out key information on transport modes across the NE.</p> |

Appendix 1

| Stage 3: Evidence Gaps. | |
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| Are there any gaps in the information you currently hold? | Aberdeenshire Council considers the information held to be sufficient. However, further consultation will be undertaken for specific transportation schemes which may highlight additional issues and/or needs. In this case, Aberdeenshire Council will give due consideration to address these and to mitigate against adverse impacts. |

| Stage 4: Measures to fill the evidence gaps. | | |
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| What measures will be taken to fill the information gaps before the activity is implemented? These should be included in the action plan at the back of this form. | Measures: | Timescale: |
| | n/a | n/a |
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| Stage 5: Are there potential impacts on protected groups? Please complete for each protected group by inserting "yes" in the applicable box/boxes below. | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| | Positive | Negative | Neutral | Unknown |
| Age – Younger | Yes | | | |
| Age – Older | Yes | | | |
| Disability | Yes | | | |
| Race – (includes Gypsy Travellers) | Yes | | | |
| Religion or Belief | | | Yes | |
| Gender – male/female | Yes | | | |
| Pregnancy and maternity | | | Yes | |
| Sexual orientation – (includes Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual) | | | Yes | |
| Gender reassignment – (includes Transgender) | | | Yes | |
| Marriage and Civil Partnership | | | Yes | |

Appendix 1

| Stage 6: What are the positive and negative impacts? | | |
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| Impacts. | Positive (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected) | Negative (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected) |
| <p>Please detail the potential positive and/or negative impacts on those with protected characteristics you have highlighted above. Detail the impacts and describe those affected.</p> | <p>Disability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of footways, pavements, carriageways and street lighting minimises the hazards of the pedestrian environment, particularly for people with mobility difficulties and visual impairments. • Efforts to remove street clutter and address obstructive parking will also be beneficial for disabled people, especially with visual impairment and mobility difficulties. | |
| | <p>Age – Young:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people, and in particular children, make more walking and cycling trips than any other age groups. Young people, subsequently, benefit in particular from investment in active travel. School Travel Plans and the ongoing promotion of walking and cycling most notably enhances their ability to access a wide range opportunities. These active modes will also help to tackle the problem of childhood obesity. • Young people and especially children aged between 10 and 15 make up the largest proportion of child casualties in the UK. Children from low income households are particularly at risk as they are five times more likely to be killed in an accident than those from high income households. Work to reduce further casualties and to identify why and where accidents happen is, therefore, likely to have a considerable positive impact on this equality group. • Younger drivers are at higher risk of death or serious injury and so the interventions within our Road Safety programmes are biased to tackling those groups | |

Appendix 1

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| | <p>Age – Older:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Older people make a considerable number of walking trips (often in combination with passenger transport journeys). As such they benefit from investments in non-motorised transport.• Older people make up an increasing share of all road casualties in Scotland. In 2012, casualties aged 50 and over increased by 8 per cent (Transport Scotland. Work to reduce further casualties and to identify why and where accidents happen is, therefore, likely to have a considerable positive impact on this equality group. | |
| | <p>Gender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women are more likely to make pedestrian journeys than men; women, on average, make 15% more walking trips than men (DfT 2011). As such, investments in walking facilities are likely to benefit them disproportionately.• According to the DfT's Personal Security Issues in Pedestrian Journeys (2006), women tend to express more personal safety concerns than men; this is particularly so at night, where fear of crime can be a significant travel deterrent. Work to increase the numbers of people walking and cycling and, thus, providing natural surveillance to address such concerns and perception of danger will enable women to derive maximum benefits from the transport network in Aberdeenshire offers. | |

Appendix 1

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| | <p>Race:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research has found that in the United Kingdom children from ethnic minorities are up to twice as likely as average to be involved in road accidents while walking or playing. Subsequently, road safety measures could particularly benefit this equality group. | |
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| Stage 7: Have any of the affected groups been consulted? | |
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| <p>If yes, please give details of how this was done and what the results were. If no, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating steps?</p> | <p>Regular meetings are held with community safety groups through the CPP Forums to identify the key emerging issues including specific engagement with school pupils. Representative groups of older, younger and disabled persons attend these meetings.</p> |

| Stage 8: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce negative impacts? | | |
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| <p>These should be included in any action plan at the back of this form.</p> | Mitigating Steps | Timescale |
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Appendix 1

| Stage 9: What steps can be taken to promote good relations between various groups? | |
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| These should be included in the action plan. | Aberdeenshire Council's Transportation Services are increasing people's access to services and opportunities through the Actions set out in the Councils adopted Local Transport Strategy e.g. provision of supported bus services, expansion of the opportunities to access rail services at local stations, expansion of the dedicated cycle network in our towns, provision of demand responsive transport to serve communities without scheduled bus services, removal of parking charges in some locations, provision of home to school transport beyond legal requirements, running of youth fares pilot, grants to community transport sector and enhancement of the road network which in turn reduces social exclusion. |

| Stage 10: How does the policy/activity create opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity? | |
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| The work delivered by Aberdeenshire Council's Transportation Services is likely to result in many positive impacts for equality groups such as: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in walking and cycling infrastructure is likely to realise advantages as many equality groups (women; children and younger people; older people; and disabled people) make proportionally more pedestrian trips than the wider population. Cycling is also a popular mode of transport amongst children and younger people; children aged 11 and 15 make more cycling trips than any other age bracket. These active travel modes will also be beneficial in terms of helping to reduce health inequalities experienced by some of these groups. • Improvements to road safety and personal safety will realise positive impacts for equality groups as they tend to be over-represented in terms of accidents and their fear of crime. | |
| If potentially negative issues are to be identified in further consultation, it is considered that these can be well mitigated, taking on board suggestions during implementation. Aberdeenshire Council will give due consideration to the specific needs identified and to how to incorporate mitigating measures and opportunities to maximise equality. | |

| Stage 11: What equality monitoring arrangements will be put in place? | |
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| These should be included in any action plan (for example customer satisfaction questionnaires). | Monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken on a scheme-specific basis. |

| Stage 12: What is the outcome of the Assessment? | | |
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| Please complete | 1 | No negative impacts have been identified –please explain. |

Appendix 1

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| the appropriate box/boxes | No quality objectives and targets have been identified as they will be scheme specific. Transportation Services as dealt with in this assessment, represent a rather broad approach to transportation in Aberdeenshire. By its strategic nature, it does not provide sufficient detail for specific equality objectives and targets to be identified. However, all transportation schemes will be developed to respect and embrace equality and diversity in Aberdeenshire, and will, subsequently, be required to complete scheme specific Equality Impact Assessments. | |
| | 2 | Negative Impacts have been identified, these can be mitigated - please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen. |
| | None | |
| | 3 | The activity will have negative impacts which cannot be mitigated fully – please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen |
| | None | |

* Stage 13: Set out the justification that the activity can and should go ahead despite the negative impact.

n/a

Stage 14: Sign off and authorisation.

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| Sign off and authorisation. | 1) Service and Team | Infrastructure Services | |
| | 2) Title of Policy/Activity | Transportation - Nov 2013 | |
| | 3) Authors: I/We have completed the equality impact assessment | Name: <input type="text"/> Position: Head of Transportation Date: 16 December 2013 Signature: | Name: Position: Date: Signature: |

Appendix 1

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| | for this policy/ activity. | Name: Position: Date: Signature: | Name: Position: Date: Signature: |
| | 4) Consultation with Service Manager | Name: Date: | |
| | 5) Authorisation by Director or Head of Service | Name: Position: Date: | Name: Position: Date: |
| | 6) If the EIA relates to a matter that has to go before a Committee, Committee report author sends the Committee Report and this form, and any supporting assessment documents, to the Officers responsible for monitoring and the Committee Officer of the relevant Committee. e.g. Social Work and Housing Committee. | | Date: |
| | 7) EIA author sends a copy of the finalised form to: eia@abdnshire | | Date: |
| (Equalities team to complete) Has the completed form been published on the website? YES/NO | | | Date: |

Appendix 1

| Action Plan | | | | | |
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| Action | Start | Complete | Lead Officer | Expected Outcome | Resource Implications |
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| Ongoing monitoring and consideration of feedback from customers either direct, via targeted consultations or through the corporate feedback system to support the Local Transport Strategy | ongoing | ongoing | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> Transport Strategy Manager | Ongoing understanding of the transport needs of residents and visitors using Council transport network and services. | Included within existing budget |
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