

Integrated Impact Assessment

The purpose of an Integrated Impact Assessment is to evidence that Aberdeen City Council is meeting its legislative duties by assessing the potential impacts of its policies and decisions on different groups of people and the environment. The legislation considered within this assessment is:

- Section 2 [Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics](#)
- Section 3 [Socio-Economic](#)
- Section 4 [Consumer Duty](#)
- Section 5 [Human Rights](#)
- Section 6 [Children and Young People's Rights](#)
- Section 7 [Environmental impacts](#)

The term 'policy' is used throughout this document and applies to policies, proposals, strategies, provision, criteria, functions, practice, budget savings and activities that includes delivery of our services.

1. About the Policy

1.1 Title

Housing Bi-Annual Report May 2025: Appendix E - Arranged Access Process - EICR

1.2 What does this policy seek to achieve?

The Report seeks approval to introduce an arranged access process

To undertake electrical safety checks within council owned residential properties in instances where tenants are unable to facilitate access.

Compliance with Electrical Installation Condition Report inspections were compliance currently sits at around 92% (a number of non-compliant properties form part of and elongate the void process). Whilst compliance has been rising, the Council's contractor reports increasing levels of No entries and refused entries (approx. 50% in February) giving increased concern going forward.

Considerable consideration has been given to how best to take this cross service work forward. A staffing business case is being brought forward to establish a specialist team to deliver this internally, with external contractor support (contract is currently managed through the repairs team) similar to how gas safety is successfully managed. Members should be aware that undertaking an EICR through an arranged access process will present some difficulties compared to gas works as the gas checks can be completed in the matter of minutes compared to EICR's which require access to the various electrical sockets and switches throughout a property and takes circa 3 hours to undertake, plus additional time to undertake any necessary repairs found.

The proposed arranged access procedure is attached as Appendix E. With Committee approval this approach will be implemented and kept under review with Committee notified of any necessary changes through future Bi-Annual Housing Board reports.

1.3 Is this a strategic programme/proposal/decision?

No

1.4 Is this a new or existing policy?

An addition to an existing procedure

1.5 Is this report going to a committee?

Yes

1.6 Committee name and date:

Communities Housing and Public Protection Committee 27th May 2025

1.7 Report no and / or Budget proposal number and / or Business Case reference number:

F&C/25/125

1.8 Function and cluster:

Families and Communities, Corporate Landlord

Impacts

Aberdeen City Council has a legal requirement as a public sector organisation to assess the impact of its work on equality groups and assess against human rights, children's rights and our socio-economic duty. This is our Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). The PSED has three key parts:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct.
- Advance equality of opportunity.
- Foster good relations by tackling prejudice, promoting understanding.

This following five sections in the Integrated Impact Assessment demonstrate that these considerations that have been made in the policy, that the impact of proposals made is understood and accepted, and what mitigating steps can be taken to reduce any negative impact of the policy.

2: Equality Act 2010 - Protected Characteristics

Aberdeen City Council wants to ensure everyone is treated fairly. This section identifies what impact the policy may have on people with [protected characteristics](#).

2.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below groups?

Protected Characteristic	Negative			Neutral	Positive
	High	Medium	Low		
Age			x		
Disability			x		
Gender Reassignment				x	
Marriage and Civil Partnership				x	
Pregnancy and Maternity			x		
Race			x		
Religion or Belief				x	
Sex				x	
Sexual Orientation				x	

2.2 In what way will the policy impact people with these protected characteristics?

The policy for managed access will reflect procedures already in place to undertake other essential work such as gas safety checks and smoke alarms.

Integrated Impact Assessment has identified that the proposal will have an impact on all tenants but may have additional considerations for some with protective characteristic groups including Age, Disability, Pregnancy and Maternity and Race.

Based on the balance of tenants within our portfolio the key concern will be around how information is communicated with group who may find written communication more difficult or who have concerns with people being in their property or associated upheaval. People may need support in understanding why there is a need for the works.

2.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?

Data and knowledge of the estates tells us that our tenant mix is wide and varied.

Managed access procedures are currently used for items such as gas safety. No detailed information is held on the reason managed access is required. On an anecdotal basis officers report that there is no noticeable pattern of refusals within groups with protected characteristics, most being new tenants

who don't have a knowledge of the council's requirements to undertake inspections rather than groups with protected characteristics.

What consultation and engagement has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations?

Regular updates with Scottish Housing Regulator.

What consultation and engagement has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy?

Tenants groups have been verbally advised and through sight of this report that this procedure will be introduced.

2.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to remove or reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?

The existing policy used for gas safety is well established and it is intended to use this policy in the same way.

With mitigations in place, what is the new overall rating of the negative impact(s)?

High	
Medium	
Low	x
Negative Impact Removed	

3: Socio-Economic Impacts

Aberdeen City Council has a duty to reduce the inequalities of outcome that can arise from socio-economic disadvantage. This section is used to consider what impact the policy may have on people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage – and how any inequalities of outcome arising from the policy can be reduced.

Use this guide to understand more on socio-economic inequalities: [The Fairer Scotland Duty: Guidance for Public Bodies \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty/guidance-for-public-bodies/pages/1-introduction.aspx)

3.1 What impact could this policy have on people who experience the following aspects of socio-economic disadvantage?

	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Low income – those who have insufficient earnings to meet basic needs, such as food, clothing, housing, or utilities.	x		
Low/ no wealth – those who have no savings for unexpected spend or provision for the future.		x	
Material deprivation – those who cannot afford or access goods or services that are considered essential or desirable for a decent quality of life, such as food, clothing, heating, transport, internet, cultural, recreational and social activities.		x	
Area deprivation – those who live in an area with poor living conditions, such as higher levels of crime, pollution, noise, congestion, or lack of infrastructure, amenities, or green spaces.		x	
Socio-economic background – social class, parents' education, employment, income.		x	

3.2 In what way will the policy impact people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage?

In general terms, this procedure is unlikely to impact. All tenants will be given at least three opportunities to schedule a date that is convenient to them, and any reasonable requests to allow appointments to be worked around employment responsibilities will be accommodated.

3.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?
A range of external city wide data to determine if there are any emerging or established trends that require to be taken into account. No significant patterns have emerged, although there is anecdotal evidence that new tenants (and particularly those who are younger tenants) may be less likely to welcome upgrades.
What consultation and engagement has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations?
Regular updates with Scottish Housing Regulator.
What consultation and engagement has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy?
As detailed above

3.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?
All tenants will be given at least three opportunities to schedule a date that is convenient to them, and any reasonable requests to allow appointments to be worked around employment responsibilities will be accommodated.

If mitigations are in place, does this remove or reduce the negative impact?	No – negative impact remains	
	Yes – negative impact reduced	X
	Yes - negative impact removed	

4: Consumer Impacts

The Consumer Scotland Act 2020 places a Consumer Duty on the public sector to put consumer interests at the heart of strategic decision-making, emphasising the need for accessible and affordable public services, especially during times of financial pressure. This person-centred approach is intended to result in better quality services and outcomes for the public as consumers of public services across Scotland.

This section of the IIA is used to consider the impact of the policy on consumers of any services that the policy is intended to change.

Use this guide to understand more on the consumer duty: [how-to-meet-the-consumer-duty-guidance-for-public-authorities.pdf](#)

4.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below consumer groups?

	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Individuals		X	
Small businesses		X	

4.2 In what way will the policy impact people in these consumer groups?

N/A

4.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to remove or reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?		
N/A		
If mitigations are in place, does this remove or reduce the negative impact?	No – negative impact remains	
	Yes – negative impact reduced	
	Yes - negative impact removed	

5: Human Rights Impacts

The Human Rights Act 1998 sets out the fundamental rights and freedoms that everyone in the UK is entitled to. It incorporates the rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into domestic British law. The Human Rights Act came into force in the UK in October 2000

The Act sets out our human rights in a series of 'Articles'. Each Article deals with a different right.

Use this guide to understand more about [Human Rights](#).

5.1 What impact could this policy have on Human Rights?

Human Rights Article	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Article 2: Right to life		X	
Article 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labour		X	
Article 5: Right to liberty and security		X	
Article 6: Right to a fair trial		X	
Article 7: No punishment without law		X	
Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence		X	
Article 9: Freedom of thought, belief and religion		X	
Article 10: Freedom of expression		X	
Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association		X	
Article 12: Right to marry and start a family		X	
Article 14: Protection from discrimination in respect of these rights and freedoms		X	
Article 1 of Protocol 1: Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property	X		
Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education		X	
Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to participate in free elections		X	

5.2 In what way will the policy impact Human Rights?

Some tenants who are resisting contractors from accessing their property to undertake essential safety works, will be required to work with us to identify a suitable time for the works to be undertaken. If a mutually convenient time cannot be identified, arranged access will be progressed.

5.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to remove or reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?		
All tenants will be given at least three opportunities to schedule a date that is convenient to them, and any reasonable requests to allow appointments to be worked around tenant commitments will be accommodated.		
If mitigations are in place, does this remove or reduce the negative impact?	No – negative impact remains	
	Yes – negative impact reduced	X
	Yes - negative impact removed	

6: Children and Young People's Rights Impacts

The United Nations Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights.

Children's rights apply to every child/young person under the age of 18 and to adults still eligible to receive a "children's service" (e.g. care leavers aged 18 – 26 years old).

There are 4 articles known as the "General Principles". They help to interpret the other articles. They are:

1. Non-discrimination (Article 2)
2. Best interest of the child (Article 3)
3. Right to life survival and development (Article 6)
4. Right to be heard (Article 12)

For ease, the articles have been grouped in three categories to support assessments against the Convention, those most directly related to the **PROVISION** of services, those most directly related to the **PROTECTION** of children and young people, and those to encourage their active **PARTICIPATION** in **decision making**. You can [read the full UN Convention \(pdf\)](#), or [just a summary \(pdf\)](#), to find out more about the rights that are included.

6.1 What impact could this policy have on the rights of Children and Young People?

	Negative	Neutral	Positive
PROVISION			
Article 2: non-discrimination		X	
Article 3: best interests of the child provision and protection			X
Article 5: parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities		X	
Article 16: right to privacy		X	
Article 17: access to information from the media		X	
Article 18: parental responsibilities and state assistance		X	
Article 22: refugee children		X	
Article 23: children with a disability	X		
Article 24: health and health services		X	
Article 26: social security		X	
Article 27: adequate standard of living			X
Article 28: right to education		X	
Article 29: goals of education		X	
Article 30: children from minority or indigenous groups		X	
Article 31: leisure, play and culture		X	
Article 39: recovery from trauma and reintegration		X	
Article 40: juvenile justice			
PROTECTION			
Article 6: life, survival and development		X	
Article 7: birth registration, name, nationality, care		X	
Article 8: protection and preservation of identity		X	
Article 9: Separation from parents		X	
Article 10: family reunification protection		X	
Article 11: abduction and non-return of children		X	
Article 15: freedom of association		X	
Article 19: protection from violence, abuse and neglect		X	
Article 20: children unable to live with their family		X	

Article 21: adoption		X	
Article 25: review of treatment in care		X	
Article 33: drug abuse		X	
Article 34: sexual exploitation		X	
Article 35: abduction, sale and trafficking		X	
Article 36: other forms of exploitation		X	
Article 37: inhumane treatment and detention		X	
Article 38: war and armed conflicts		X	
Article 32: child labour		X	
PARTICIPATION			
Article 12: respect for the views of the child		X	
Article 13: freedom of expression		X	
Article 14: freedom of thought, belief and religion		X	
Article 42: knowledge of rights		X	

6.2 In what way will the policy impact the rights of Children and Young People?

Article 3: Best interests of the child provision and protection & Article 27: Adequate standard of living - The action being taken by Council is very much in keeping with the best interests of the child in that children living in homes without EICR having been undertaken are facing a risk to their health and safety.

Article 23: Children with disabilities - works been undertaken to a property, even for a short period of time, will impact the routine of children who have physical disabilities and or neurological impairments. There will be a need to carefully consider how any works are co-ordinated to ensure any additional support required is available.

6.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to remove or reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?

All tenants will be given at least three opportunities to schedule a date that is convenient to them, and any reasonable requests to allow appointments to be worked around children's needs will be accommodated. There will be a need to carefully consider how any works are co-ordinated to ensure any additional support required is available.

If mitigations are in place, does this remove or reduce the negative impact?

No – negative impact remains

Yes – negative impact reduced

Yes - negative impact removed

X

7: Environmental Impacts

Aberdeen City Council has a duty to meet its legal environmental responsibilities by working towards Net Zero emissions, adapting to climate change, and acting in a way it considers most sustainable. We must also fulfil the [biodiversity duty](#) and [sustainable procurement duty](#).

This section in the Integrated Impact Assessment demonstrates that these considerations that have been made in the policy, that the impact of proposals made is understood and accepted, and what mitigating steps can be taken to reduce any negative impact of the policy.

Use this guide to understand more on the legal climate change duty: [Climate change - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#) and find out more about how Aberdeen is adapting to Climate Change: [Aberdeen Adapts | Aberdeen City Council](#)

7.1 What is the impact of this policy on any of the below climate, environmental and waste considerations?

	Negative	Neutral	Positive
Council or City-wide carbon emissions		x	
Active and sustainable travel		X	
Facilities for local living		x	
Resilience and adaptability to flooding and weather events		X	
Biodiversity improvement and wildlife/habitat connectivity		X	
Water consumption and drainage		X	
Pollution (air, water, noise, light and land contamination)		X	
Impact on resource use and waste		X	
Sustainable procurement of goods and services		X	

7.2 In what way will the policy impact the environment?

The policy will have no impact on environmental factors

7.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?

Knowledge of existing processes

What consultation and engagement has been undertaken with local groups, partner organisations, experts etc? Where required, identify any other environmental assessments that have been completed.

None

7.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What can be done to remove or reduce any negative impacts of this policy (if applicable)?

N/A

If mitigations are in place, does this remove or reduce the negative impact?

No – negative impact remains

Yes – negative impact reduced

Yes - negative impact removed

8: Sign Off

Any further positive or negative impacts on individuals or groups that have been considered?
N/A
Does the policy relate to the Council's Equality Outcomes? If yes, how:
No
Overall summary of changes made to the policy as a result of impact assessment.
Making reasonable adjustments in terms of agreeing dates for the works to be undertaken. Teams will also take account of any language needs and make sure of suitable translation resources if required.
Outline how the impact of policy will be monitored.
Routine data collection and compliance reporting to the Scottish Housing Regulator
If there are any remaining negative impacts after mitigation, what is the justification for why this policy should proceed.
Overall, the negative impacts have been reduced. The remaining negative impacts are superseded by the requirement for properties to be safe and compliant.

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