

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Budget Savings 2025/26 information

Assessment ID	IIA-002607
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Service Reviewers	David MacLennan
Approved By	Paul Macari
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1. Overview

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

EIS Budget Savings - 2025/26 - Planning (Development Management) -
Proposed saving - deletion of Planning Enforcement Officer post - 0.6 FTE - £26,000

During screening 0 of 11 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 0 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

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

A detailed action plan with 0 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by paul.macari2@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?	No
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?	No
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
Does the activity / proposal / policy relate to budget proposals?	No

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Not Required
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required

4. Justification

The primary aim of planning enforcement is to protect the environment and the quality of life in the public interest. The need for effective planning enforcement, both underpins the Council vision to be the best area, by protecting the area's special environment and sustaining the quality of life for all; and is necessary to ensure that the Local Development Plan policies are upheld. The integrity of the planning process depends on the Council's readiness to take enforcement action when it is required to do so. A robust enforcement process gives the communities of Aberdeenshire the confidence that their places and environment will be protected against unauthorised and in some instance harmful development.

The consequence of not filling a post will inevitably mean fewer investigations are carried out, more minor breaches are not investigated, and response times will take longer than they currently do. It is anticipated that more complaints about a down-turn in the service, will be received. Elected members are often contacted by their constituents with regard alleged breaches of planning and delays in responding and/or taking appropriate action will become apparent. A reduction in Service will result in a delay to responding to and resolving breaches of planning control. Whilst reduction in the service will have the potential to create negative impact through a reduced service in many areas and on a variety of people, work is on going to update the current Enforcement Charter. This will refocus on the priorities of the Enforcement Service, prioritise areas of risk and impact on the public as part of prioritising enforcement complaints and cases. This will ensure the public and elected members are made aware of the change in focus of enforcement work, with a view to mitigating adverse impact due to service reduction.