

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Budget Saving Proposal - Decommission the Ice Machine at Macduff Harbour

Assessment ID	IIA-002633
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Service Reviewers	Philip McKay, Bill Lennox
Subject Matter Experts	Suzanne Rhind, Claudia Cowie, Yvonne D'Ambruoso, Kakuen Mo, Jane Wilkinson, Ricki Lyon, Jade Fitzpatrick
Approved By	Philip McKay
Approved On	Thursday January 16, 2025
Publication Date	Friday January 24, 2025

1. Overview

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

The ice plant at Macduff Harbour opened in summer 2020. The flake ice facility delivers ice from a raked ice unit to the vessel via a pneumatic delivery system.

The facility has been plagued by mechanical issues. Post-covid running costs have been below £10k per year, excluding a £60k overhaul in 2022/23. As such, it provides a financial risk due to ongoing issues and potential costly overhauls or redesigns.

The facility has provided an income, with a charge of £3.50 per box. In 2022/23 income was £2,038, in 2023/24 was £9,772 and this year to date has earned £1,360 to date.

With this year's waiver of fish landing dues to attract more fishing boats into Macduff does not appear to be making any significant difference, with only an 8% increase in Q1 over last year. The mid-sized older vessels with no ice making on board are generally not coming back to Macduff even with the incentives this year. Some have been sold off or retired.

Most large fishing vessels have their own ice making facilities now. The smaller ones don't require tonnes of ice and we have left the Banff Ice maker on site to supply them, which requires far less maintenance and running cost.

During screening 3 of 11 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 3 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Sustainability and Climate Change
- Town Centres First

In total there are 2 positive impacts as part of this activity. There is 1 negative impact, the impact has been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by philip.mckay@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?	Yes
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?	Yes
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?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

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

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?
Internal Data	Macduff Harbour Masterplan 2015	By establishing demand, the business case for investment in an ice machine will be made. Targeted marketing to fishing industry to identify potential demand for specific facilities and equipment, such as a chill area and ice machine.	Basis for Business Case.

4.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

No negative impacts for Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty.

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. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Consumption of energy	Reduced energy consumption if the ice making facility is removed.
Waste and circularity	The existing plant and structure can be removed and recycled.

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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5.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

No Negative Impacts Identified

6. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

6.1. Local Factors

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Town centre assets		Yes		
Footfall		Yes		
Changes to road layouts		Yes		
Parking		Yes		
Infrastructure changes			Yes	
Aesthetics of the town centre		Yes		
Tourism		Yes		
Public safety		Yes		
Town centre business		Yes		
Cultural heritage and identity		Yes		
Social and cultural aspects		Yes		

6.2. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Infrastructure changes	<p>Removal of ice facilities for fishing vessels. This may reduce the number of vessels using Macduff Harbour and the wider economic impact.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation With this year's waiver of fish landing dues to attract more fishing boats into Macduff does not appear to be making any significant difference, with only an 8% increase in Q1 over last year. The mid-sized older vessels with no ice making on board are generally not coming back to Macduff even with the incentives this year. Some have been sold off or retired.</p> <p>Most large fishing vessels have their own ice making facilities now. The smaller ones don't require tonnes of ice and we have left the Banff Ice maker on site to supply them, which requires far less maintenance and running cost.</p> <p>Timescale Ongoing</p>

6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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6.4. Overall Outcome

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7. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
Consult Harbour users on proposed changes.	<p>Lead Officer Gavin Penman</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Tuesday April 01, 2025</p> <p>Planned Finish Wednesday April 30, 2025</p> <p>Expected Outcome Harbour users advised on changes and alternative provision at Banff.</p> <p>Resource Implications Staff time</p>