

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Disconnect Private Road Lighting and Recover Units at End of Life

Assessment ID	IIA-003395
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Approved By	Philip McKay
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1. Overview

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

At end of life, remove lighting units that are on private roads, footways or paths. This will save on electricity costs and also replacement costs. £100k electricity and maintenance with £4m, end of life costs to replace.

During screening 7 of 12 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
- Health Inequalities
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 4 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 6 negative impacts, all impacts have 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?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	Yes
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?	Yes
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	Yes
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
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on consumers of Council services?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

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

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Age (Older)	<p>Age (Older): Removal of lighting may have a negative impact on older citizens due to mobility or sight issues, possibly fear of unlit areas</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Pass the responsibility of lighting private areas back to the landowners / frontagers ultimately responsible</p> <p>Timescale depends on approval timeline and consultation with owners.</p>

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Disability	<p>Disability: Potential for disabled groups / individuals to be impacted due to lack of lighting in private areas where they may live or use</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Responsibility becomes owners</p> <p>Timescale depends on budget approval and communication with owners</p>
Area deprivation	<p>Area deprivation: Some areas are private housing associations in deprived areas and they may chose not to light private roads / footways.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Responsibility becomes owners</p> <p>Timescale depends on budget approval and communication with owners</p>

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Roads (Scotland) Act 1984	we may provide lighting to private areas - we may also then remove it.	We have no legal responsibilities to light these areas

4.5. Engagement with affected groups

None

4.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

N/A

4.7. Evidence of engagement

N/A

4.8. Overall Outcome

All Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Responsibility becomes the owners

4.9. Improving Relations

Communication with owners and impacted parties

4.10. Opportunities of Equality

No

5. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

5.1. Health Behaviours

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Healthy eating		Yes		
Exercise and physical activity			Yes	
Substance use – tobacco		Yes		
Substance use – alcohol		Yes		
Substance use – drugs			Yes	
Mental health			Yes	

5.2. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Exercise and physical activity	<p>Exercise and physical activity: Removal of lighting may discourage exercise during darker period is they remain unlit</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Pass responsibility onto the owners and frontagers to maintain lighting of their private roads / footways.</p> <p>Timescale depends on budget saving being approved and meaningful communications</p>
Mental health	<p>Some may feel isolated if areas are not then lit having previously been if they feel they cant go out.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Pass responsibility onto the owners and frontagers to maintain lighting of their private roads / footways.</p> <p>Timescale subject to budget approval and communication with owners</p>
Substance use – drugs	<p>Possible increase of substance misuse in darker areas - or perception of!</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Pass responsibility onto the owners and frontagers to maintain lighting of their private roads / footways.</p> <p>Timescale Subject to budget approval and communication with owners</p>

5.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Roads (Scotland) Act 1984	We can light private roads but also not light them. Responsibility of owners and frontagers.	Owners and frontagers can chose to light private areas if they see fit. Not an explicit responsibility of the Council.

5.4. Overall Outcome

All Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Responsibility put back onto owners and frontagers

6. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

6.1. 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		

6.2. 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		

6.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Consumption of energy	reduced energy costs in running private lighting
Energy efficiency	Only lighting adopted network
Energy source	reduced impact on the distribution network from the Council perspective
Low carbon transition	no longer lighting private roads thus reducing our carbon footprint

6.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Electricity charges	Current levels inc private areas	by removing private areas then reduces charges.

6.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Reduces carbon footprint

7. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
if approved, then open communications with owners	<p>Lead Officer Phil Leiper</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Wednesday April 01, 2026</p> <p>Planned Finish Wednesday March 31, 2027</p> <p>Expected Outcome Owners will accept responsibility and take ownership of units and replace at their costs or we remove units at end of life.</p> <p>Resource Implications None</p>