

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Part 1 Scoping

1 Details of the Proposal

| | |
|--|---|
| Title of Proposal: | Counter Fraud Policy & Strategy 2021-2024 |
| What is it? | A new Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/> A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Description of the proposal: (Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the proposal being developed or reviewed (what are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes, including the context within which it will operate).) | A revised Counter Fraud Policy statement and 3-year Counter Fraud Strategy to enable the Council to continue to refine its approach to tackling fraud, taking account of reducing resources, with a focus on prevention and detection and promotion of a counter fraud culture across the Council to improve its resilience to fraud. |
| Service Area: Department: | Audit & Risk Finance & Corporate Governance |
| Lead Officer: (Name and job title) | Jill Stacey Chief Officer Audit & Risk |
| Other Officers/Partners involved: (List names, job titles and organisations) | |

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Date(s) IIA completed: | 28 October 2021 |
|------------------------|-----------------|

2 Will there be any cumulative impacts as a result of the relationship between this proposal and other policies?

| |
|--|
| No; though this policy permeates across Council service provision so indirectly associated with other relevant Council policies. |
| If yes, - please state here: |

3 Legislative Requirements

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 3.1 Relevance to the Equality Duty: | |
| <p>Do you believe your proposal has any relevance under the Equality Act 2010? No - Equality, diversity and socio-economic factors are accommodated by way of all alleged frauds being investigated and pursued in accordance with the appropriate legislation. <i>(If you believe that your proposal may have some relevance – however small please indicate yes. If there is no effect, please enter “No” and go to Section 3.3.)</i></p> | |
| Equality Duty | Reasoning: |
| Elimination of discrimination (both direct & indirect), victimisation and harassment. <i>(Will the proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)</i> | |
| Promotion of equality of opportunity? <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)</i> | |
| Foster good relations? | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the council's relationships with those who have equality characteristics?)</i> | |
|--|--|

3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal? (You should consider employees, clients, customers / service users, and any other relevant groups)

Please tick below as appropriate, outlining any potential impacts on the undernoted equality groups this proposal may have and how you know this.

| | Impact | | | Please explain the potential impacts and how you know this |
|--|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| | No Impact | Positive Impact | Negative Impact | |
| Age Older or younger people or a specific age grouping | | | | |
| Disability e.g. Effects on people with mental, physical, sensory impairment, learning disability, visible/invisible, progressive or recurring | | | | |
| Gender Reassignment Trans/Transgender Identity anybody whose gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex assigned to them at birth | | | | |
| Marriage or Civil Partnership people who are married or in a civil partnership | | | | |
| Pregnancy and Maternity (refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth), | | | | |
| Race Groups: including colour, nationality, ethnic origins, including minorities (e.g. gypsy | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| travellers, refugees, migrants and asylum seekers) | | | | |
| Religion or Belief: different beliefs, customs (including atheists and those with no aligned belief) | | | | |
| Sex – Gender Identity women and men (girls and boys) and those who self-identify their gender | | | | |
| Sexual Orientation , e.g. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual | | | | |
| <p>3.3 Fairer Scotland Duty</p> <p>This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage when making <u>strategic</u> decisions.</p> <p>The duty is set at a strategic level - these are the key, high level decisions that SBC will take. This would normally include strategy documents, decisions about setting priorities, allocating resources and commissioning services.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Is the proposal strategic?</p> <p>No – this proposal does not relate to a strategy for direct Service provision.</p> <p>This revised Counter Fraud Policy statement and 3-year Counter Fraud Strategy are designed to enable the Council to continue to refine its approach to tackling fraud, taking account of reducing resources, with a focus on prevention and detection and promotion of a counter fraud culture across the Council to improve its resilience to fraud.</p> | | | | |
| <p>If No go to Section 4</p> | | | | |
| <p>If yes, please indicate any potential impact on the undernoted groups this proposal may have and how you know this:</p> | | | | |
| | Impact | | | State here how you know this |
| | No Impact | Positive Impact | Negative Impact | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Low and/or No Wealth – enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future. | | | | |
| Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies | | | | |
| Area Deprivation – where you live (e.g. rural areas), where you work (e.g. accessibility of transport) | | | | |
| Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income | | | | |
| Looked after and accommodated children and young people | | | | |
| Carers paid and unpaid including family members | | | | |
| Homelessness | | | | |
| Addictions and substance use | | | | |
| Those involved within the criminal justice system | | | | |

4 Full Integrated Impact Assessment Required

Select No if you have answered “No” to all of Sections 3.1 – 3.3.

No

If a full impact assessment is not required briefly explain why there are no effects and provide justification for the decision.

There is no relevance to the Equality Duty or the Fairer Scotland Duty for this report. This proposal does not relate to a strategy for direct Service provision.

This revised Counter Fraud Policy statement and 3-year Counter Fraud Strategy are designed to enable the Council to continue to refine its approach to tackling fraud, taking account of reducing resources, with a focus on prevention and detection and promotion of a counter fraud culture across the Council to improve its resilience to fraud.

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Signed by Lead Officer: | Jill Stacey |
| Designation: | Chief Officer Audit & Risk |
| Date: | 12 August 2021 |
| Counter Signature Service Director | |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Date: | |
|--------------|--|

Part 2 Full Integrated Impact Assessment

5 Data and Information

What evidence has been used to inform this proposal?

(Information can include, for example, surveys, databases, focus groups, in-depth interviews, pilot projects, reviews of complaints made, user feedback, academic publications and consultants' reports).

Please state your answer here

Describe any gaps in the available evidence,-then record this within the improvement plan together with all of the actions you are taking in relation to this (e.g. new research, further analysis, and when this is planned)

Please state your answer here

6 Consultation and Involvement

Which groups are involved in this process and describe their involvement

Please state your answer here

Describe any planned involvement saying when this will take place and who is responsible for managing the process

Please state your answer here

Describe the results of any involvement and how you have taken this into account.

Please state your answer here

What have you learned from the evidence you have and the involvement undertaken? Does the initial assessment remain valid?

What new (if any) impacts have become evident?

(Describe the conclusion(s) you have reached from the evidence, and state where the information can be found.)

Please state your answer here

7 Mitigating Actions and Recommendations

Consider whether:

Could you modify the proposal to eliminate discrimination or reduce any identified negative impacts?
(If necessary, consider other ways in which you could meet the aims and objectives of the proposal.)

Could you modify the proposal to increase equality and, if relevant, reduce poverty and socioeconomic disadvantage?

Describe any modifications which you can make without further delay (e.g. easy, few resource implications)

| Mitigation Please summarise all mitigations for approval by the decision makers who will approve your proposal | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Equality Characteristic/Socio economic factor | Mitigation | Resource Implications (financial, people, health, property etc) | Approved Yes/No |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

8 Recommendation and Reasoning *(select which applies)*

- Implement proposal with no amendments
- Implement proposal taking account of mitigating actions (as outlined above)
- Reject proposal due to disproportionate impact on equality, poverty, health and Socio-economic disadvantage

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| Reason for recommendation: |
|-----------------------------------|

| | |
|--|--|
| Signed by Lead Officer: | |
| Designation: | |
| Date: | |
| Counter Signature (Service Director): | |
| Date: | |

Office Use Only (not for publication)

This assessment should be presented to those making a decision about the progression of your proposal.

If it is agreed that your proposal will progress, you must send an electronic copy to corporate communications to publish on the webpage within 3 weeks of the decision.

Complete the below two sections. For your records, please keep a copy of this Integrated Impact Assessment form.

Action Plan (complete if required)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Actioner Name: | Action Date: |
| What is the issue? | |
| What action will be taken? | |
| Progress against the action: | |
| Action completed: | Date completed: |

Monitoring and Review

State how the implementation and impact of the proposal will be monitored, including implementation of any amendments? For example what type of monitoring will there be? How frequent?

| |
|-------------------------------|
| Please state your answer here |
|-------------------------------|

What are the practical arrangements for monitoring? For example who will put this in place? When will it start?

Please state your answer here

When is the proposal due for review?

Please state your answer here

Who is responsible for ensuring that this happens?

Please state your answer here