

Impact Assessment Toolkit Form

Update as at March 2018



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Section 1 : General Information

		Guidance
1	Name of policy: Dumfries and Galloway Advocacy Plan for Adults 2018 - 2021	The word policy is used throughout this document for ease but it could also be a strategy, plan, project or budget option (saving or income generation).
2	Is this policy: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> new <input type="checkbox"/> reviewed	
2	Lead Service(s) involved in the delivery of this policy: Dumfries and Galloway Advocacy Service Dumfries and Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership	
4	Who else is involved in the implementation of this policy: Services provided by the Integration Joint Board Services provided by NHS Dumfries & Galloway Services provided by Dumfries & Galloway Council Third Sector Organisations Independent Sector	e.g. other Services or partner agencies
5	Lead person: Linda Owen, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Manager	The lead person should be someone who has a good knowledge of the policy to be assessed and has been trained in the toolkit.
6	Names and organisations of those involved in the process : Pamela Dean, Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Advocacy Services Ruth Griffith, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Manager, Dumfries and Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership	The tool should be completed by no fewer than two people. It is good practice to involve stakeholders and in particular the relevant Equality and Diversity Group(s) must be involved.
7	Date of Impact Assessment (IA): 25 October 2018	

8 Do all participants understand the Guidance?

Yes

The lead person should check all attending have read and understood the purpose or process of IA

Section 2 : Aims of the policy

		Guidance								
<p>9 What are the main aims of the policy? Please list</p> <p>Independent Advocacy supports people to have their voices heard and their rights and interests protected. It is a way to help people have a stronger voice and to have as much control as possible over their own lives.</p>		<p>This should describe the policy and what you are trying to do. Think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is it needed? • What outcomes does the organisation hope to achieve by it? • In particular will the policy contribute to the organisations' Objectives/Priorities, the Single Outcome Agreement and/or Health and Social Care Integration? 								
<p>10 Will the policy assist in meeting the aims of legislation?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Give details</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">(a) The Equality Act 2010</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b) Human Rights Act 1998</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c) Climate Change Scotland Act 2009</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d) Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> </table>	(a) The Equality Act 2010	Yes	(b) Human Rights Act 1998	Yes	(c) Climate Change Scotland Act 2009	No	(d) Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	No		<p>The purpose of IA is to assess which individuals or groups will be most affected and how. Think also about how the policy will be delivered (e.g. through existing outlets?) and how it will be communicated to clients</p>
(a) The Equality Act 2010	Yes									
(b) Human Rights Act 1998	Yes									
(c) Climate Change Scotland Act 2009	No									
(d) Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	No									

Section 3 : Evidence

	Guidance
<p>11 What evidence has or will be used to identify any potential positive or negative impacts?</p> <p>Insert details in the boxes below (a) to (e):</p>	<p>Evidence could be based on a specific geographical area or a community of interest and could include consultations, surveys, focus groups, interviews, pilot projects, user feedback (inc. complaints made), officer knowledge and experience, equalities monitoring data, academic publications, consultants' reports, etc. Also identify where there are gaps in the evidence and set out how these will be filled.</p>
<p>(a) Involvement in development/ review</p> <p>A working group with representatives of Strategic Planning and Commissioning for Mental Health, Social Work Mental Health, Dumfries and Galloway Advocacy Service and the Commissioner for Children and Young People's advocacy met to plan the engagement needed for a new Advocacy Plan.</p> <p>Engagement with people who use the current Independent Advocacy Services and those who might wish to the service in the future was undertaken in June and July 2018. The questionnaire included the IJB equality monitoring form; the responses to the questionnaire were consistent irrespective of equality group. The results of the questionnaires and focus group informed the structure and the actions contained within a draft Advocacy Plan.</p> <p>Organisations and services with an interest in Independent Advocacy were given an opportunity to comment on the draft Advocacy Plan.</p> <p>Staff and volunteers who deliver Independent Advocacy receive equality and diversity training. In addition, staff and volunteers spend time with other organisations such as LGBT to ensure that staff and volunteers understand issues that may face a particular equality group</p>	<p>Who has been involved in the development so far of your policy?</p>
<p>(b) Research</p>	<p>Have you conducted any research or what research are</p>

<p>Integration Joint Board Strategic Needs Assessment 2016 - 2019 http://www.dg-change.org.uk/strategic-plan/</p> <p>Mental Welfare Commission Report 2018 A review of how local authorities and NHS Boards are discharging their responsibilities under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 https://www.mwcscot.org.uk/media/395529/the_right_to_advocacy_march_2018.pdf</p> <p>Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance Advocacy Maps https://www.siaa.org.uk/publications-category/advocacy-maps/</p>	<p>you using?</p>
<p>(c) Officer/Practitioner knowledge and experience</p> <p>Officer, Practitioner and people who use advocacy services' knowledge and experience have been drawn on to influence and prepare this Advocacy Plan. Drafts of the document along with copies of comments received have been shared with the working group. This feedback combined with knowledge and experience has influenced the draft Advocacy Plan.</p>	<p>What expertise or individual information are the group using to inform their judgements?</p>
<p>(d) Monitoring data</p> <p>Please see data contained within the Advocacy Plan 2018 - 2021 and also the data held in the strategic needs assessments (links in (b))</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway Advocacy service collect and report on protected characteristics. From 1 April 2018, the service has been using the IJB Equality Monitoring Form to collect all protected characteristics. This replaces a form that the</p>	<p>What data is available locally or nationally to inform the group?</p>

service had previously used which did not collect all of the protected characteristics.	
(e) Feedback Please find attached a list of the feedback received during the engagement from June to July 2018.	What feedback is available to inform the IA? e.g. both positive and negative users experiences of the policy – surveys, Board or Elected Members enquiries and comments etc

Section 4: Impact Areas

This section covers the Protected Characteristics, Human Rights, health, climate change and sustainable development.

12 AGE

This refers to children and adults of a particular age or age range.

Remember different age groups have different concerns e.g.

- violence is more likely to happen to you if you are a young man but the fear of crime can be debilitating if you are an older or lone woman.
- can all age groups access your service even on a dark winter night?
- children (people under 18) have a right to advice and information but this may need to be in a different format from the same information directed at adults
- when considering age/ children remember that some children are more vulnerable or have particular issues that may need additional consideration, for example children in poverty or Looked After Children (LAC).

Useful website: [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) [Age UK](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
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<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	<p>x</p>			<p>The plan and associated services is for all people aged 18 and over</p> <p>Awareness of Independent Advocacy has seen an increase in the number of older people who are using this service. Two thirds of users of Independent Advocacy Services are aged 18 to 60 with 31 – 45 year olds being the biggest users of the service.</p> <p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. This takes into account their age.</p>
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13 DISABILITY

A person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment (including learning disabilities) which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

- How does this policy affect disabled people in Dumfries and Galloway?
- Is there any reason to believe that disabled people are being, or could be, adversely affected by this policy?
- Are there any impairment groups who are particularly adversely affected by the policy?
- Could your policy adversely affect individuals as a result of something arising from their disability?
- Does your policy ensure that the rights of people with learning disabilities to dignity, equality and non-discrimination are respected and upheld?

Useful websites and publications: [Disability Rights](#) [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) [DGVoice](#)
[Keys to Life Report- Improving Quality of Life for People with Learning Disabilities](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	x			<p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. This takes into account their disability as the plan and service is centred around the person.</p> <p>Of those who currently use the service, approx 20 % people have a physical disability or a learning disability.</p>

14 SEX (GENDER)

This covers biological sex - whether you are a man, a woman or non-binary. Non-binary is used for people who don't feel male or female; they may feel like both, or something in between, or they may not relate to gender at all. Some prefer to use the pronoun "they" rather than he or she.

- e.g. does the function or policy take account of different roles and responsibilities?
 does it assume, perhaps wrongly, that men for example, have no caring responsibilities?
 is the function or policy flexible enough to provide a service that everyone can access?

Useful websites: [Scottish Women's Convention](#) [Fawcett Society](#) [Engender](#) [Equality and Human Rights](#) [A Voice for Men](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>		x		<p>This plan and associated service is for all people aged 18 and over irrespective of their gender. Over time the trend for people using this service is split approximately 40% male and 60% female. People using the service can also identify with neither gender. This is a very small number and ranges from 0 people in a year to 4 people in a year.</p>

15 GENDER REASSIGNMENT (TRANSGENDER IDENTITY)

This covers both:

- **Gender reassignment**, which is the process of transitioning from one gender to another. Individuals in this category are often termed transsexual. Gender reassignment does not need to involve any medical supervision or surgical procedures; it could simply involve a permanent change of the social gender role in which the person lives their life, (for example through a permanent change of name and the way they dress).
- **Other transgender identities** - such as polygender, androgyne, intersex, cross-dressing and transvestite people. The terms **transgender** and **trans** are both widely used by equality organisations to refer to a diverse range of people who find their gender identity does not fully correspond with the sex they were “assigned” at birth. Although the term transgender does refer in part to transsexual people (see above), not all transgender people will undergo the process of gender reassignment, but may face similar barriers to access.
- e.g. does your policy, function or service include people of different gender identities? Will your facilities impede transgender individuals in any way?

Useful websites: [Equality and Human Rights](#) [Transgender Equality and Rights](#) [Equality Network](#) [LGBT Youth](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	x			<p>The service engages with people regardless of their gender identity and will address people as the name/gender/pronouns by which they identify with. The service has supported people through gender reassignment in the past.</p> <p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.</p>

16 MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP

The rights and responsibilities that come with marriage and civil partnership are almost identical although civil partnerships in Scotland are currently only available to same-sex couples.

Under the Equality Act 2010 it is unlawful discrimination for people who are married or in a civil partnership to be treated less favourably in employment than people who are not married or in a civil partnership.

Equality legislation also protects people in relation to sexual orientation, which means that you cannot be treated less fairly as a same-sex couple than a mixed-sex couple would be treated.

Useful websites:

[Registration – Getting Married or Registering a Civil Partnership in Scotland](#)
[Marriage and Civil Partnership in Scotland](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>		x		Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.

17 PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY

Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant/expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth. Protection against maternity discrimination covers 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

e.g. Do you provide facilities for breastfeeding mothers?

Useful websites:

[Maternity Pay and Leave](#)

[Maternity Leave and Pay – ACAS](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	<p>x</p>			<p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.</p>

18 RACE

This refers to a group of people defined by their ethnic or national origins, race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship). All minority race and ethnic groups are covered including, for example, gypsies and travellers, Jews, English as well as visible minority groups like African, Caribbean and Asian.

Consider the impact your function or policy has on someone from a minority ethnic group. Remember the impact may differ depending on the gender, disability, faith, sexual orientation or age of the person as different cultures have different views on what is acceptable.

e.g. What about language and information? Is it in the right format?

Useful websites: [Equality and Human Rights](#) [BEMIS – Scotland's Ethnic & Cultural Minority Communities](#) [CEMVO](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	<p>x</p>			<p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.</p> <p>The services provided within the plan have access to translation services.</p> <p>Of those who have advised the service of their race, approx 94% identify as White Scottish, White UK, White Irish or White other. The other 2% are from other race groups whilst 4% were unknown.</p>

19 RELIGION OR BELIEF

Religion is the worship or faith in a God or Gods but belief is wider and includes religious, spiritual and philosophical beliefs. It also includes lack of belief or no belief in religion (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

e.g. Does the function or policy take into account different festivals, holidays, religious days and traditions? Will the different faith beliefs impact on, for example, women from that group and exclude or prevent them from using the service?

Useful website: [Interfaith Scotland](#) [National Secular Society](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	<p>x</p>			<p>Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.</p>

20 SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes. This includes people who are heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual.

e.g. What are the issues for this group in terms of your function or policy? Are the needs of this group being met?

Useful website: [LGBT Youth](#) [Stonewall Scotland](#) [Equality Network](#)

How does your policy affect this protected characteristic?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity by having due regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing or minimising disadvantage • meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others • encouraging participation in public life <p>Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding</p>	x			Independent Advocacy supports individuals to have their voice heard. The plan and service are based on personal needs and outcomes.

21 HUMAN RIGHTS

This is about protecting and promoting individuals' rights and freedoms in relation the Human Rights Act 1998. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child has a much broader approach that may be of interest and reference although the focus of the Impact Assessment is the UK legislation, linked below.

1	The right to life – protects your life, by law. The state is required to investigate suspicious deaths and deaths in custody;
2	The prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment – you should never be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way, no matter what the situation
3	The right to liberty and freedom – you have the right to be free and the state can only imprison you with very good reason – for example, if you are convicted of a crime
4	Protection against slavery and forced labour – you should not be treated like a slave or subjected to forced labour;
5 and 6	The right to a fair trial and no punishment without law - you are innocent until proven guilty. If accused of a crime, you have the right to hear the evidence against you, in a court of law
7	Respect for privacy and family life – protects against unnecessary surveillance or intrusion into your life
8	Freedom of thought, religion and belief – you can believe what you like and practise your religion or beliefs
9 and 10	Free speech and peaceful protest – you have a right to speak freely and join with others peacefully, to express your views
11	The right to marry - you have the right to marry and raise a family
12	No discrimination – everyone's rights are equal. You should not be treated unfairly – because, for example, of your gender, race, sexuality, religion or age
13,14 and 15	Protection of property, the right to an education and the right to free elections – protects against state interference with your possessions; means that no child can be denied an education and that elections must be free and fair

Please refer to the Guidance for more information.

Useful Websites and documents: [Scottish Human Rights Commission](#), [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#)
[A Guide to the Human Rights Act for Public Authorities](#)
[UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

How does your policy affect people's human rights?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other prohibited conduct</p> <p>Advance the aims of the Human Rights Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent breaches of human rights • Respect people's rights • Foster good relations – tackle prejudice, promote understanding 	<p>1, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14</p>	<p>2,3, 4, 5, 6,10, 11,13, 15</p>		<p>This plan is not actively promoting human rights, nor is the plan trying to hamper human rights</p>

22 HEALTH & WELLBEING and HEALTH INEQUALITIES

This is about physical and mental health and wellbeing and includes e.g. feelings of safety and security, leisure activity, participation, creativity, affection and developing/achieving your potential. It also covers all aspects of poverty including income and fuel poverty, lack of confidence and self-esteem. The Fairer Scotland Duty places a requirement on public bodies to actively consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome in any major decision they make.

Think about the determinants of health and the different causes of health inequalities:

- **fundamental causes** like macro-economic position, societal values about fairness and equity
- **wider environmental influences** like availability of jobs; physical environment e.g. pollution, housing, food production, learning, availability services, democratic engagement
- **individual experiences** like mental health and wellbeing, family income, home and heating, diet and nutrition, exercise and physical activity, substance use, learning, readiness for school, ability to navigate services, connectedness, community involvement and personal resilience
- **socio-economic disadvantage** like low income, low wealth, material deprivation and area deprivation

Think about the different causes and types of poverty:

- Will this policy give people and families experiencing poverty the opportunity to make sure that their **voice is heard**?
- Will the policy support people experiencing poverty to **move from dependence to independence**?
- Will the **information and services be easy to access**?
- Will the policy **provide services that meet the needs of people** experiencing poverty?

Think about how this policy will impact on increasing opportunities for:

- Participation in physical activity
- Accessing healthy food choices
- Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing

Useful websites and publications: [Health Services](#) [Health Inequalities in Scotland](#) [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#) [Dumfries and Galloway Council Tackling Poverty](#) [Fairer Scotland Duty](#)

How does your policy impact on health and wellbeing and health inequalities?

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate inequalities and increase access to opportunities for improving health and wellbeing</p> <p>Advance opportunities for increasing health and wellbeing across the whole population</p> <p>Foster good practice for population wide health and wellbeing</p>				<p>Information and services are easy to access in the following ways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free to access service • Location of offices across Dumfries and Galloway accessible by public transport • Home visits can be provided if needed • People are able to access services by video call, email, social media or text to access the service as well as face to face options • Talking mats to help people who are non verbal <p>The entire plan is there to support people to have their voice heard</p> <p>The Plan and associated service gives people and families experiencing poverty the opportunity to make sure that their voice is heard</p>

23 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

This is about e.g. pay, employment opportunities, assisting businesses to develop or grow, welfare to work schemes and disadvantaged groups, local self-help schemes, and valuing and supporting voluntary work. It also covers issues around aspects of poverty including individual and community resilience. The Fairer Scotland Duty places a requirement on public bodies to actively consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome in any major decision they make.

How will your policy impact on e.g. social status, employment (paid or unpaid), opportunities to expand on learning experiences, opportunities for volunteering, encourage investment in skills and training, assist people on low incomes or support other disadvantaged groups in any way, help people access advice on financial inclusion, availability or delivery of services for people living rurally, and increase access to facilities for arts, cultural and leisure pursuits.

How will the policy work in rural areas where the existing infrastructure is typically less developed or where infrastructure does not exist (e.g. mains gas, fast broadband connections)?

Does your policy encourage the payment of the Living Wage?

Useful websites and publications: [Poverty Alliance](#) [Scottish Living Wage](#)

Indicate if the impact is positive or negative or if there is no impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate disadvantage or inequality</p> <p>Advance opportunities for individuals</p> <p>Foster good relations and sustainability of communities</p>	x			It is not the role of this plan to promote economic and social sustainability however there are some impact by providing opportunities for volunteering and contributing to the local economy through employment of staff.

24 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT

This is about enhancing the built environment, preserving local heritage, reducing the need to travel by improving or adding to local facilities, conditions for pedestrians and cyclists and promote public transport, living conditions such as housing and green spaces, biodiversity, the amount of emissions, fuel consumption, fuel use, renewable energy technologies,

If the effect or possible effect is minimal, no action is required under the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) but there is a duty under the Environmental Assessment Scotland Act 2005 to notify the SEA authorities. There are templates available to help this process. This should be noted on the summary sheet.

If there is any likely positive or negative environmental effect, a full SEA may be required.

In order to comply with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act and [Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme](#) organisations must maintain accurate records and data with regard to its Emissions. If your policy may lead to a change in levels of emissions, has account been taken of the need to accurately record this data?

Will your policy affect infrastructure, land or buildings?

Indicate if the Impact is High (H), Medium (M) or Low (L) or (✓) if No Impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
<p>Eliminate bad practice particularly in waste and carbon usage</p> <p>Advance good practice, particularly the use of innovative technology</p> <p>Foster a culture of personal responsibility</p>	x			Introduction of video call alongside telephone calls to reduce travel for people who use the service and staff.

25 SUMMARY OF IMPACT

Summarise your results from section 12 to 24 in the table below:

<u>Impact Area</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
Age	x		
Disability	x		
Sex		x	
Gender reassignment and Transgender	x		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		x	
Pregnancy and Maternity	x		
Race		x	
Religion or belief	x		
Sexual orientation	x		
Human Rights	x		
Health & Wellbeing & Health Inequalities	x		
Economic & Social Sustainability	x		
Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change and Energy Management	x		
	Total Positive Impacts = 10	Total No Impacts =3	Total Negative Impacts = 0

Positive and No Impact(s) - the Policy needs no further IA at this stage. Transfer the totals to the Summary Sheet for publication

Negative Impact(s) - please complete section 26

26 If Negative Impact(s) have been identified choose the most appropriate option below (a, b or c). Once you have identified your option, record your decision in the table below highlighting the Impact Area and action to be taken.

- a. **unjustifiable** - your policy must be revised and rewritten to remove the negative impact. This is the concept of 'treat' in risk management
- b. **can be justified** without further consultation. The justification is noted and recorded and the policy is signed off. This is the concept of 'managed' in risk management
- c. **may or may not be justifiable** - the proposed justification for the risk is noted and the policy is then consulted upon at the level that is appropriate. For instance, an employment policy may require only internal consultation where as a service delivery policy may require partner and external consultation.

Impact Area	Option (a), (b) or (c)	Explanation and action to be taken

Once completed transfer the actions to the Summary Sheet for publication

Section 5 : Monitoring And Reviewing

	Guidance
<p>27 How will the implementation of the policy be monitored?</p> <p>The Advocacy Plan contains a list of indicators by which the plan will be monitored.</p>	<p>e.g. customer satisfaction questionnaires.</p>
<p>28 What (if any) environmental data is to be monitored and who is responsible for the collection of this data?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>	
<p>29 How will the results of the monitoring be used to develop the policy?</p> <p>The Plan will be reviewed at least once in the three years following publication. This data will be used to inform this.</p> <p>The IJB equality monitoring form will be used to gather further data that will be used to support the review of this plan.</p>	<p>This information will be useful when you review the policy</p>
<p>30 When and how is the policy due to be reviewed?</p> <p>An appropriate working group will be convened to review the Advocacy Plan. The service which is commissioned to provide advocacy in Dumfries and Galloway is monitored twice a year using the Integrated Joint Board Quality Monitoring Framework.</p>	<p>Detail who is responsible. If there are a significant number of negative impacts, then an earlier date may be recommended</p>

Section 6 : Quality Assurance and Public Reporting of Results

(Information required for the Summary Sheet)

The organisation is required to publish the findings and results of all IAs conducted.

Monitoring of IA returns will be carried out by expert advisors and may result in additional information being required or a revised assessment.

The lead person is responsible for collating the key comments and actions. All members of the group should receive a copy of the final impact assessment.

The impact assessment information should be reported as part of the approval process for the policy.

The lead person is responsible for sending a copy of this completed Impact Assessment Toolkit form to the relevant service for the lead organisation where it will be quality assured and then part or all will be published on the public website.

For Dumfries and Galloway Council this is the Planning and Performance Unit - email it to ImpactAssessment@dumgal.gov.uk

For NHS Dumfries and Galloway email it to lynsey.fitzpatrick@nhs.net

Section 7 : Improving the Impact Assessment Process

Feedback (optional) - Please use the space below to detail any matters arising from the Assessment which will help us improve the process

	Please tick (✓)					
Please score from 1 to 6 where 1 is low and 6 is high	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 How well did this toolkit help you understand the IA process?						x
2 Did the toolkit assist you in improving your policy?	x					
3 Was the language and format easy to follow?						x

4 Any other comments

Please send this form to:

Planning and Performance Unit, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Council Offices, Dumfries DG1 2DD Drop Point: 320
 or email: ImpactAssessment@dumgal.gov.uk

Equality and Diversity Lead, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, High East, Crichton Hall, The Crichton, Dumfries DG1 4TG
 or email: lynsey.fitzpatrick@nhs.net