

EALDP2 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

OVERVIEW DETAILS

Name of Policy	East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2 – Proposed Plan (LDP2)
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ABOUT POLICY

(a) What are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy, function or service review? Specify any equality outcomes which are intended.

Aims and objectives of LDP2

The preparation of a Local Development Plan is a statutory requirement and in its final form represents the Council's view on how East Ayrshire should be developed over the next 10 years, indicating where development should and should not occur and setting out policies for proactively supporting the delivery of successful places. Its policy themes are Place, Historic and Natural Environment, Housing, Economy and Employment, Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, and Climate Change Resilience. The Proposed Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) represents the Council's settled view as to the form and content of the finalised Plan that the Planning Authority wishes to adopt, after the Main Issues Report stage which highlighted the key areas of change and assisted in determining the strategy, policy and land allocations. The Plan directs decision-making on all land use planning issues and planning applications in East Ayrshire and comprises policies and land allocations.

Intended equality outcomes of LDP2 Policies

Vision and Aims:

The Plan's overall purpose is outlined in the LDP2 Vision and Aims, and seek to deliver a low carbon place with a thriving environment, strong, healthy and resilient communities that benefit from high quality places, multi-functional green spaces and access to high quality, well located services that maximise sustainable travel choices, and a fairer, greener and more inclusive economy. Explicit equality aims of the Plan are the delivery of accessible places, housing to meet a wide range of needs across all of East Ayrshire, and a fairer recovered economy.

Spatial Strategy

The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport, as well as making streets more friendly. The Spatial Strategy also includes an ambition for our Green and Blue spaces to be accessible and inclusive.

Policy SS4 seeks to encourage the reuse of vacant land within settlement boundaries by providing an exemption from the provision of affordable housing on-site. Policy SS10 supports community wealth building by supporting the use and adaptation of buildings and sites which have been acquired by a community organisation. Policy S11 requires developers of major developments to submit a skills and employment plan and demonstrate what consideration has been given to supply chain and maintenance arrangements, to explore ways in which their developments can maximise the benefit to the local economy.

Urban Design and Placemaking

Policy DES1 requires development to be distinctive, safe (providing good lighting and natural surveillance, and accessible public realm and open spaces), easy to move around (favouring pedestrian movement and providing links to transport and green networks), welcoming (being easy to navigate by creating legible places), adaptable (inclusive, maximising accessibility regardless of age or ability, facilitating changes of use, lifestyle and demography), and resource efficient (maximising environmental benefits and reducing energy costs).

Policies LPP1 recognise the priorities of local communities by seeking to adopt community-led Local Place Plans (LPPs) as Supplementary Guidance to LDP2, in addition to them being taken into account in the preparation of LDP3. Policy LPP2 requires development proposals to be compatible with LPPs.

Policy OS1 requires the provision of open space which designed to cater to a variety of users regardless of age, gender or disability. Policy OS2 protects safeguarded open spaces which include community growing spaces, play spaces for children, civic spaces etc. Policy PLAY1 seeks the provision of formal, informal and incidental play spaces which are safe, inclusive, and suitable for different ages; policy PLAY2 prevents the loss of play and sports facilities. PROP7 commits the Council to undertaking a Play Sufficiency Assessment during the lifetime of LDP2.

Natural Environment

Policy NE8 supports proposals for the improvements of woodlands for play and recreation, energy efficiency, and other benefits.

Communities and Housing

A Housing Land Supply has been established that ensures that housing land supply is generous enough for the delivery of the dwellings that are estimated to be required during the lifetime of the Plan. Policy RES2 requires the provision of affordable housing covering a wide range of end users including families, older and ambulant people, people with disabilities, and young vulnerable people. Policy RES6 ensures that proposals for Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople's sites meet accessibility, servicing and amenity requirements.

Rural Housing

Policy RH1 and RH2 support economic activity in rural areas, including the retirement succession of farm holdings.

Town Centres

Policy TC1 supports a wide range of uses in town and suburb centres. Policies TC2 and TC3 support the principles of 20 minute neighbourhoods by supporting municipal and small scale retail where they are easily accessible to the communities they are intended to serve. Policy TC4 supports appropriate conversion of ground and upper floor retail uses to residential, thereby increasing the housing mix.

Business and Industry

Policy IND1, IND2, IND3 and IND4 support employment uses on appropriate locations throughout East Ayrshire, including work/live units.

Tourism

Policy TOUR1 supports appropriate new and extended tourism facilities, in particular green tourism initiatives to aid green recovery relating to the high scenic interest of the area. Policy TOUR2 supports tourism accommodation, including in the rural areas. Policy TOUR3 supports rural sporting, leisure and recreational activities.

Digital Infrastructure

Policy INF2 requires all new residential developments to incorporate appropriate, universal and futureproofed digital infrastructure.

Developer Contributions

Policy INF4 requires developers to contribute to the provision of facilities, infrastructure or services where new development would need them, including public realm, blue/green infrastructure, education, transport infrastructure, and healthcare.

Transport

The Plan supports proposals that: contribute to a more sustainable integrated transport system that is accessible to all in both urban and rural communities and better connects people, in particular to employment, services and amenities; provide safe and convenient transport opportunities for all users; contribute to an integral active travel network; and can be accessed by sustainable modes of travel.

Policy T1 requires proposals for new and upgraded transport infrastructure to consider the needs of users of all ages and abilities in line with relevant equalities legislation. Policy T3 seeks to ensure that the access and recreational path network to be developed through the East Ayrshire Recreation Plan is accessible for all. Policy T4 requires the provision of charging points for mobility scooters.

All other policies of the Plan are considered neutral as they neither advantage nor disadvantage specific protected/vulnerable groups.

Intended equality outcomes of LDP2 Land Allocations

The land allocations in LDP2 have been designated so that they are appropriately distributed throughout the geography of East Ayrshire, supporting repopulation and activity in the rural south, whilst offering more opportunities on effective land in the north. Provision of land for housing and employment land is considered as

having a positive impact for all people and protected groups overall. While mainstream housing development may advantage some groups i.e. through increased housing choice while disadvantaging others i.e. affordability, affordable and specialist housing allocations are provided to proactively advantage certain groups, namely those with socio-economic disadvantages, older people or people with disabilities. In particular, housing allocations in sub-housing market areas where demand is higher are required to provide a proportion of affordable housing to this end.

Provision of employment land seeks to support the creation of jobs and prosperity throughout East Ayrshire, which is hoped will help promote equality of opportunity between geographical areas and socio-economic groups by providing opportunities throughout the breadth of the Local Authority area.

(b) Under which Community Planning theme(s) does this policy or function or review sit?

Economy & Skills

(c) Describe the current or intended client group(s) specifying any equality groups which are intended to benefit directly from the policy, function or review. You should consider employees, clients/customers and service users.

LDP2 will have an impact on all people of East Ayrshire in varying degrees and forms, including people who live, work and visit the area. Equality groups that will benefit directly include people with disabilities and older people through requiring new development to be inclusive and accessible, younger people through the requirement for play facilities, and people with socio-economic disadvantage through the requirement for affordable housing. Other equality groups may benefit indirectly.

ASSESSING IMPACT

	Evidence	Impact	Mitigating factors
Age	<p>Early consultation with Inclusive Design Officer.</p> <p>Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer.</p> <p>Engagement with Equalities Forum.</p> <p>Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Positive.</p> <p>The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and 20-minute neighbourhoods; this is likely to have positive impacts on people less able to travel long distances and supports autonomous living.</p> <p>Policy DES1 requires development to be safe, easy to move around, easy to navigate, and adaptable, which would have positive impacts on people as they age, people with reduced mobility and people with dementia.</p> <p>Policy PLAY1 seeks the provision of formal, informal and incidental play spaces which are safe, inclusive, and suitable for different ages; policy PLAY2 prevents the loss of play and sports facilities. PROP7 commits the Council to undertaking a Play Sufficiency Assessment during the lifetime of LDP2. These are likely to have a positive impact on children and young people.</p> <p>Policy RES2 requires the provision of affordable housing covering a wide range of end users including older and ambulant people.</p> <p>Policy RH1 and RH2 support economic activity in rural areas, including the retirement succession of farm holdings, which is likely to benefit those of retirement age.</p> <p>Policy T1 requires proposals for new and upgraded transport infrastructure to consider the needs of users of all ages and abilities.</p>	N/A
Disability	<p>Early consultation with Inclusive Design Officer.</p> <p>Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer.</p> <p>Engagement with Equalities Forum.</p>	<p>Positive.</p> <p>The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute</p>	N/A

	Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport, as well as making streets more friendly. The Spatial Strategy also includes an ambition for our Green and Blue spaces to be accessible and inclusive. Policy DES1 requires development to be safe, easy to move around, and adaptable, which would have positive impacts on people with reduced mobility and wheelchair uses. Policy RES2 requires the provision of affordable housing covering a wide range of end users including people with disabilities. Policy T1 requires proposals for new and upgraded transport infrastructure to consider the needs of users of all ages and abilities in line with relevant equalities legislation. Policy T3 seeks to ensure that the access and recreational path network to be developed through the East Ayrshire Recreation Plan is accessible for all. Policy T4 requires the provision of charging points for mobility scooters.	
Gender Reassignment	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this protected group.	N/A
Race	Engagement with Gypsy/Travellers representatives. Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement with Equalities Forum. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Positive. Policy RES6 requires that Gypsy/Traveller sites meet a number of criteria in relation to accessibility, amenity and services.	N/A
Religion or Belief	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement with Equalities Forum. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this protected group.	N/A

Marriage and Civil Partnership	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this protected group.	N/A
Pregnancy and Maternity	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this protected group.	N/A
Sex	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement with Equalities Forum. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Positive. Policy DES1 requires new development to create a safe and secure environment by providing good lighting and natural surveillance; this would have a positive impact on women and girls who are disproportionately affected by unsafe urban environments.	N/A
Sexual Orientation	Engagement with Equality and Diversity Officer. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this protected group.	N/A
Cross Cutting: health, access, rurality, low income, carers, unemployment...	Internal data. Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services. LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum. Members seminar, which engaged Elected Members on the LDP2 issues that are relevant to their wards. Engagement sessions with Community Councils during MIR stage. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.	Positive. The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport; this is likely to have a positive impact on those access deprived by facilitating access to services and amenities. Policies LPP1 and LPP2 recognise the priorities of local communities across geographies by supporting community-led Local Place Plans (LPPs). A Housing Land Supply has been established that ensures that housing land supply is generous enough for the delivery of the dwellings that are estimated to be required during the lifetime of the Plan. Policy RH1 and RH2 support economic activity in rural areas.	Provision of land for housing and employment land is considered as having a positive impact for all people and protected groups overall. While mainstream housing development may advantage some groups i.e. through increased housing choice while disadvantaging others i.e. affordability, affordable and specialist housing allocations are provided to proactively advantage certain groups, namely those with socio-economic disadvantages, older people or people with disabilities. In particular, housing allocations in sub-housing market areas where demand is higher are required to provide a proportion of affordable housing to this end.

		<p>Policies TC2 and TC3 support the principles of 20 minute neighbourhoods by supporting municipal and small scale retail where they are easily accessible to the communities they are intended to serve.</p> <p>Policy TOUR2 supports tourism accommodation, including in the rural areas. Policy TOUR3 supports rural sporting, leisure and recreational activities. This supports economic activity in rural areas.</p> <p>Policy INF2 requires all new residential developments to incorporate appropriate, universal and futureproofed digital infrastructure, thereby improving digital access regardless of location and improving access to employment and education opportunities.</p>	
<p>Health and Wellbeing: health, social inclusion, physical activity, healthy food, drinking and smoking...</p>	<p>Internal data. Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services. Engagement with East Ayrshire Leisure Trust. Engagement with NHS Ayrshire and Arran. LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum. Engagement sessions with Community Councils during MIR stage. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Positive. The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport, as well as making streets more friendly. This is likely to have a positive impact on public health by promoting an active lifestyle. Policy DES1 requires development to be attractive, integrate green spaces, promote active lifestyles, encourage activity and social interaction and integrate existing paths; this would positively impact on health and wellbeing. Policy OS1 requires the provision of open space which designed to cater to a variety of users regardless of age, gender or disability. Policy OS2 protects safeguarded open spaces which include</p>	<p>N/A</p>

		<p>community growing spaces, playspaces for children, civic spaces etc. Policy PLAY1 seeks the provision of formal, informal and incidental play spaces which are safe, inclusive, and suitable for different ages; policy PLAY2 prevents the loss of play and sports facilities. PROP7 commits the Council to undertaking a Play Sufficiency Assessment during the lifetime of LDP2. Policy NE8 supports proposals for the improvements of woodlands for play and recreation. Policy T3 seeks to ensure that the access and recreational path network to be developed through the East Ayrshire Recreation Plan is accessible for all. These are all likely to support physical activity and wellbeing. Policy INF4 requires developers to contribute to the provision of facilities, infrastructure or services where new development would need them, including public realm, blue/green infrastructure, education, transport infrastructure, and healthcare.</p>	
<p>Child Poverty: creating jobs, promoting fair pay, increasing child care, making skills training available, supporting people into employment...</p>	<p>Internal data. Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services. LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum. Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Positive. Policy RH1 and RH2 support economic activity in rural areas. Policy TC1 supports a wide range of uses in town and suburb centres. Policy IND1, IND2, IND3 and IND4 support employment uses on appropriate locations throughout East Ayrshire, including work/live units. Policy TOUR1 supports appropriate new and extended tourism facilities, in particular green tourism initiatives to aid green recovery relating to the high scenic interest of the area. Policy TOUR2 supports tourism accommodation, including in the rural areas. Policy TOUR3 supports rural sporting, leisure and recreational activities. All these are likely to promote job creation and economic growth. Policy</p>	<p>Provision of land for housing and employment land is considered as having a positive impact for all people and protected groups overall. While mainstream housing development may advantage some groups i.e. through increased housing choice while disadvantaging others i.e. affordability, affordable and specialist housing allocations are provided to proactively advantage certain groups, namely those with socio-economic disadvantages, older people or people with disabilities. In particular, housing allocations in sub-housing market areas where demand is higher are required to provide a proportion of affordable housing to this end.</p>

		<p>INF2 requires all new residential developments to incorporate appropriate, universal and futureproofed digital infrastructure, thus improving access to training and jobs.</p> <p>Provision of employment land seeks to support the creation of jobs and prosperity throughout East Ayrshire, which is hoped will help promote the creation of jobs and economic growth.</p> <p>LDP2 supports the implementation of projects of the Ayrshire Growth Deal which constitutes a strategic approach to the improvement of the regional economy and promotes the creation of high quality jobs.</p>	
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FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY (Socio Economic Impact)

Do you consider this to be a SIGNIFICANT strategic programme/proposal/decision under the Fairer Scotland Duty?

Significant strategic proposals are defined as being the key, high-level decisions that the public sector takes that affect how the public body fulfils its intended purpose, over a significant period of time. Examples include strategy documents, priority-setting decisions, commissioning services and major procurement exercises.

Yes

	Evidence	Impact	Mitigating factors
Low and/or No Wealth	<p>Internal data.</p> <p>Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services.</p> <p>LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum.</p> <p>Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Positive.</p> <p>The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport; this is likely to reduce income inequality by facilitating access to services and amenities to those that cannot afford a car.</p> <p>Policy SS10 supports community wealth building by supporting the use and adaptation of buildings and sites which have been acquired by a community</p>	<p>Provision of land for housing and employment land is considered as having a positive impact for all people and protected groups overall. While mainstream housing development may advantage some groups i.e. through increased housing choice while disadvantaging others i.e. affordability, affordable and specialist housing allocations are provided to proactively advantage certain groups, namely those with socio-economic disadvantages, older people or people with disabilities. In particular, housing allocations in sub-housing market areas where demand is</p>

		<p>organisation. Policy S11 requires developers of major developments to submit a skills and employment plan and demonstrate what consideration has been given to supply chain and maintenance arrangements, to explore ways in which their developments can maximise the benefit to the local economy. These are likely to have a positive impact on local economies. Policy DES1 requires development to resource efficient (maximising environmental benefits and reducing energy costs); this is likely to benefit those with low or no wealth and those in fuel deprivation by lowering the cost of heating.</p> <p>A Housing Land Supply has been established that ensures that housing land supply is generous enough for the delivery of the dwellings that are estimated to be required during the lifetime of the Plan. Policy RES2 requires the provision of affordable housing covering a wide range of end users. These are likely to make housing more affordable and thus have a positive impact on people of low wealth.</p> <p>Policy IND1, IND2, IND3 and IND4 support employment uses on appropriate locations throughout East Ayrshire, including work/live units. Policy TOUR1 supports appropriate new and extended tourism facilities, in particular green tourism initiatives to aid green recovery relating to the high scenic interest of the area. Policy TOUR2 supports tourism accommodation, including in the rural areas. Policy TOUR3 supports rural sporting, leisure and recreational activities. Policy TC1 supports a wide range of uses in town and suburb centres. These are likely to encourage</p>	<p>higher are required to provide a proportion of affordable housing to this end.</p>
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		<p>economic growth and employment opportunities locally.</p> <p>Policy INF2 requires all new residential developments to incorporate appropriate, universal and futureproofed digital infrastructure, thus improving access to employment and training opportunities. Provision of employment land seeks to support the creation of jobs and prosperity throughout East Ayrshire, which is hoped will help promote the creation of jobs and economic growth. LDP2 supports the implementation of projects of the Ayrshire Growth Deal which constitutes a strategic approach to the improvement of the regional economy and promotes the creation of high quality jobs.</p>	
Material Deprivation	As above.	Positive. As above.	As above.
Area Deprivation	<p>Internal data.</p> <p>Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services.</p> <p>LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum.</p> <p>Engagement sessions with Community Councils during MIR stage.</p> <p>Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Positive. The Spatial Strategy promotes compact growth and aims to reduce the need to travel unsustainably, by encouraging the emergence of 20-minute neighbourhoods and prioritising locations for development that are accessible by a variety of modes of public transport; this is likely to have a positive impact on those access deprived by facilitating access to services and amenities.</p> <p>Policies LPP1 and LPP2 recognise the priorities of local communities across geographies by supporting community-led Local Place Plans (LPPs).</p> <p>A Housing Land Supply has been established that ensures that housing land supply is generous enough for the delivery of the dwellings that are estimated to be required during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>Policy RH1 and RH2 support economic activity in rural areas.</p> <p>Policies TC2 and TC3 support the principles of 20 minute neighbourhoods</p>	As above.

		<p>by supporting municipal and small scale retail where they are easily accessible to the communities they are intended to serve.</p> <p>Policy TOUR2 supports tourism accommodation, including in the rural areas. Policy TOUR3 supports rural sporting, leisure and recreational activities. This supports economic activity in rural areas.</p> <p>Policy INF2 requires all new residential developments to incorporate appropriate, universal and futureproofed digital infrastructure, thereby improving digital access regardless of location and improving access to employment and education opportunities regardless of location.</p> <p>The Plan supports proposals that: contribute to a more sustainable integrated transport system that is accessible to all in both urban and rural communities and better connects people, in particular to employment, services and amenities; provide safe and convenient transport opportunities for all users; contribute to an integral active travel network; and can be accessed by sustainable modes of travel.</p>	
Socio-economic Background	<p>Internal data.</p> <p>Engagement with officers of the relevant Council services.</p> <p>LDP2 Members-Officers Working Group, which includes representatives of all relevant Council services and an array of Elected Members across the political and geographical spectrum.</p> <p>Engagement, consultation and analysis of responses to Main Issues Report.</p>	<p>Neutral. LDP2 will not have a differential impact on this group on the basis of their socio-economic background.</p>	As above.

GATHER AND ANALYSE DATA AND INFORMATION

(a) What information or other evidence has been used in the development of the policy, function or service review?

(b) What does research, consultation and other data or information tell you about the impact of the policy, function or service review? (Describe the information and the conclusions, and state where the information can be found. (i)Quantitative and (ii)Qualitative

(c) Describe any gaps in the available information, any action you are taking about this (e.g. new research, further analysis) and when this is planned.

(a) The starting point in the preparation of a Local Development Plan is the Monitoring Statement, which gathers all available indicators on the performance of the previous Local Development Plan, looking at demographic, social, spatial, economic, resource and environmental quantitative data, and studies the performance of the specific policies. The LDP2 Monitoring Statement was published as part of the Main Issues Report stage consultation in 2020 and is available on the Council's Planning webpage.

The Local Development Plan 2 Members and Officers Working Group (MOWG) was constituted at the beginning of the Plan process, bringing Elected Members across the political spectrum and all geographical areas of East Ayrshire as well as officers from all relevant Council Services. This includes Development Planning and Regeneration, Development Management, the Ayrshire Roads Alliance, Housing, Economic Development, Education, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, Planning Policy and Performance, Vibrant Communities, Cleaner Communities, among others. The draft LDP2 has been presented to MOWG across a number of meetings throughout the preparation process to seek their views from an early stage. The collective knowledge of this group has provided invaluable input along all stages of the Plan and continues to do so.

The first stage of the Local Development Plan process was the Main Issues Report, which was subject to public consultation in 2020. During this period, representations by members of the public, community bodies, Key Agencies and Elected Members were received, supporting, objecting and commenting on various aspects of the Plan. In order to maximise community involvement in the process within the confines of COVID regulations, advice was sought from the Scottish Government on how to promote engagement with the Main Issues Report. To this end, virtual workshops were held online with Community Councils and Community Action Plan Groups to discuss the issues most relevant to their areas, newsletters on a number of issues were placed on the website, promotion on social media took place and a 2 weeks were added to the statutory consultation period, with a further 2 weeks for everyone that so requested. All comments gathered during this stage were taken into consideration when drafting the Plan.

Given the wide-ranging nature of the policies of the Plan, input was sought from certain groups, institutions and agencies to address specific aspects. Examples particularly relevant to Equalities include the Gypsy/Traveller Steering Group, the Council's Gypsy/Traveller Integration & Engagement Officer, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, the Council's Inclusive Design Officer and the Council's Corporate Officer for Equality and Diversity. An information gap was identified in that the views of a number of equality groups had not been directly sought yet. In order to address this, an advanced draft of the Proposed Plan was presented and discussed with East Ayrshire's Equalities Forum on the 21st February 2022, with attendees in representation of various disability and accessibility groups, religious groups, parents, teachers, tenants, and homeless, among others.

Prior to the finalisation of the Proposed Plan, all Elected Members were invited to a Members Seminar encompassing multiple sessions. Elected Members were collectively presented the overarching themes of the draft LDP2 and thereafter single-ward sessions were held highlighting ward-specific issues.

After approval by Council on the 31st March 2022, the Proposed LDP2 is published for consultation, where once again members of the public, community groups, organisations, agencies etc. are encouraged to express their views on the Plan's policies, land allocations and supplementary documents. It is expected that more input will be received during this consultation, which will be taken into consideration before submitting the Plan for consideration by the Scottish Ministers.

(b) The quantitative and qualitative assessment of the LDP1 performance in the LDP2 Monitoring Statement formed the evidence base for the elaboration of the Main Issues Report, which itself is the basis of the Proposed Plan. The conclusions of this report can be seen in the Council's Planning website.

The periodic review of the Plan policies and allocations by MOWG has ensured that the views of their respective sections and those of the people represented by the Members in the Group has been incorporated into the Proposed Plan from an early stage. Besides many other benefits, in terms of Equalities, this has been particularly relevant to achieve inclusive design policies, to ensure that all policies have fair effects across the geographical

areas of East Ayrshire and across the urban/rural divide, to maximise economic opportunities in the areas that most need it, and to distribute fairly any impacts and benefits of future development.

297 representations to the Main Issues Report were received from a range of stakeholders and members of the public. These have been considered as evidence from the onset of the preparation of the Proposed Plan. As such, it is expected that any issues raised in them will have been given due consideration in the preparation of the Plan. Likewise, the comments that arose during the engagement sessions with Community Councils and Community Action Plan Groups have been taken into account as well. The second round of consultation after the Proposed Plan is published represents another opportunity for public and stakeholders to express their views on how the Council has addressed the issues raised.

The specialised advice sought from groups, officers and institutions with regard to sectoral issues has been taken into account in the writing of the policies and allocation of sites. The engagement with the Council's attendance to the Gypsy/Traveller Steering Group which has shaped the Plan's approach to development of Gypsy/Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites. Another noteworthy example is the engagement with the Council's Inclusive Design Advisor, who found the approach to inclusive design in the previous Local Development Plan to be lacking in detail and usefulness and was key to ensure that the Urban Design policies in the Proposed Plan are conducive to the creation of inclusive and safe urban environments.

Engagement with all Elected Members in the Members' Seminar helped raise a few site-specific issues, especially in terms of unforeseen effects of land allocations that have since been addressed.

Overall, because of the early engagement with a broad range of stakeholders and representatives, the Proposed Plan is not expected to have any detrimental impacts on equality groups, direct or indirect.

(c) No further information gaps have been identified. However, anyone may comment on any issues during the consultation period that opens for 8 weeks after publication. After this, all representations to the Proposed Plan will be taken into account before submission to the Scottish Ministers for examination. After the Plan is adopted by the Council, the process for the preparation of LDP3 commences with another iteration of the evidence-gathering stage, the Evidence Report, as defined in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. As such, Local Development Plans are under regular monitoring to ensure they stay up to date.

Is the policy intended to increase equality of opportunity by permitting positive action or action to redress disadvantage?

Yes. LDP2 would have impacts on all people of East Ayrshire, but specifically promotes built environments and creation of infrastructure that would redress various disadvantages that people with disabilities, reduced mobility, dementia, older people, children and young people, and women and girls, disproportionately suffer. LDP2 also seeks to ensure Gypsy/Traveller sites meet a good standard of accessibility, amenity and services.

Is this policy intended to reduce inequality of outcomes associated with the Fairer Scotland Duty?

LDP2 seeks to support economic activity, encourage resource efficient development, and promote access to employment and training opportunities, especially in rural areas, less accessible towns and villages, and deprived areas. This is expected to help reduce inequality of outcomes associated with the Fairer Scotland Duty.

Is the policy directly or indirectly discriminatory?

No direct or indirect discrimination of any equality group by the Local Development Plan 2 is intended or expected.

(d) If the policy is not directly or indirectly discriminatory, does it still have an adverse impact?

No adverse impacts on equality groups are expected.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES

Please detail below the following points

- How could you modify the policy, strategy or service review to eliminate discrimination, reduce inequalities of outcome or to reduce any identified negative impacts? If necessary, consider other ways in which you could you meet the aims and objectives.
- How could you modify the policy or function or service review to create or maximise the positive aspects of the proposals and to increase equality?

- Describe any modifications which you can make without further delay (for example, easy, few resource implications).
- If you propose to make any of the modifications shown above, describe any potential new negative impacts on other groups in society or on the ability to achieve the aims and how you will minimise these.
- Please describe the resource implications of any proposed modifications taking into account financial, people and property issues.
- How can you modify your policy to eliminate inequality
- How could you modify the policy, function, or review to maximise tackling inequality

The content of LDP2 has been prepared in such a manner that it is expected that any equality outcomes have been already maximised. As such, no changes are considered to further reduce inequalities or negative impacts or to maximise positive aspects. However, should any issues arise it may be possible to address these during the examination process.

INVOLVEMENT OF EQUALITY GROUPS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY

1) State which equality groups are involved in this process and describe their involvement.

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

3) Give details of any existing local or national evidence which has been used to inform the development of your policy.

1) All equality groups: Main Issues Report consultation, Equalities Forum.

Age: engagement with Inclusive Design Advisor

Disability: engagement with Inclusive Design Advisor

Race: Gypsy/Traveller Steering Group; Gypsy/Traveller Integration & Engagement Officer.

2) Proposed Plan Consultation in line with the 2022 development plan scheme approved by Cabinet: 8 weeks since the publication of the Proposed Plan. Person responsible for involvement process: Karen Purves.

3) National Planning Framework 4; Scottish Planning Policy; National Transport Strategy 2; Strategic Transport Project Review 2; Designing Streets Policy Statement; Creating Places Policy Statement; PAN (Planning Advice Note) 65; PAN 77; PAN 78; Planning Circular 1/2022: Local Place Plans; Ayrshire indicative Regional Spatial Strategy; Town Centre Health Checks; LDP2 Housing Technical Paper; LDP2 Monitoring Statement; consultation responses to MIR; internal data; among others.

(a) What methods of involvement were used? (These should take account of the attributes of the individuals or groups being consulted.)

Within other planned consultation	X
Disability	X
Surveys/Questionnaires	X
Individual interviews	
General information meetings	X
Existing representative groups	X
Separate meetings for interest/equality group	X
Focus Group	
Citizens' Panel	
Other – please give details	

(b) What methods were considered to ensure full information and participation? Please describe.

Within other planned consultation	X
Disability	X

Surveys/Questionnaires	x
Individual interviews	
General information meetings	x
Existing representative groups	x
Separate meetings for interest/equality group	x
Focus Group	
Citizens' Panel	
Other – please give details	

(f) Describe the results of the involvement and how you have taken these into account.

The Main Issues Report consultation included reception of written representations, questionnaires, and information meetings; comments from this stage formed the starting point for the preparation of the Plan policies. Early engagement with Inclusive Design Advisor, Gypsy/Traveller Integration & Engagement Officer, and representative and interest groups helped shape the policies at early stages in the preparation. Engagement with Corporate Officer for Equality and Diversity and special meeting of the Equalities Forum helped gather the views of other equality groups on an advanced draft of the Plan. Lessons were learned which will be implemented during the Proposed Plan consultation on how to reach some of these groups and how to maximise accessibility of these documents for groups such as deaf, blind or colour-blind people.

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED AFTER INVOLVEMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT. DECISION MAKING

(a) Following consultation, what is the RECOMMENDATION?

Reject the policy, function or service review.	
Introduce the policy, function or service review without amendment. Ensure you have explained any justification being offered for continuing with any identified adverse impacts.	
Amend the policy, function or service review. Ensure you have considered any new impacts and mitigated any new adverse impacts. Please describe what amendments are recommended and any impact.	
Other – please explain	

If you have identified the need for a particular type of impact assessment, for example, health or environmental please state this here.

Comments

(To be completed after consultation)

MONITORING AND REVIEW

1. How will the implementation and impact of the policy, function or service review be monitored, including implementation of any amendments?
2. For example, what type of monitoring will there be? How frequently?
3. What are the practical arrangements for monitoring? For example, who will put this in place? When will it start?
4. How will results of monitoring be used to develop future policies, functions or service reviews?
5. When is the policy or function due to be reviewed?
6. Who is responsible for ensuring this happens?

Please detail below

1. In line with the requirements under Section 21 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, the Council is to prepare an Action Programme for the Plan, publish it within three months of the adoption of the Plan, and keep it under review. The LDP2 Action Programme sets out how the Council proposes to implement the Plan, identifying

the actions to be undertaken to deliver its policies, site allocations and proposals. It contains the list of actions required, the name of the person or organisation who is to carry out each action, and the timescales for their conclusion. In preparing the Action Programme, the Council is to have regard to the views of the Key Agencies and the Scottish Ministers.

Additionally, soon after the publication of the Proposed Plan, preparation of the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) is likely to commence, in accord with the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (the 2019 Act) which supersedes the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006. It is envisaged that LDP3 will need to be in place within 5 years of the new legislation coming into force. In accordance with Section 16B of the 2019 Act, before preparing a Local Development Plan, a planning authority are to prepare an Evidence Report. The aim of this Evidence Report is to monitor the implementation and impact of the current Plan, seeking the views of key agencies, children and young people, and the public, in particular disabled persons, gypsies and travellers, and local communities.

2. The Action Programme is published within three months of the adoption of the Plan and is regularly reviewed to ensure it remains relevant, publishing an update at least every two years detailing the progress to date on each of the actions. On each update, the estimated timescales for delivery are reviewed, and progress is detailed together with a RAGB code to indicate whether an action is completed, on track, at risk or off track. It constitutes the main tool to monitor the performance and implementation of the Plan and is published in accordance with the provisions of the Development Plan Scheme.

The Evidence Report is to set out the Council's views on the matters referred to in subsection 15(5) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended), encompassing, among others, the principal physical, cultural, economic, social, historic, and environmental characteristics, uses, availability and desirability of land, composition and distribution of the population, housing needs, infrastructure capacity, etc. The Evidence Report must specifically analyse which actions have been taken to support the construction and adaptation of housing to meet the needs of older and disabled people, to meet the accommodation needs of gypsies and travellers, and to invite local communities to prepare Local Place Plans, and how effective these actions have been. The Scottish Ministers are to issue guidance about undertaking effective community engagement to this end.

3. The Action Programme will be reviewed by the Council's Development Planning and Regeneration service unit. The first iteration of the Action Programme will be published within three months of the adoption of the Plan; This is estimated to be in Q4 2023 as per the 2022 Development Plan Scheme. The LDP2 Action Programme will be updated periodically, in accordance with the timeframes set out within the latest Development Plan Scheme.

The preparation of the Evidence Report for LDP3 will be put in place by the Council's Development Planning and Regeneration service unit. It is expected that the process will start soon after the publication of the Proposed Plan; taking into account the uncertainty in respect of the content of the finalised regulations with regard to the preparation of Local Development Plans, the Council will set out a proposed timetable for LDP3 in the 2023 Development Plan Scheme. Thereafter, Local Development Plans will have a 10 year lifespan, therefore monitoring will take place at the start of each cycle at a minimum.

4. Having completed the Evidence Report, the Council is to submit it to the Scottish Ministers, who will appoint a person to assess whether the report contains sufficient information to enable the Council to prepare a new Local Development Plan. If so, the preparation of LDP3 may commence, having the same regard to the Evidence Report as was given to the Monitoring Statement in LDP2.

5. The timescales for the preparation and review of the Local Development Plans is set out in the Development Plan Scheme, which is prepared on an annual basis. The specific timeframes in which LDP2 and associated documents are to be prepared and reviewed is set out within the Development Plan Scheme; currently, the publication of the first LDP2 Action Programme is scheduled for Q4 2023. In addition to the periodic reviews of the LDP2 Action Programme, monitoring of the Plan's performance may statutorily be carried out at a minimum of once every Plan cycle. In this instance, the preparation of the Evidence Report is likely to commence soon after the publication of the Proposed Plan. Specific timescales for the start of the LDP3 preparation process will be set out in the 2023 Development Plan Scheme.

6. The Development Planning and Regeneration Manager / the Head of Economic Growth.

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS/RESULTS

1 Who is responsible for the Equality Impact Assessment report?

2 (Specify if different people are responsible for writing the report and publishing the report.)

3 What are the arrangements for publishing each of the following?

4 (Describe the method and formats to be used to ensure the information will reach the appropriate audience(s), including when the results are due to be published. The Publishing Summary form should be prepared for all full EIAs. Specify if a separate narrative or summary report is also being prepared.)

Please detail below

- 1.
- 2.
3. EIA will be published alongside the Proposed Plan and other supporting documentation for consultation. After this, a Publishing Summary will be made permanently available. No separate summary report is intended to be published.
4. The Plan and supporting documentation, including EIA, will be available to consult electronically on the Council's website and in print in East Ayrshire's libraries. Arrangements will be made to ensure that this information is accessible to audiences of all abilities.

Please detail below the following points

Results of the impact assessment.

Results of the consultation.

Results of monitoring (e.g. service users/non-users and stakeholder views)

(To be completed after consultation)