

Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Christmas Lights Future Funding

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability



Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	Christmas Lights Future Funding
Completion Date	24 July 2018
Completed by	Ricky Moffat
Lead officer	Ricky Moffat

Type of Initiative:

- Policy/Strategy
- Programme/Plan
- Project
- Service
- Function
- Other
- New or Proposed
- Changing/Updated
- Review or existing

1. Briefly describe the policy/proposal you are assessing.

Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the policy being developed or reviewed (e.g. objectives, aims) including the context within which it will operate.

To bring to Council's attention the results of the consultation with communities regarding the potential for the future funding and/or provision of Christmas Lights maintenance, erection and dismantling.

2. What will change as a result of this policy?

Due to the Council's financial position it is increasingly difficult for the Council to fully fund Christmas Lights. The purpose of the consultation was to ascertain if there was a different way in which this non statutory service could be funded or provided for.

3. Do I need to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment?

High Relevance	Yes/no
1. The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people	Yes
2. The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality	No
3. The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes	No
4. The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact	No
Low Relevance	
5. The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality	Yes
6. The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy	Yes
7. The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment	Yes
If you have identified low relevance please give a brief description of your reasoning here and send it to your Head of Service to record.	

If you have answered yes to 1, 2, or 3 above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.

If you have identified that your project will have a significant environmental impact (4), you will need to consider whether you need to complete a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

4. What information/data/ consultation have you used to inform the policy to date?

Evidence	Comments: what does the evidence tell you?
Data on populations in need	N/A
Data on service uptake/access	Christmas lights are erected in a range of small and large villages and towns across Midlothian.
Data on quality/outcomes	Comments from communities are consistent in that Christmas Lights are valued in that they engender community spirit and make their community areas attractive and inviting for residents and visitors alike.
Research/literature evidence	N/A
Service user experience information	As above.
Consultation and involvement findings	Consultation was carried out with all communities who currently have Christmas Light displays.
Good practice guidelines	N/A
Other (please specify)	N/A
Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	N/A

5. How does the policy meet the different needs of groups in the community?

	Issues identified and how the strategy addresses these
<p>Equality Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people, people in the middle years, • Young people and children • Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity) • Disabled people (includes physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, long-term medical conditions, mental health problems) • Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/Travellers, migrant workers, non-English speakers) • Refugees and asylum seekers • People with different religions or beliefs (includes people with no religion or belief) • Lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people • People who are unmarried, married or in a civil partnership. 	<p>The purpose of the consultation was to ascertain what level of support communities could offer to ensure that Christmas Lights would continue to be displayed.</p> <p>The options included funding to allow the Council to continue to provide either the existing or an amended service, and options for the communities to be involved.</p> <p>The majority of communities were of the view that they were unable to offer a commitment in terms of future funding or involvement.</p>
<p>Those vulnerable to falling into poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployed • People on benefits 	<p>This service, should it no longer be available will not have a financial impact on any of the protected groups.</p>

- Single Parents and vulnerable families
- Pensioners
- Looked after children
- Those leaving care settings (including children and young people and those with illness)
- Homeless people
- Carers (including young carers)
- Those involved in the community justice system
- Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas)
- People misusing services

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with low literacy/numeracy • Others e.g. veterans, students 	
<p>Geographical communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural/ semi rural communities • Urban Communities • Coastal communities 	<p>Minimal impact due to Christmas lights not currently provided in these areas.</p> <p>Christmas lights are generally provided in urban areas and there would be a reduction in the visual amenity during the Christmas period.</p> <p>N/A</p>

6. Are there any other factors which will affect the way this policy impacts on the community or staff groups?

The provision of Christmas Lights is not a statutory function.

7. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

No

If yes, how have you included equality and human rights considerations into the contract?

8. Have you considered how you will communicate information about this policy or policy change to those affected e.g. to those with hearing loss, speech impairment or English as a second language?

Once a decision is made by Council, information will be communicated to members of the public and to staff via the Councils Communications Team and the Management Team. This information will also be available in Braille, tape or large print if required.

9. Please consider how your policy will impact on each of the following?

Objectives	Comments
Equality and Human rights	
Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	If Christmas Lights are not provided this will impact in terms of the visual amenity for all groups.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and tackles harassment	Feedback from communities indicates that Christmas Lights contribute towards community togetherness and a feel of wellbeing across the communities.
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self control over decisions	N/A
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	As indicated the provision of Christmas Lights builds a communities togetherness.
Reduces crime and fear of crime	N/A
Promotes healthier lifestyles including	No identified negative or positive impact.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diet and nutrition, • sexual health, • substance misuse • Exercise and physical activity. • Lifeskills 	
<p>Environmental</p>	
<p>Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in East Lothian (including carbon management)</p>	<p>No identified negative or positive impact.</p>
<p>Plan for future climate change</p>	
<p>Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise</p>	
<p>Protect coastal and inland waters</p>	
<p>Enhance biodiversity</p>	
<p>Encourage resource efficiency (energy, water, materials and minerals)</p>	
<p>Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk</p>	
<p>Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms or transport</p>	
<p>Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space</p>	

Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	The provision of Christmas Lights may encourage people to visit town centres in particular and contribute towards the economic viability of the town.
Helps young people into positive destinations	
Supports local business	
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	
Improving literacy and numeracy	
Improves working conditions, including equal pay	
Improves local employment opportunities	N/A

10. Action Plan

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person
Financial.	Communities would have to contribute to or fully fund the provision of Christmas Lights.	Potential stepped reduction in funding..	2018 - 2020	Ricky Moffat

Staff	Christmas Lights are currently erected and dismantled outwith core times.	Staff would continue to carry out routine lighting repairs.	2018	Ricky Moffat
-------	---	---	------	---------------------

11. Sign off by Head of Service

Name

Date