

Appendix A

Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	Diversion of public paths at Mauricewood, Penicuik.
Completion Date	10/04/2018
Completed by	James Kinch
Lead officer	Ricky Moffat

Type of Initiative:

Policy/Strategy

Programme/Plan **x** New or Proposed **x**

Project Changing/Updated

Service Review or Existing

Function

Other Statement of Intent

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.

This document is a report to Midlothian Council Cabinet regarding a Diversion Order that will affect the route of two Rights of Way in the Mauricewood area of Penicuik

Service objectives: Council has a power to divert rights of way where it is considered reasonable to do so. In this instance there is a significant housing development which it is proposed will be built over the rights of way.

The proposed paths (will replace the existing rights of way) providing a path network that gives better access for all users and more accessible links to the wider path network.

What will change as a result of this policy?

The two existing rights of way will be closed and a temporary path constructed that gives a reasonable amount of access to the public around the development site. The temporary path will be an improved specification over the existing rights of way which are generally very muddy and are not maintained.

Once the housing development is complete there will be an improved network of paths and roadside footways - which includes the diverted routes. These paths will give much improved access compared to the current rights of way.

2. Do I need to undertake a Combined Impact Assessment?

High Relevance	Yes/no
The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people	Yes
The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality	No
The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes	No
The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact	No
Low Relevance	
The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality	

The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy	
The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment	
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 high relevance above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.

3. 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	No data on populations was used to inform the Diversion Order
Data on service uptake/access	No data on service uptake was used to inform the Diversion Order
Data on quality/outcomes	No information on quality/outcomes was used to inform the Diversion Order
Research/literature evidence	No research or literature was used to inform the Diversion Order
Service user experience information	No service user experience information was used to inform the Diversion Order
Consultation and involvement findings	<p>No consultation has taken place to date, however, as a requirement of the Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967 signs will be erected at the beginning and end of the route for a 28 period and the public can raise objections over these 28 days. A public notice will also be published in the Dalkeith Advertiser announcing the consultation period and the proposed Diversion.</p> <p>The Diversion Order is a legal process under Section 35 of the Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967).</p>
Good practice guidelines	
Other (please specify)	
Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	

4. How does the policy meet the different needs of and impact on groups in the community?

Equality Groups	Comments – positive/ negative impact
Older people, people in the middle years,	The diverted paths, once completed, will provide an improved system of paths for these groups due to the higher specification of surfacing. The specifications of the temporary path will also be higher than currently exists where the paths are very muddy.
Young people and children	There is however no information on who is using the paths currently and who will use the improved path in the future.
Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity)	
Disabled people (included physical disability; learning disability; sensory impairment; long term medical conditions; mental health problem)	It cannot be envisaged that there will be any adverse impacts on these groups and there will be improved access for people with mobility issues and wheelchair users since the muddy beaten earth paths will be replaced in the main with hard standing and/or roadside footways with drop kerbs.
Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/Travellers migrant workers non-English)	
Refugees and asylum seekers	
People with different religions or beliefs (included people with no religion or belief.	
Lesbian; gay bisexual and heterosexual people	
People who are unmarried; married or in a civil partnership	
Those vulnerable to falling into poverty	
Unemployed	
People on Benefits	
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 criminal justice system	
Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas)	
People misusing services	
People with low literacy/numeracy	
Others e.g. veterans, students	
Geographical Communities	
Rural/ semi rural Communities	
Urban Communities	
Costal Communities	

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

No

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

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

Yes. Contractors will be involved in carrying out the path works on behalf of the developer but not the council. Neither the developer nor the contractor are linked to the council.

7. 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?

Information published by Midlothian Council can be provided on request in many of the community languages and also in large print, Braille, audio tape or BSL. For more information please contact the Equality, Diversity & Human Rights Officer on 0131 271 3658 or equalities@midlothian.gov.uk.

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

Objectives Equality and Human Rights	Comments
Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	The new footpaths should promote and advance equality of opportunity as they should be accessible to more people.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and	The new paths should be usable by a much wider range of people.

tackles harassment	
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self- control over decisions	The new paths should be usable by a much wider range of people thereby promoting participation, inclusion, dignity and self-control over decisions.
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	No
Reduces crime and fear of crime	No
Promotes healthier lifestyles including Diet and nutrition Sexual Health Substance Misuse Exercise and physical activity Life Skills	Supports fitness and health through walking, cycling and horse riding.
Environmental	
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Midlothian (including carbon management)	No
Plan for future climate change	No
Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	No
Protect coastal and inland waters	No
Enhance biodiversity	There will be no detriment to biodiversity through the construction and use of the paths
Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	No
Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms of transport	No
Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	No
Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	No
Helps young people into positive destinations	No
Supports local business	No
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	No
Improving literacy and numeracy	No

Improves working conditions, including equal pay	No
Improves local employment opportunities	No

9. Is the policy a qualifying Policy, Programme or Strategy as defined by The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005?

No

10. Action Plan You can't finalise this section until you have gone over the IIA again

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person
None noted				

11. Sign off by Head of Service

Ricky Moffat, Head of Commercial Operations

Date

Name Ricky Moffat,

Head of Commercial

Operations Date