

## SHETLAND'S LOCAL PLACE PLANS

### Leaflet 19 - Using Statutory Impact Assessments to Test Your Ideas

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#### Why think about impact assessments?

In Scotland, public bodies must carry out statutory impact assessments when preparing plans and strategies. While Local Place Plans (LPPs) are not legally required to do this, using these assessments as a checklist helps communities ensure proposals are fair, inclusive, and sustainable.

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#### Statutory Impact Assessments

1. **Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)**
    - Does the proposal promote equality and avoid discrimination?
    - Consider age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.
  2. **Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment**
    - Will the proposal reduce socio-economic inequalities?
    - Think about affordability, access to services, and opportunities for disadvantaged groups.
  3. **Island Communities Impact Assessment (ICIA)**
    - Does the proposal take account of island-specific needs?
    - Consider transport, digital connectivity, cost of living, and resilience.
  4. **Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)**
    - Will the proposal support children's rights and wellbeing?
    - Think about play, safety, education, and family support.
  5. **Health Impact Assessment (HIA)**
    - Does the proposal improve physical and mental health?
    - Consider active travel, access to green space, and housing quality.
  6. **Environmental Assessment (SEA) - Covered in more detail in Leaflet 18**
    - Will the proposal protect biodiversity, reduce emissions, and respect landscape?
    - Use the 10 SEA topics as a checklist.
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#### How to apply these to your LPP

For each proposal:

- **Ask the key questions** from each assessment type
  - **Identify risks and opportunities** for equality, health, environment, and island needs
  - **Add mitigation measures** to reduce negative impacts
  - **Look for enhancements** that improve fairness, wellbeing, and sustainability
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#### Links to planning policy

- **Shetland LDP (2014)** and **NPF4** both embed equality, health, and environmental principles
  - Using these assessments helps align LPP proposals with statutory duties and national priorities
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## Links to Shetland Partnership Plan

Impact assessment thinking supports priorities:

- **Participation** – Inclusive decision-making
  - **People** – Better health and wellbeing outcomes
  - **Place** – Sustainable, attractive communities
  - **Money** – Fair access to opportunities and resources
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## For information and support:

- [National Planning Framework 4 - gov.scot](#)
- [What is a Development Plan? – Shetland Islands Council](#)
- [The Shetland Partnership Plan – Shetland Partnership](#)
- [Equality Impact Assessment \(EQIA\): Purpose and Principles](#)
- [Fairer Scotland Duty: guidance for public bodies - gov.scot](#)
- [Island communities impact assessments: guidance and toolkit - gov.scot](#)
- [Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment external guidance and templates - gov.scot](#)
- [Health Impact Assessment Support Unit - Health Impact Assessment \(HIA\) - Health strategy and outcomes - Resources and tools - Public Health Scotland](#)
- [Strategic Environmental Assessment \(SEA\) - Environmental assessment - gov.scot](#)