

Argyll and Bute Council: Equality and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment


Section 1: About the proposal

Title of Proposal
Reduction in staff for Amenity Services Enforcement

Intended outcome of proposal
A reduction in the number of Amenity Services Enforcement Officers from 9 to 4.

Description of proposal
Argyll & Bute Council have further funding reductions for the financial year 2019/2020, in delivering these financial savings it has been identified that the number of Amenity Services Enforcement Officers will be reduced from 9 to 4. This service carries out a number of statutory tasks, dog control, stray dogs, abandoned vehicles, LEAMS.

Business Outcome(s) / Corporate Outcome(s) to which the proposal contributes
BO115 We are efficient and cost effective

Lead officer details:	
Name of lead officer	Tom Murphy
Job title	Operations Manager
Department	D&I, Roads and Amenity
Appropriate officer details:	
Name of appropriate officer	Jim Smith
Job title	Head of Roads and Amenity Services
Department	D&I, Roads and Amenity
Sign off of EqSEIA	
Date of sign off	08/01/19

Who will deliver the proposal?
Tom Murphy, Operations Manager

Section 2: Evidence used in the course of carrying out EqSEIA

Consultation / engagement
Meetings have taken place with all the wardens.

Data

In addition to the statutory tasks, the warden service carries out enforcement of waste collections, commercial waste duty of care, pest control, litter enforcement and fly tipping. The service also has an education role, providing informative talks to schools and community groups, involving community groups in environmental clean-up partnerships.

Other information

The reduction in the Amenity Services Enforcement Officers will potentially see a drop in commercial waste income, but will also see less patrols which act as deterrents to dog fouling, littering, fly tipping etc.

As part of previous years savings, there is a requirement to increase income derived from commercial waste contracts. The success of this is dependent on available officer time, this function is currently carried out via the Environmental Wardens.

The reduction in this service will not be accepted well within many communities of Argyll & Bute.

Gaps in evidence

Section 3: Impact of proposal

Impact on service users:

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
Age		X		
Disability		X		
Ethnicity		X		
Gender		X		
Gender reassignment		X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		
Religion		X		
Sexual Orientation		X		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population		X		
Island populations		X		
Low income		X		
Low wealth		X		
Material deprivation		X		
Area deprivation		X		
Socio-economic background		X		
Communities of place?	X			
Communities of interest?	X			

Impact on service deliverers (including employees, volunteers etc):

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
Age		X		

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Disability		X		
Ethnicity		X		
Gender		X		
Gender reassignment		X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		
Religion		X		
Sexual Orientation		X		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population		X		
Island populations		X		
Low income		X		
Low wealth		X		
Material deprivation		X		
Area deprivation		X		
Socio-economic background		X		
Communities of place?		X		
Communities of interest?		X		

If any 'don't know's have been identified, at what point will impacts on these groups become identifiable?

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How has 'due regard' been given to any negative impacts that have been identified?

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Section 4: Interdependencies

Is this proposal likely to have any knock-on effects for any other activities carried out by or on behalf of the council?

Loss of income for pest control and commercial waste. Additional litter collections/removal of fly tipping, which is generally carried out by Grounds and Environment, the other service at threat of budget cuts.
Loss of resilience overall through reduced staffing levels.

Details of knock-on effects identified

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Section 5: Monitoring and review

How will you monitor and evaluate the equality impacts of your proposal?

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Through negative publicity, complaints, fly tipping, littering and the LEAMS performance.