

Record of Equality and Rights Impact Assessment

Part 1: Background and Information

(a) Background Details - Please list ERIA background details:

ERIA Title and Summary Description	The purpose of this report is to inform the Planning Committee on the potential financial impact of the proposed increase in planning fees and ratify the consultation response to be sent to the Scottish Government on raising planning fees.		
Service Area	Division	Head of Service	Service Area Reference No.
PLACE	Planning and Transport	David Leslie, Chief Planning Officer	2017P42

(b) What is being impact assessed? Describe the different policies or services (i.e. decisions, projects, programmes, policies, services, reviews, plans, functions or practices that relate to the Corporate ERIA Title):

Policies and Services	Date ERIA commenced
1. Planning fee revenue for the development management.	16/01/2017
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

(c) ERIA Team - Please list all ERIA Team Members:

Name	Organisation / Service Area
1. Declan Semple	Planning and Transport
2.	
3.	
4.	

Part 2: Evidence and Impact Assessment

(a) Evidence Base – Please record the evidence used to support the ERIA. Any identified evidence gaps can be recorded at part 3(i). Please allocate an abbreviation for each piece of evidence.

Evidence	Abbreviation
1. Officer knowledge	
2. Facts and figures	
3.	
4.	
5.	

(b) Rights Impact Assessment – Summary - Please describe all the identified enhancements and infringements of rights against the following ten areas of rights. Please also consider issues of poverty and health inequality within each area of rights:

Life	Health	Physical Security	Legal Security	Education and Learning	Standard of Living	Productive and Valued Activities	Individual, Family and Social Life	Identity, Expression and Respect	Participation, Influence and Voice
------	--------	-------------------	----------------	------------------------	--------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------

Please indicate alongside each identified enhancement or infringement the relevant policy or service (see Section 1b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2a).

Summary of Enhancements of Rights
The increased revenue of planning fees for major applications can facilitate improvements to the service provision of the planning service. The improved service can improve the delivery of housing through increased speed of processing applications and reduce issues of poverty and health inequality and potentially improve the standard of living.
Summary of Infringement of Rights. Can these infringements be justified? Are they proportional?
There are no infringements on rights under these proposals.

(c) Equality Impact Assessment – Summary - Please consider all the protected characteristics when answering questions 1, 2 and 3 below. Please also consider the issues of poverty and health inequality within each protected characteristic:

Age	Disability	Gender Identity	Marriage / Civil partnership	Pregnancy Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
-----	------------	-----------------	------------------------------	---------------------	------	------------------	-----	--------------------

1. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation. Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2a).

Positive Impacts
The increase in planning fees applies to all parties equally and has no identified positive impacts on the duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation
Negative Impacts
There are no identified negative impacts on the duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation

2. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity (i.e. by removing or minimising disadvantage, meeting the needs of particular groups that are different from the needs of others and encouraging participation in public life)? Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1 b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2 a).

Positive Impacts
Planning fees are part of the statutory planning system and has no positive impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity as it applies equally to all parties.
Negative Impacts
Planning fees are part of the statutory planning system and has no negative impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity as it applies equally to all parties

3. Please describe all the positive and negative impacts on the duty to foster good relations (i.e. by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding)? Please indicate alongside each identified impact the relevant policy or service (see Section 1 b) and relevant evidence (see Section 2 a).

Positive Impacts
Increased planning fees to facilitate an improved planning service can foster good relations as the additional resources can be used in promoting understanding of planning processes and the expected outcomes from them
Negative Impacts
There will be no negative impacts on the duty to foster good relations

Part 3: Evidence Gaps, Recommendations, Justifications and Sign Off

(i) Evidence Gaps - Please list all relevant evidence gaps and action to address identified gaps.

Evidence Gaps	Action to address gaps
1.None	None
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

(ii) Recommendations - Please record SMART recommendations to (i) eliminate unlawful practice or infringements of absolute rights, (ii) justify identified infringements of rights or (iii) mitigate identified negative equality impacts.

Recommendation	Responsibility of (name required)	Timescale
1.None		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

(iii) Sign Off - I, the undersigned, am content that: (i) the ERIA record represents a thorough and proportionate ERIA analysis based on a sound evidence base, (ii) the ERIA analysis gives no indication of unlawful practice or violation of absolute rights, (iii) the ERIA recommendations are proportionate and will be delivered, (iv) the results of the ERIA process have informed officer or member decision making, (v) that the record of ERIA has been published on the Council’s website / intranet or (vi) that the ERIA record has been reviewed and re-published.

Date	Sign Off (print name and position)	Reason for Sign Off (please indicate which reason/s from list (i) to (vi) above)
16/01/2017	Declan Semple (Assistant Planner)	(i, ii, iv)
29/3/17	Paul Lawrence, Exective Director of Place (gillian.johnston@edinburgh.gov.uk)	i-iii