

# Equality & Poverty Impact Assessment 00652 (Version 1)

## SECTION ONE: ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

<b>Service &amp; Division:</b>	Place Services Growth, Planning & Climate	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b>	Carol Whyte
		<b>Team:</b>	Sport & Leisure
		<b>Tel:</b>	07872828983
		<b>Email:</b>	carol.whyte@falkirk.gov.uk
<b>Proposal:</b>	SPR - Action Outdoors (December 2023 update)	<b>Reference No:</b>	

What is the Proposal?	Budget & Other Financial Decision	Policy (New or Change)	HR Policy & Practice	Change to Service Delivery / Service Design
	Yes	No	No	No

Who does the Proposal affect?	Service Users	Members of the Public	Employees	Job Applicants
	Yes	Yes	No	No

<b>Other, please specify:</b>	
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### Identify the main aims and projected outcome of this proposal (please add date of each update):

06/12/2023	Deliver budget savings on property costs as identified in the Strategic Property Review report March 2023.
16/01/2024	Venue closes 31/3/23. Action plan being implemented to relocate activities delivered from this venue to alternative venues.

**SECTION TWO: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

For budget changes ONLY please include information below:			Benchmark, e.g. Scottish Average
Current spend on this service (£'0000s)	Total:		
Reduction to this service budget (£'0000s)	Per Annum:	£14,690	Property savings identified in SPR report 2023
Increase to this service budget (£'000s)	Per Annum:		
If this is a change to a charge or concession please complete.	Current Annual Income Total:		
	Expected Annual Income Total:		
If this is a budget decision, when will the saving be achieved?	Start Date:	01/04/2024	
	End Date (if any):		

**SECTION THREE: EVIDENCE** Please include any evidence or relevant information that has influenced the decisions contained in this EPIA. (This could include demographic profiles; audits; research; health needs assessments; national guidance or legislative requirements and how this relates to the protected characteristic groups.)

**A - Quantitative Evidence** This is evidence which is numerical and should include the number people who use the service and the number of people from the protected characteristic groups who might be affected by changes to the service.

Protected characteristics -,age, disability,  
 2023/24 projected year end admissions = 500

**B - Qualitative Evidence** This is data which describes the effect or impact of a change on a group of people, e.g. some information provided as part of performance reporting.

**Social - case studies; personal / group feedback / other**

Council carried out a series of public consultation meetings and online surveys for communities to provide feedback on SPR proposal. Email correspondence was also accepted.

Activities delivered from Action Outdoors will be relocated to alternative venues.

Carrongrange High School offer water based activities for children with additional support needs, non-ambulant and wheelchair users. An average of 7 students attend per session.

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**Best Judgement:**

<b>Has best judgement been used in place of data/research/evidence?</b>	No
<b>Who provided the best judgement and what was this based on?</b>	
<b>What gaps in data / information were identified?</b>	
<b>Is further research necessary?</b>	No
<b>If NO, please state why.</b>	Activities will be delivered from alternative locations

**SECTION FOUR: ENGAGEMENT**

Engagement with individuals or organisations affected by the policy or proposal must take place

<b>Has the proposal / policy / project been subject to engagement or consultation with service users taking into account their protected characteristics and socio-economic status?</b>	Yes	
<b>If YES, please state who was engagement with.</b>	Service users and the local community had the opportunity to feedback in a series of council led public engagement meetings or completing an online survey. Emails were also accepted.	
<b>If NO engagement has been conducted, please state why.</b>		
<b>How was the engagement carried out?</b>	<b>What were the results from the engagement? Please list...</b>	
<b>Focus Group</b>	No	
<b>Survey</b>	No	
<b>Display / Exhibitions</b>	No	
<b>User Panels</b>	No	
<b>Public Event</b>	Yes	Council Officers carried out a series of public meetings across the council area enabling communities to feedback on the SPR proposals, including the closure of Action Outdoors Centre.
<b>Other: please specify</b>		
<b>Has the proposal / policy/ project been reviewed / changed as a result of the engagement?</b>	No	
<b>Have the results of the engagement been fed back to the consultees?</b>	Yes	
<b>Is further engagement recommended?</b>	No	

## SECTION FIVE: ASSESSING THE IMPACT

**Equality Protected Characteristics:** What will the impact of implementing this proposal be on people who share characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010 or are likely to be affected by the proposal / policy / project? This section allows you to consider other impacts, e.g. poverty, health inequalities, community justice, carers etc.

Protected Characteristic	Neutral Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Please provide evidence of the impact on this protected characteristic.
Age	✓			Venue predominantly used by young people. Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
Disability	✓			Carrongrange High School is the main user of this venue. Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
Sex	✓			Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
Ethnicity				
Religion / Belief / non-Belief				
Sexual Orientation				
Transgender				
Pregnancy / Maternity				
Marriage / Civil Partnership				
Poverty	✓			Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
Care Experienced	✓			Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
Other, health, community justice, carers etc.				
Risk (Identify other risks associated with this change)				

**Public Sector Equality Duty: Scottish Public Authorities must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance quality of opportunity and foster good relations. Scottish specific duties include:**

	<b>Evidence of Due Regard</b>
<b>Eliminate Unlawful Discrimination (harassment, victimisation and other prohibited conduct):</b>	
<b>Advance Equality of Opportunity:</b>	Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
<b>Foster Good Relations (promoting understanding and reducing prejudice):</b>	

**SECTION SIX: PARTNERS / OTHER STAKEHOLDERS**

<b>Which sectors are likely to have an interest in or be affected by the proposal / policy / project?</b>		<b>Describe the interest / affect.</b>
<b>Business</b>	No	
<b>Councils</b>	No	
<b>Education Sector</b>	Yes	Carrongrange High School is the main user of this venue. Activities will be delivered from alternative venues.
<b>Fire</b>	No	
<b>NHS</b>	No	
<b>Integration Joint Board</b>	No	
<b>Police</b>	No	
<b>Third Sector</b>	No	
<b>Other(s): please list and describe the nature of the relationship / impact.</b>		

## SECTION SEVEN: ACTION PLANNING

**Mitigating Actions:** If you have identified impacts on protected characteristic groups in Section 5 please summarise these in the table below detailing the actions you are taking to mitigate or support this impact. If you are not taking any action to support or mitigate the impact you should complete the No Mitigating Actions section below instead.

Identified Impact	To Who	Action(s)	Lead Officer	Evaluation and Review Date	Strategic Reference to Corporate Plan / Service Plan / Quality Outcomes
Age	Young People	Mitigate against closure relocating activities to alternative venues.	Gary Smith		Council Plan  Supporting stronger & healthier communities.
Disability	Young People	Mitigate against closure relocating activities to alternative venues	Gary Smith		Council Plan  Supporting stronger & healthier communities.
Sex	Young People	Mitigate against closure relocating activities to alternative venues	Gary Smith		Council Plan  Supporting stronger & healthier communities.
Poverty	Young People	Mitigate against closure relocating activities to alternative venues	Gary Smith		Council Plan  Supporting stronger & healthier communities.
Care experienced	Young People	Mitigate against closure relocating activities to alternative venues	Gary Smith		Council Plan  Supporting stronger & healthier communities.

### No Mitigating Actions

Please explain why you do not need to take any action to mitigate or support the impact of your proposals.

<b>Are actions being reported to Members?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes when and how ?</b>	Council Meeting 31st January 2024 SPR update to elected members.

**SECTION EIGHT: ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

Only one of following statements best matches your assessment of this proposal / policy / project. Please select one and provide your reasons.

No major change required	No	
The proposal has to be adjusted to reduce impact on protected characteristic groups	No	
Continue with the proposal but it is not possible to remove all the risk to protected characteristic groups	Yes	Deliver budgeted savings on property costs as identified in SPR report. Activities will be delivered from alternative venues to mitigate against closure.
Stop the proposal as it is potentially in breach of equality legislation	No	

**SECTION NINE: LEAD OFFICER SIGN OFF**

Lead Officer:

Signature:	<i>Carol Whyte</i>	Date:	16/01/2024
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**SECTION TEN: EPIA TASK GROUP ONLY**

<b>OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF EPIA:</b>	<b>Has the EPIA demonstrated the use of data, appropriate engagement, identified mitigating actions as well as ownership and appropriate review of actions to confidently demonstrate compliance with the general and public sector equality duties?</b>	Yes / No
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<b>ASSESSMENT FINDINGS</b>	Activities will be delivered from alternative venues to mitigate against closure.	
<b>If YES, use this box to highlight evidence in support of the assessment of the EPIA</b>		
<b>If NO, use this box to highlight actions needed to improve the EPIA</b>		

<b>Where adverse impact on diverse communities has been identified and it is intended to continue with the proposal / policy / project, has justification for continuing <u>without making changes been made</u>?</b>	Yes / No	If YES, please describe: N/A
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**LEVEL OF IMPACT: The EPIA Task Group has agreed the following level of impact on the protected characteristic groups highlighted within the EPIA**

LEVEL		COMMENTS
HIGH	Yes / No	
MEDIUM	Yes / No	
LOW	Yes	Action plan being implemented to relocate activities delivered from this venue to alternative venues.

**SECTION ELEVEN: CHIEF OFFICER SIGN OFF**

<b>Director / Head of Service:</b>		
<b>Signature:</b>	<i>Michael McGuinness</i>	<b>Date:</b> 22/01/2024