

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT- RESULTS

Title of Policy	Amendments to the GPDO to provisions relating to agricultural and forestry private ways.
Summary of aims and desired outcomes of Policy	The proposal amends the Town and Country (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992 to make provision in Classes 18 and 22 that Permitted Development Rights for the formation or alteration of private ways are conditional on obtaining prior approval or written confirmation that it is not required.
Directorate: Division: team	Directorate for Local Government and Communities Planning and Architecture Division

Executive summary

The Town and Country (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992 provides certain developments with permitted development rights (PDRs). The amendments to the legislation amend provision for PDRs for the formation or alteration of private ways.

Background

These changes will support a number of National Outcomes including:

- We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
- We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.

The Scope of the EQIA

The Government's Equality Evidence Finder was accessed to collect information alongside evidence from two public consultations, one in 2011 and a subsequent more detailed proposal in 2012. This consultation paper contained a question linked to equalities matters plus it was accompanied by a partial EQIA.

Key Findings

The Government's Equality Evidence Finder did not provide any relevant information. In response to the consultation question from 2012, most business respondents who suggested additions to the EQIA were of the view that the proposals would impose, “disproportionate burdens on land managers, timber growers and the domestic wood processing industry”. This bears little relevance to issues pertaining to the protected characteristics.

Recommendations and Conclusion

The impact assessment found no evidence that the proposals would provide positive or negative impacts upon the protected characteristics. While we have no plans to monitor this policy specifically in relation to equality matters, there will be a general monitoring and review process over the 12 month period following the introduction of the legislation.