

## Annex G: Fairer Scotland Duty

### Assessment not required declaration

Title of Policy, Strategy, Programme etc	Mandatory Training on Planning for Elected Members
Summary of aims and expected outcomes of strategy, proposal, programme or policy	<p>The aim is to implement the provisions in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requiring the mandatory training for elected members before they can undertake planning functions on behalf of the local authority.</p> <p>The intention is to provide elected members who are involved in decision-making on planning applications a minimum level of understanding of the planning system and their role within that in order to help participate in the decision-making process in a fair and just manner.</p>
Summary of evidence	<p>There is clear evidence of socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome being linked to where people live and work. Many of these issues are complex and there are more targeted policy areas that will tackle them specifically. However, it is reasonable to assume that the planning system has a role in the way these inequalities impact on communities.</p> <p>Although mandatory training for elected members will not focus specifically on socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities, the implementation of mandatory training will ensure elected members across all local authorities will be provided the same minimum level of training and therefore will be able to make informed, robust planning decisions which will support the places where people live and work.</p>
Summary of assessment findings	<p>The planning system should support decisions that improve equality and help to eliminate discrimination, with a fairer, more inclusive and equalities based approach to planning in the future. Mandatory training will not hinder that approach and will help provide a minimum level of training to elected members so they can participate in the decision-making process in a fair and just manner.</p>
Sign off	<p><b>Name: Fiona Simpson</b></p> <p><b>Job title: Chief Planner</b></p> <p><b>Date: 22 June 2023</b></p>