**Integrated Equality Impact Assessment (IEIA)**

**Equality Impact Assessment, Island Community Impact Assessment and Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment**

**Prior to starting the Integrated Equality Impact Assessment (IEIA) we highly recommend that you complete (or review) the Integrated Equality Impact Assessment learning on the Academy. This provides a general overview of the IEIA process, as well as important information regarding our responsibilities regarding the completion and publication of IEIAs.**

**Other sources of guidance, general evidence, support and learning are available on the** [**Equality Evidence Hub**](https://connect.sds.co.uk/Interact/Pages/Section/Default.aspx?Section=6634) **on Connect, which includes the Equality Evidence Review created by Evaluation and Research. This also includes a Frequently Asked Questions, which addresses initial questions about the IEIA. If something is underlined, but not a link, you can hover over the wording for a definition or additional information.**

**Please note, that while the IEIA form is long, it does include three previously separate impact assessments and significantly more guidance. You may not need to complete every impact assessment within the IEIA. If you have any questions, please email** **ieia@sds.co.uk****.**

More detailed external guidance for each of the individual impact assessments can be found below:

[Equality and Human Rights Commission Guidance for Equality Impact Assessments in Scotland](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assessing-impact-public-sectory-equality-duty-scotland.pdf)

[Scottish Government Guidance for Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessments](https://www.gov.scot/publications/childrens-rights-wellbeing-impact-assessment-guidance/)

[Scottish Government Guidance for Island Community Impact Assessments](https://www.gov.scot/publications/island-communities-impact-assessments-guidance-toolkit-2/)

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| **1.0 Project Overview** |

**This document uses the term ‘project’ to describe the full range of our policies, provisions, projects, functions, practices and activities including the delivery of services – essentially everything we do that affects people.**

**Title of Impact Assessment (this is generally the name of the project or policy.)**

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| Results Helpline |

**Name of Senior Responsible Officer (this is the person with final responsibility for a project- such as Director or Head of Service)**

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| Dave McCallum |

**Does this project relate to any other published EQIAs** (Equality Impact Assessment**) or ICIAs**(Island Community Impact Assessments)**?**

# Additional guidance

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| You should list any published EQIAs, ICIAs or IEIAs that relate to the project. They may partially overlap or the new IEIA may supplement an existing overarching EQIA, ICIA or IEIA or the new IEIA may incorporate existing EQIAs, ICIAs or IEIAs. |

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| My World of Work |

**Please provide an overview of your project including the names of any external partners and whether it is a new project. Consider the key objectives of the project**.

# Additional guidance

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| Prompts:* What are the objectives of the project? (Consider explicit and implicit aims)
* Who does the project affect/benefit?
* What results/outcomes are intended?
* Is the project new?
* Does it involve external partners- if so, who?
* Any other additional relevant information?
* Ensure you consider this overview from the perspective of Equality, Island Communities and Children’s Rights. Are there specific points from these various groups that need to be highlighted within your overview?

*For Island Communities identify if there are explicit island needs or any potential direct or indirect impacts for island communities. Remember to think about each island individually because what might not have any impact on one, may impact adversely on another.* |

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| The Results Helpline has existed as an offer for over 30 years and involves working collaboratively across SDS, as well as with external partners (including but not limited to SQA, UCAS, DYW, SAAS, Scottish Government, and Young Scot). The objectives of the project are to staff, train, market, and deliver a demand-led, mainly telephony-based service to individuals in Scotland receiving their SQA results on 6 August, as well as their parents and carers.**Campaign objectives:** * Raise awareness and drive calls from young people and their parents and carers to the SDS Results Helpline
* Build awareness of wider CIAG service offers: SDS centres and community delivery venues, school advisers, and My World of Work
* Leverage Ministerial and wider SG engagement with SDS CIAG services
* Support FA place take up for school year 2024 to 25 (FA summer push TBC).
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| **2.0 Gathering Evidence and Assessing Impact** |

**It is important to remember our responsibilities regarding the Public Sector Equality Duty when completing this section. The starting point for assessing impact is the three needs of the Public Sector Equality Duty: ensuring that the project does not discriminate unlawfully; considering how the project might better advance equality of opportunity; and considering whether the project will affect good relations between different groups.**

# Guidance for 2.0

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| The public sector equality duty is a duty on public authorities to consider or think about how their policies or decisions affect people who are protected equality characteristics under the Equality Act. If a public authority hasn't properly considered its public sector equality duty, it can be challenged in courts.Tip- whilst going through each characteristic ensure you take some time to ask yourself the following questions:1. Does this project eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010? If not, what can I change to ensure that it does eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation?
2. Does this project advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not? If it does you need to highlight this as a positive impact within your impact assessment.
3. Finally, does this project foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not? Again, this should be highlighted as a positive impact.

The purpose of the IEIA is to allow you the space to identify areas for improvement; it is completely acceptable and appropriate to identify areas for improvement or places where there is unintentional discrimination. The important thing is that actions are identified and taken to mitigate. There are multiple ways to approach this section. One is to consider how each group would be impacted at different stages of the project.* + What issues might this group face in finding out about this project/opportunity?
	+ What issues might this group face in accessing the project?
	+ What other barriers might this group face throughout the delivery of the project?
	+ How will you evaluate if this group has successfully been able to access the project?
	+ Consider intersectionality within this too. For example, does a gay Muslim woman face additional barriers at each stage? Any mix of characteristics is appropriate to consider

Other prompts could include:* What equality information have you accessed regarding:
	+ Different needs?
	+ Different experiences?
	+ Different access to services, information or opportunities?
	+ Different impacts/different outcomes? (for example, through project monitoring or data from similar projects, through internal/external research, statistics on local population)
* Are there any gaps in equality information that you will need to fill now/later?
* Are there any experts or people affected by the project you should consult now? (Include details of findings from consultation if this has already taken place)
* Who do you need to get views from, internally and externally? How will you ensure you include ‘harder to reach’ groups?

All these prompts can support all the questions within this section, but particularly Impact and Action. You do not need to use all the prompts; we have provided a range so that you can find the ones that suit your project best. |

**In Gathering Evidence and Assessing Impact you need to go through each of the characteristics in turn and address the following points.**

* **Provide Context – outlining how your project relates to this protected characteristic, such as population statistics. The** [**Equality Evidence Hub**](https://connect.sds.co.uk/Interact/Pages/Section/Default.aspx?Section=6634) **is a good place to start looking for relevant evidence. The Equality Evidence Hub is a space on Connect to access relevant guidance for the IEIA and a range of equality evidence, both internal and external.**
* **Additional Questions- Some sections have additional questions, please ensure that you answer these appropriately. They are in reference to our reporting responsibilities for Children’s Rights and Wellbeing and Island Communities.**
* **Impact– Outline the potential disadvantage or barriers, as well as positive impacts, faced by this equality group in relation to this project. Cite evidence sources used, including consultation. Where a gap in evidence is observed, please note within this section.**
* **Action– Outline what we have already done to address disadvantage or promote equality, as well as what we’ll do to proactively promote equality and address any potential barriers raised in Evidence, including evidence gaps.**

**Please note that consultation is a requirement of Island Communities Impact Assessment and considered good practice in relation to Equality and Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessments.**

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| **2.1 Age**  |

# Guidance for 2.1

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| Age can be considered within groups of ages, defined in a way that suits your project. Those at the younger and older ends of the labour market tend to face the most labour market disadvantages.  |

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| **Context:**Although in theory anyone of any age can receive SQA results the vast majority of recipients will be in the senior phase of school. Customers most likely to use the service are those who intend to move on to further or higher education and have not received the results they need to do so, as well as their parents and carers |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact - anyone receiving SQA results will also receive information about the support available to them, and this support is not differentiated by age | N/A |

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| **2.2 Children's Rights and Wellbeing** |

# See guidance for 2.2

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| This only applies to projects impacting young people up to the age of 18. If the project could impact on young people up the age of 18, you need to complete this section. There may be overlapping evidence, impact and action between Age and Children’s Rights. You can repeat or cite that it is present in Age and pertinent to Children’s Rights as well.Please see the [SDS UNCRC Report 2017-2022SDS UNCRC Report 2017-2022](https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/49064/uncrc-report.pdf) for more information about how SDS is upholding the articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. |

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| **Context:**The majority of individuals receiving results are under 18 – Age section detail see above. This would fall in line with SDS’s policies. |

**Additional Questions**:

**Does this project impact on children and young people up to the age of 18?**

[x]  **Yes** [ ]  **No ☐ Don’t Know**

**If you have answered no to the question above, you do not need to complete the Children’s Rights and Wellbeing section of this form but please provide some justification for your decision below.**

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| Majority of those receiving SQA results on 6 August will be in the senior phase of high school |

**Which articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (an international human rights treaty that grants all children and young people (aged 17 and under) a comprehensive set of rightsdoes this project impact on? See** [**further guidance**](https://skillsdevelopmentscotland.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/IShare/Connectcontent/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B173332DE-79D0-45C0-BDE7-29A9622F1787%7D&file=UNCRC%20guidance%20FINAL.docx&wdOrigin=TEAMS-ELECTRON.p2p.bim&action=default&mobileredirect=true&cid=57127dcb-c2e3-41fc-9e83-901d72aea588) **for this question**

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| Articles 3, 5, 12, 16, 17, and 29 |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact- there is no restriction on a young person accessing our services  |  N/A |

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| **2.3 Care Experience** |

# See guidance for 2.3

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| Within SDS, we choose to use the term ‘care experienced’, by which we mean anyone who currently meets, or has ever previously met, the criteria for ‘looked after’. This includes those looked after at home, or away from home in kinship, residential, foster, or secure care. SDS is a Corporate Parent and we have public commitments within the [SDS Corporate Parenting Plan](https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/48699/corporate-parenting-report-2021-24.pdf) - please ensure you are familiar with these commitments and ensure your project aligns as best as possible. |

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| **Context:**Care experienced children have poorer outcomes in comparison to other young people. Looked after children’s outcomes have improved over the last five years; however there is still a significant gap compared to all pupils (Scottish Government 2020b). * Care experienced school leavers are less likely to go into positive destinations than school leavers in general – 71% compared with 93% of all pupils.
* Care experienced children obtain lower qualification levels on average than all school leavers, which is partly explained by the lower school leaving age.
* Educational attainment varies across the types of accommodation in which care experienced children are living. School leavers in foster care provided and purchased by the local authority perform better than those in other care settings. School leavers looked after at home with parents have the lowest overall levels of attainment.
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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No direct impact - the delivery of the helpline does not directly impact this group, but advisers should be cognisant of factors that can impact attainment | RH23 case study exists referencing RHLinks to toolkit sent to all equality partnersCreation of video for RH23 conveying supporting messaging to care experienced young people and their carersCare experienced young people in school are included in our targeted cohort – meaning they get increased service offerings and interventions than those young people without care experience. We also offer our post-school service offer to them up to the age of 25-years-old to reflect the often more intense support they may require from us.SDS Equality evidence review 2022SDS Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-24 |

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| **2.4 Disability**  |

# See guidance for 2.4

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| Disability covers a wide range of conditions and impairments that impact people in a range of ways. You need to consider disability broadly and, in some circumstances, specific conditions/impairments. Within SDS we follow the Social Model of Disability, which says that people are disabled by barriers in society, not by their impairment or difference. The IEIA can support you to identify places where barriers still exist within your project and help to mitigate them.Accessibility is a key point to reflect on regarding this characteristic. Here are some types of accessibility you may want to consider in your IEIA.* **Physical -** is the physical space in use accessible to a range of people?
* **Communication** - Is the method of communication accessible? Have you considered British Sign Language and/or Easy Read (a specialist format that combines images with clear text. It is designed to help organisations communicate with people with a learning disability**)**?
* **Time -** Have you considered breaks and other considerations within an event to ensure autistic people have some time and space to decompress between presentations?
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| **Context:**Disability will impact our users in various ways. The nature of the core service being a telephony service will mean some users will be unable to access it, and similarly our web service will be unsuitable for other individuals with certain disabilities. |

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| Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources) | Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?) |
| Users with hearing impairments may have issues using the core helpline service. | SQA creating digital version of results help bookletScope out possibility to introduce a webchat function.Share BSL video widely and with support partnersin-person support is available via SDS Centres |
| Information specifically for disabled young people and disabled parents and carers should be made available – if they are not this could significantly affect their future pathways. | Links to toolkit to be sent to all equality partners. Targeted social posts to parents and carers will be scheduled as part of overall social strategy. In addition to sharing with various equality organisations, the toolkit is also shared with numerous parent and carer organisations.Review of content to ensure covering all equality groups where appropriate.My World of Work has an results section for parents/carers |
| Users with visual impairments may be unable to engage with social media promoting the helpline service which would impact on their abilities to make informed decisions. | Review multi-channel contact and marketing offer- radio will be used as part of this In-person support is available via SDS Centres |
| Users with anxieties etc may be reluctant to engage through a telephony service and would lose out on important information around courses | Review digital online contact offer - conversations indicate that it is not technically possible to apply Results-specific webchat channel to the site- potential for training to be offered to BAU advisers to support via BAU webchat offer |

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| **2.5 Gender Reassignment**  |

# See guidance for 2.5

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| Gender Reassignment is sometimes more commonly referred to as transgender. For more information about the characteristic of Sex, please see guidance in that section.Please note that data around gender reassignment/transgender frequently includes information around sexual orientation as well. You may have data that cuts across Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment. However, they are distinct characteristics. Please note that data may be limited for this characteristic due to small sample sizes. |

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| **Context:**It may be that young people experience bullying or other barriers as a result of gender reassignment. In the worst cases this may cause them to disengage at school and as a consequence, their results could suffer. The helpline is open to everyone regardless of gender reassignment status but there may need to be steps taken to ensure this audience is aware of the support |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| Users impacted if they receive certificates, etc in a name they no longer use. Over 16-year-olds can request their names and gender are changed on our systems (inc. CSS and FIPS) so they are referred to in their preferred way. This may be a problem if this arrangement is not also discussed/agreed with SQA and incorrect details are on their results certificate | Ensure SDS advisers are aware of the ‘Supporting Transgender and Non-binary Customers’ Standard Operating Procedure as well as SQA resource in case it is required.SDS paper: ‘Guidance on updating name and gender: trans customers over 16’s only’. |

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| **2.6 Marriage/Civil Partnership** |

# See guidance for 2.6

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| This characteristic should only be considered in reference to SDS as an employer. Most IEIAs will not need to cover this characteristic. |

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| **Context:**After consideration, it has been determined that this is not a factor that would affect an individual’s experience of the Results Helpline |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
|  No impact |  N/A  |

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| **2.7 Pregnancy and Maternity** |

# See guidance for 2.7

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| The Equality Act protects individuals from discrimination when they are pregnant until their right to maternity leave ends and they return to work or if they do not have the right to maternity, two weeks after the child is born. |

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| **Context:**After consideration, it has been determined that this is not a factor that would affect an individual’s experience of the Results Helpline |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact | N/A |

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| **2.8 Race** |

# Guidance for 2.8

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| In the Equality Act, race can mean your colour, your nationality (including your citizenship or your ethnic/national origins, which may not be the same as your current nationality.) **(**[**https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/race-discrimination**](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/race-discrimination)**)** |

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| **Context:**Ethnic minority groups tend to perform well in the education system, but their labour market outcomes are far poorer in comparison to the wider population. Significant variations exist across and within ethnic groups. |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| Language barriers may exist.Customers whose first language is not English can attend one of our centres and request for interpretation services personnel be present (via telephone) during their discussions with an SDS adviser. | SDS CIAG Standard Operating Procedure applies - advisers are equipped with knowledge of how to handover to local centres for customer support with translation services |
| Ethnic minority groups tend to perform well in the education system, but their labour market outcomes are far poorer in comparison to the wider population. Significant variations exist across and within ethnic groups. (SDS mainstreaming report). | Engagement with equality organisations and build on strengthening these relationships to ensure they engage with these audiences through their trusted channels. |

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| **2.9 Religion or Belief** |

# See guidance for 2.9

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| Religion or belief refers to both religious and some non-religious beliefs, as well as the lack of belief. Another important consideration in this characteristic is Islamophobia, which “is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness” (definition from All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims paper entitled [Islamophobia Defined](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/599c3d2febbd1a90cffdd8a9/t/5bfd1ea3352f531a6170ceee/1543315109493/Islamophobia%2BDefined.pdf)) |

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| **Context:**After consideration, it has been determined that this is not a factor that would affect an individual’s experience of the Results Helpline |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact |  N/A  |

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| **2.10 Sex**  |

# See guidance for 2.10

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| The Equality and Human Rights Commission provided the following guidance regarding the characteristic of sex.“Under the Equality Act 2010, ‘sex’ is understood as binary, being a man or a woman. For the purposes of the Act, a person’s legal sex is their biological sex as recorded on their birth certificate. A trans person can change their legal sex by obtaining a Gender Recognition Certificate. A trans person who does not have a Gender Recognition Certificate retains the sex recorded on their birth certificate for the purposes of the Act.”<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/what-equality-act-says-about-protected-characteristics-sex-and-gender> |

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| **Context:**There is long standing evidence that females tend to receive better SQA results than males. In the context of this project that may mean that we are more likely to need to support males who have not received the results they need, but in reality most calls (c57% in 2022) come from females. Anecdotally, more parents and carers phone the Results Helpline on behalf of their male children and young people. |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| We are more likely to need to support males who have not received the results they need but in reality most calls (c57% in 2022) come from females. | Review how gender is captured for next year and amend if required.- specifically consider capturing information on gender of young people that are being assisted by adults to see how significant gender is in this. |

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| **2.11 Sexual Orientation** |

# See guidance for section 2.11

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| Please note that data around sexual orientation frequently includes information around trans individuals as well. You may have data that cuts across Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment. However, they are distinct characteristics.  |

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| **Context:**After consideration, it has been determined that this is not a factor that would affect an individual’s experience of the Results Helpline |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact | N/A |

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| **2.12 Poverty** |

# See guidance for 2.12

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| Poverty can be defined in several ways: • **Geography based** – Poverty can be measured by geography. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) ranks Scottish postcodes between 1-10 to indicate how deprived the area is. This ranking is based on a range of factors, including average education levels of residents, crime levels, and housing quality (see [SIMD, 2020](https://www.gov.scot/collections/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2020/)). In this document SIMD 1 = most deprived and SIMD 5 = least deprived. • **Income** – Income is widely used as an indicator for individual or household poverty. Households in the UK are classed as living in poverty if they are 60% below the median household income ([Scot Gov, 2017](https://www.gov.scot/publications/poverty-income-inequality-scotland-2015-16/pages/3/)). • **Occupation** – The job that an individual has can be categorised hierarchically. The ‘NS-SEC’ measurement fits occupations into a scale of occupational prestige, which also broadly captures levels of pay too. |

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| **Context:**If young people and their parents and carers are living in poverty, they may not have access to online services and subsequently may not have the same opportunities to access support as others not living in poverty. |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| Limited access to social media or online support | The Results Helpline (and core SDS Helpline) phone number is freephone and detail is included in the marketing literature which will be included in all candidates’ SQA results envelopes.Centre offer is open to anyone, with most sites offering drop-in services.SDS school advisers can also support in person or on the phone those receiving their results, as well as their parents and carers. |

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| **2.13 Island Communities**  |

# See guidance for section 2.13

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| The Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 was passed by the Scottish Parliament in 2018 and is only one of a handful of place-based pieces of legislation to focus specifically on islands in the world.The measures it contains, like the Island Communities Impact Assessment, are designed to meaningfully improve outcomes for island communities. The provisions in Sections 7 to 14 of the Act came into force on 23 December 2020. For more in depth guidance from Scottish Government, please follow this link (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/island-communities-impact-assessments-guidance-toolkit-2/>) The Additional Questions below cover steps 1-5 of the ICIA. The questions under Full Island Community Impact Assessment cover steps 6, with step 7 covered later in the IEIA form.In December 2019, Scottish Ministers published the first-ever National Islands Plan, which was created with the input of many islanders and those with a strong interest in Scotland's islands. The Plan sets out thirteen Strategic Objectives which will also be critical over the next five years to improving the quality of life for island communities. When you are developing your project, it is important that you consider the [National Islands Plan](https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-plan-scotlands-islands/#:~:text=The%20National%20Islands%20Plan%20provides%20a%20framework%20for,replaces%20the%20proposed%20plan%20published%20in%20October%202019). |

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| **Context:**By the very nature of being a helpline, island communities have equity of opportunity in terms of accessing support. Our volunteer cohort includes individuals from all over Scotland, sharing support and best practice. |

**Additional Questions:**

**Does this project include, deliver or impact on Island Communities (**a community which consists of two or more individuals, all of whom permanently inhabit an island and is based on common interest, identity or geography)**?**

[x]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**

**Is this a project, which is likely to have an impact an island community which is significantly different from its effect on other communities (including other island communities) in the area?**

[ ]  **Yes** [x]  **No** [ ]  **Don’t know**

**If you have answered no to the two questions above, you do not need to complete any further questions in the Island Communities section of this form but please provide some justification for your decision below.**

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| As per the context, the virtual delivery of the Results Helpline opens up equity of access to individuals from rural communities in a way that face-to-face delivery often cannot. The helpline offer is national and is staffed by advisers from all areas of Scotland. LMI is available to all advisers to support the delivery of the service. |

**What island community concerns are you already aware of?**

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| N/A |

**Does the existing data for Island Communities differ between** [**islands**](https://connect.sds.co.uk/Interact/Pages/Content/Document.aspx?id=8895&utm_source=interact&utm_medium=side_menu_category)**?**

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| N/A |

**Are there any existing design features or mitigations in place? If yes, please describe**

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| N/A |

**If you are consulting, is your consultation robust, meaningful, and demonstrating that SDS has regard for island communities when carrying out its functions?**

# Guidance

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| Remember to consider whether it is appropriate to conduct consultation in Gaelic as well as English. You can email islands@sds.co.uk for advice regarding consultations in Gaelic. |

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| N/A |

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| --- | --- |
| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
|   Positive impact- helpline is accessible to individuals regardless of geographical location | **Ensure advisers are aware of availability of LMI**  |

**Please complete the following questions after the impact assessment above.**

**Does the evidence show any different circumstances, expectations, needs, experiences, or outcomes (such as levels of satisfaction or participation)?**

[ ]  **Yes** [x]  **No**

**Are these different effects likely?**

[ ]  **Yes** [x]  **No**

**Are these effects significantly different?**

[ ]  **Yes** [x]  **No**

**Could the effect amount to disadvantage for an island community compared to the mainland or between other groups?**

[ ]  **Yes** [x]  **No**

**If the answer is no to all of the above, please provide justification for not completing the full ICIA below.**

A: The delivery of the helpline does not have any geographical determining factors or restrictions

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| **Full Island Community Impact Assessment** |

**Assess the extent to which you consider that the project can be developed or delivered in such a manner as to improve or mitigate any resulting outcomes for island communities.**

**Consider alternative delivery mechanisms and whether further consultation is required.**

|  |
| --- |
| N/A |

**Describe how these delivery mechanisms will improve/mitigate outcomes for island communities?**

|  |
| --- |
| N/A |

**Identify resources required to improve/mitigate outcomes for island communities.**

|  |
| --- |
| N/A |

**Should delivery mechanisms/mitigations vary in different communities?**

|  |
| --- |
| N/A |

**Do you need to consult with island communities in respect of mechanisms or mitigations?**

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| --- |
| N/A |

**Have island circumstances been factored into the evaluation process?**

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| --- |
| N/A |

**Have any island-specific indicators/targets been identified that require monitoring?**

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| --- |
| N/A |

**How will outcomes be measured on the islands?**

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| --- |
| N/A |

**How has the project affected island communities?**

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| --- |
| N/A |

**How will lessons learned in this ICIA inform future project making and service delivery?**

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| N/A |

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| **2.14 Rural Communities** |

# See guidance for 2.14

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| There is likely to be substantial overlap between island communities and rural communities. You do not need to replicate impact and action from island communities into rural communities. It is important to consider where rural communities may differ from island communities, and this section should be used to highlight those differences, if they exist or to consider rural communities where a project does not impact on island communities but does impact rural communities. |

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| **Context:**The delivery of the Results Helpline does not have any geographical determining factors or restrictions. |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
| No impact  | N/A |

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| **2.15 Other** |

# See guidance for 2.15

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| This section is optional and can be used if you feel there are any other specific groups that you would like to assess (for example, carers, armed forces/veterans and those with experience of the justice system) |

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| **Context:** |

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| **Impact (Does this project have a negative, positive or no impact? Please include the evidence of why that is, citing appropriate sources)** | **Action (What activity have you done already and what was the impact? What do you need to do to address the evidence?)** |
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| **2.16 Consultation Recording** |

**Consultation is an excellent source of evidence and can offer insight that cannot be gathered in any other way. It is important to be well prepared when consulting with partners, ensuring you do not take too much of their time and that you efficiently gather the information you need. However, it is also easy to over consult with our partners, so sharing key learning is important to mitigate that risk. It is also important to inform your consultees about changes that have been made (or not made) based on their input. Please use this space to share key learning from your consultations and how you have fed back to the consultees.**

**Further information on our National Approach to Equality Stakeholders can be found** [**here**](https://skillsdevelopmentscotland.sharepoint.com/sites/IShare/Connectcontent/Resource%20Library/Forms/NotArchived.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FIShare%2FConnectcontent%2FResource%20Library%2FStakeholder%20Engagement%2FNational%20Approach%20to%20Equality%20Stakeholder%20Engagement%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2FIShare%2FConnectcontent%2FResource%20Library%2FStakeholder%20Engagement&p=true&wdLOR=c01445F43%2DF2E8%2D4B61%2DA36E%2D26AF5BD290DF&ct=1673439461424&or=Outlook%2DBody&cid=A4E46CE1%2D78DB%2D405E%2D9196%2D556D1E52BAE2&ga=1)**.**

**Focal Point Groups can also be useful for consultations, further information can be found** [**here**](https://connect.sds.co.uk/Interact/Pages/Content/Document.aspx?id=9279&utm_source=interact&utm_medium=side_menu_category)**.**

# See guidance for 2.16

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| Scottish Government suggests that consultation should adhere to the following principles:* Continuous – Stakeholder engagement and consultation should begin as early as possible and continue until your proposal is complete.
* Broad-Based – Consideration of the scope of consultation about your proposal should be wide enough to include all those affected and ensure a full spectrum of diversity in views and opinions.
* Not Burdensome – Timeframes for consultation should be realistic and should not impose additional unnecessary workloads on organisations or people who may be expected to respond to multiple consultations over a period. This could result in "consultation fatigue" and may reduce the quality of the responses you receive.
* Transparent – You should outline the objectives of your consultation and the context surrounding your proposal. All relevant supporting information should be made available.
* Consistent and Flexible – Use of a consistent framework for consultation allows respondents to become familiar with the process and can negate concerns for respondents in relation to fatigue from responding to numerous different frameworks.
* Subject to Evaluation and Review – Consultation processes should be evaluated, reviewed and updated as a means towards continuous improvement.
* Defined Goals – Consultations should be "a means rather than an end". They should be used as a means of informing decision-making rather than a substitute for decision-making.
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| **Stakeholder(s) consulted** | **Key feedback from stakeholder(s)** | **What changes were made based on the feedback?** (if none, explain why) | **How was this fed back to stakeholders?** (including date provided) |
| Disability Focal Point Group | Members asked about the wider offer, asking if there was a face to face offer. | None- CIAG offer face to face service all year round and this can be accessed in Local offices, community venues as well as in school speaking with their school careers adviser | This was fed back to members at the meeting and was documented in the minutes. |
|  | Members were please with the well-rounded approach to the offer |  |  |

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| **3.0 Action Plan** |

**A key part of every impact assessment is the action plan. This is where you state the actions that you will take in response to the impact assessment you have completed. The actions should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timebound (SMART).**

**Once the IEIA has been signed off by the SRO, actions within the Action Plan should be added to the relevant team’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan.**

# See guidance for 3.0

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| Consider the following points when drafting actions:* How will you monitor the action and ensure it will be completed?
* If you are taking an action regarding Equality Monitoring, have you ensured it is compliant with GDPR legislation?
* If you have taken actions related to procurement, how will you ensure these are reflected within procurement documents and contracts?
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| **What is the action you will take in response to the impact assessment?** | **Which characteristics/groups does it apply to?** | **What is the intended impact?** | **When will this be completed?** |
| Review digital online contact offer | Disability | Offer additional methods of contact for individuals who may not be able to use the phone. | 2025 Helpline |
| Participate in SDS Focal Point Groups (FPGs) to gain feedback and insight | Current FPGs:* Race
* Disability
* Care Experience
* Women and Girls
 | Gain an understanding of main issues facing these different groups. | Nov 24 round of Focal Point Group Meetings |
| Consider capturing information on gender of young people that are being assisted by adults to see if gender breakdown is significant in this. | Gender | Gain a better understanding of how to target different approaches to engagement. | 2025 Helpline |
| Share BSL video with appropriate partners. | Disability | Raise awareness of support | By 2024 Helpline |
| Share digital version of SQA results support booklet. | Disability | As above | Completed June 2024  |
| Review of content to ensure for relevant content for impacted groups. | All | Ensure content is relevant through focal point groups and focus groups with customers.  | By 2025 Helpline |
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| **4.0 Approval and Publication** |

* **Will you be making this IEIA available in different formats/languages?**

# Guidance

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| Scottish Government specifically asks about making impact assessments available in Easy Read and Gaelic within their guidance for the Island Community Impact Assessments. It is not required, but they do suggest it is considered. You can email islands@sds.co.uk for advice regarding publication in Gaelic. |

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| **SRO (Print)** | **SRO Signature** | **Date** | **Review Date** |
| **D McCallum** |  | **17/07/24** | **September 2025** |

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| **5.0 Review (To be completed at the review date, not at the same time it is submitted)** |

**This section should be completed as part of the review on the date listed above under the sign off.**

# Guidance for 5.0

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| Reviewing is important for several reasons.* It will allow you to reflect on progress and learning before completing an updated IEIA in the future.
* If you do not need to complete an updated IEIA, it stills allows for evaluation of the project and can provide learning for others in the future who are developing similar/related projects.
* It will help the equality teams to identify and share good practice across the business.
 |

**Were the actions taken completed? If not, why not?**

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**Did the actions achieve what they intended? If not, why not?**

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|  |

**What actions would you continue/stop or reconsider for future projects?**

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**Has any evidence been identified that may be useful for similar future projects?**

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**If this is a review for an ongoing project, are there any additional actions to add to the project going forward?**

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