

Title of Proposal	VISITOR ATTRACTIONS													
<p>This EQIA is focused on the set of Visitor attraction measures included within Scotland's Strategic Framework¹. These measures include both the measures requiring visitor attractions to close, and also the measures that permit them to operate in some Levels, including mitigating actions that organisations must take to be able to operate in some Levels.</p>														
<p>The Coronavirus (Covid-19) - Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 implement the levels-based approach to tackling coronavirus. The Regulations came into force on Monday 2 November 2020. They have since been amended, most recently by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2020. The most recent amending regulations include requirements related to indoor attractions and visitor attractions and will come into force on Friday 20 November 2020.</p>														
<p>Impact</p>														
<p>Visitor attractions make an important contribution to Scotland's economy across all parts of the country, boost Scotland's profile and also significantly boost health and wellbeing, community engagement, empowerment and inclusion. In total, there were more than 65 million visits to attractions across Scotland in 2019 (Moffat Centre Visitor Attraction Monitor 2019)².</p>														
<p>The table below summarises available official data on visitor attractions registered for VAT and PAYE³:</p>														
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="142 1276 573 1346">Activity</th> <th data-bbox="573 1276 992 1346">Registered Business Sites (IDBR, 2019)</th> <th data-bbox="992 1276 1414 1346">Employment (BRES, 2018)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="142 1346 573 1381">Museum activities</td> <td data-bbox="573 1346 992 1381">155</td> <td data-bbox="992 1346 1414 1381">5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="142 1381 573 1486">Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions</td> <td data-bbox="573 1381 992 1486">135</td> <td data-bbox="992 1381 1414 1486">2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="142 1486 573 1591">Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserve activities</td> <td data-bbox="573 1486 992 1591">90</td> <td data-bbox="992 1486 1414 1591">2,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Registered Business Sites (IDBR, 2019)	Employment (BRES, 2018)	Museum activities	155	5,000	Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions	135	2,500	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserve activities	90	2,000		
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<p>However, this may not encompass the full range of premises and employment within these activities, as some may not be registered for PAYE or VAT, and there are substantial numbers of volunteers within the visitor attraction categories set out above.</p>														

¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/covid-19-scotlands-strategic-framework/>

² <https://www.moffatcentre.com/visitorattractionreports/visitorattractionmonitor/>

³ This does not include operations within Distilleries, as these may not be distinguishable in official data from the manufacturing operations of producers of distilled alcohol.

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The Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (the representative body for visitor attractions within Scotland) represent 493 individual attractions, with 251 member organisations.

Economically, their contribution to Scotland's economy is significant – at a minimum, excluding the wider value from accommodation, transportation and ancillary spend, the direct value from attractions is over £96m (ticket sales, food and drink and shop sales. These figures significantly underplay the true value, as they do not take into account the considerable income generated by events held at attractions each year (weddings, conferences, private dining etc).

Museums and galleries are a sub-sector of the wider visitor attractions sector. There are over 420 museums in Scotland, 257 of which hold accredited status. The sector ranges from large national institutions employing hundreds of staff to small volunteer-run museums. In 2014 there were 3,522 paid employees in museums and galleries, and 4,667 unpaid volunteers. Scottish museums and galleries were estimated to have an induced impact of £890.88 million⁴.

The key measures relating to visitor attractions in the Strategic Framework are set out in the table below:

Visitor Attraction Measures (socialising rules apply)	Level 0 (Baseline)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Visitor attractions	Open	Open	Open	Open with protective measures	Closed

Differential impacts	Age: Children and Younger People	Level 0 – 3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
		Level 4	<p>Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed.</p> <p>Comfort with indoor venues is highest among younger people (16-34) and those who have children at home according to Creative Scotland / 56 Degree Insight⁵ research, suggesting that closure of visitor attractions could have a negative impact on young people.</p> <p>Closure of education and outreach services could impact on educational opportunities, impacting children and young people.</p>

⁴ <https://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/advice/research/visitor-attraction-monitor-report/>

⁵ https://www.creativescotland.com/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/84787/covid-summary-final.pdf

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			<p>The tourism sector has a disproportionately young workforce compared to other sectors, and this is likely to be mirrored in the attractions sector. Closure could therefore have an impact on younger people. Younger people may be at particular risk of loneliness during the pandemic, so the limitations placed on activities through closure is also likely to have an impact on younger people.</p>
Age: Older People	Levels 0 – 3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.	
	Level 4	<p>Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed.</p> <p>Visitor attractions (including onsite cafes) can provide a social setting for older people and help tackle social isolation. Older people are more likely to live alone, which has potentially significant implications for their wellbeing. Reduced opportunities to meet other people may therefore have a negative impact for older people as they may experience increased isolation.</p> <p>Closure could have a positive effect in terms of opportunities for virus transmission, which we know disproportionately affects older people, with current scientific evidence demonstrating that risk of serious disease from COVID-19 correlates with increasing age with nine in ten (90%) of deaths involving COVID-19 in Scotland have been among those aged 65+. However, to this point there is no evidence of transmission at visitor attractions, due to the strong mitigating measures in place.</p>	
Sex: Women	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.	
	Level 4	<p>Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed.</p> <p>Little evidence of a differential impact identified at this time.</p> <p>Before the pandemic, women met socially with friends, relatives, neighbours or colleagues more regularly than men and so might be more likely miss doing so.⁶</p>	

⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-people-annual-report-results-2018-scottish-household-survey/pages/4/>

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		Women constitute 52.3% of the tourism workforce. ⁷ The increases the risk of infection for women given the customer facing nature of many of the roles, so closure would reduce this. However, it would also mean a greater impact in terms of employment.
Sex: Men	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
	Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. Little evidence of a differential impact identified at this time. Men may be slightly less affected than women (see above).
Race	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
	Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. Feelings of loneliness are highest in single-occupier households ⁸ and people of 'Black, Black Scottish or Black British' ethnicity were most likely to be living alone at the time of the last census in 2011. ⁹ They may be negatively impacted from not being able to meet up as easily with other people due to the tightening of the measures. The reduced opportunity to meet households outside of the home will have a negative impact for those living in overcrowded households. Those identifying as 'White: Polish', 'Bangladeshi' or 'African' were the most likely to live in overcrowded households in 2011. Without accessible formats of information or through a lack of access to an interpreter / support worker some people may find the changes to this measure more difficult to understand in the context of national and local measures. The evidence shows that some minority ethnic groups, particularly South Asian, are at a higher risk of catching and being seriously ill from COVID-19 ¹⁰ . For these groups there will be a balance between welcoming the measures in these levels as they will protect this group from the higher risk of

⁷ Annual Population Survey 2019, and the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2018

⁸ [Scottish Household Survey 2018](#)

⁹ [Census 2011: Detailed Characteristics on Population and Households in Scotland](#)

¹⁰ [Ethnicity and Outcomes from COVID-19 The Lancet 2020](#)

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		transmission, against the potential negative impacts on the group that closure may bring around reduced opportunity to socialise.
Religion or belief	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
	Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. No evidence of a differential impact identified at this time.
Disability	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions. Employers will need to ensure safety and guidance is fully adhered to in order to protect employees with long-term conditions or illnesses as well as all other employees. Disabled people may be adversely affected by some of the mitigations put in place when attractions are open, for example wearing face coverings, requirements to physically distance etc.
	Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. Loneliness was more prevalent among disabled people prior to the pandemic and for many disabled people this has been exacerbated during the lockdown. People with mental health issues may be at greater risk of the impacts of social isolation. These measures could therefore negatively impact on disabled people. A closure for short time period could lead to an decreased risk of transmitting COVID-19. This could disproportionately positively affect some disabled people. Around 170,000 adults in Scotland have been defined on medical grounds as clinically extremely susceptible due to having an existing health condition that puts them at very high risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Therefore, measures designed to protect people who are at greater risk from Covid-19 should have a positive effect.
Sexual Orientation	Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.

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		Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. No evidence of a differential impact identified at this time.
Marriage and Civil Partnership		Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
		Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. No evidence of a differential impact identified at this time.
Pregnancy and Maternity		Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions. There may be some negative impacts on pregnant women as a result of mitigations such as queuing due to physical distancing.
		Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. Pregnant women may be protected from the impacts of the virus due to closure at this level.
Gender Reassignment		Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
		Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. No evidence of a differential impact identified at this time.
Socio-economic disadvantage		Levels 0-3	Visitor attractions open. Positive impact, offering this group the opportunity to attend visitor attractions.
		Level 4	Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed. In some communities of greater socio-economic disadvantage, visitor attractions, particularly ones without entry fees, can provide opportunities for social gathering and enjoyment. This measure may therefore negatively affect those living in areas of greater socio-economic disadvantage.

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Mitigating actions:	Levels 0-3	<p>Open.</p> <p>Keeping visitor attractions open will mitigate against loneliness and social isolation and provide opportunities for social gathering and enjoyment.</p> <p>Controlling visitor numbers will mitigate against the spread of the virus and therefore protect groups that may otherwise be at higher risk of catching the virus. Visitor numbers are controlled through pre-booking of timed tickets to stagger entry and exit times and to prevent bottlenecks, provision of increased capacity for spaced queuing, and physical distancing within venues - highlighted by clear signage and 2m distance markings to manage visitor flow including through use of one way systems.</p>
	Level 4	<p>Museums and galleries and indoor attractions at visitor attractions closed.</p> <p>Risks of transmission at this Level mean there are no mitigating actions that can be put in place to allow opening.</p>

Assessing the impacts and identifying opportunities to promote equality

Do you think that the policy impacts on people because of their age?

Age	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation		X	X	Older people may find it more difficult to comply with other mitigations when attractions are open.
Advancing equality of opportunity	X	X		<p>Young people likely to be negatively impacted by closure of indoor attractions; and by loss of educational opportunities.</p> <p>Older people could be negatively impacted because of isolation issues, but equally are at most risk from the virus so would benefit more from reducing the risk of infection (albeit to this point visitor attractions have not been linked to transmissions due to stringent safety measures being in place).</p>

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Promoting good relations among and between different age groups			X	No evidence of differential impact at this time.
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Do you think that the policy impacts disabled people?

Disability	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation		X		Disabled people may find it more difficult to comply with other mitigations when attractions are open.
Advancing equality of opportunity	X	X		Disabled people could be negatively impacted because of loneliness issues, Disabled people, however, are at increased risk from the virus compared to the population overall so would benefit more from reducing the risk of infection (albeit to this point visitor attractions have not been linked to transmissions due to stringent safety measures being in place).
Promoting good relations among and between disabled and non-disabled people			X	No evidence of differential impact at this time.

Do you think that the policy impacts on men and women in different ways?

Sex	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation		X		Women may be negatively impacted in terms of employment and social interaction.
Advancing equality of opportunity			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.

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Promoting good relations between men and women			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
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Do you think that the policy impacts on women because of pregnancy and maternity?

Pregnancy and Maternity	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	X	X		May be some positive impacts for pregnant women from attractions closure due to reduced transmission risks. Pregnant women, however, may be impacted negatively by some mitigations, including increased queuing due to physical distancing.
Advancing equality of opportunity			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Promoting good relations			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.

Do you think your policy impacts on people proposing to undergo, undergoing, or who have undergone a process for the purpose of reassigning their sex? (NB: the Equality Act 2010 uses the term 'transsexual people' but 'trans people' is more commonly used, although it may include a wide range of people not covered by the Act).

Gender reassignment	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Advancing equality of opportunity			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Promoting good relations			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.

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Do you think that the policy impacts on people because of their sexual orientation?

Sexual orientation	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Advancing equality of opportunity			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Promoting good relations			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.

Do you think the policy impacts on people on the grounds of their race?

Race	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			X	No evidence of differential at this time.
Advancing equality of opportunity	X	X		There are possible negative consequences relating to loneliness. Equally, evidence shows that some minority ethnic groups, particularly South Asian, are at a higher risk of catching and being seriously ill from COVID-19 so there could be positive consequences in relation to transmission (albeit to this point visitor attractions have not been linked to transmissions due to stringent safety measures being in place).
Promoting good race relations			X	No evidence of differential impact in at this time.

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Do you think the policy impacts on people because of their religion or belief?

Religion or belief	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Advancing equality of opportunity			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.
Promoting good relations			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.

Do you think the policy impacts on people because of their marriage or civil partnership?

Marriage and Civil Partnership	Positive	Negative	None	Reasons for your decision
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			X	No evidence of differential impact identified at this time.