

**If having read the Report template guidance you have identified that your report has an impact on children and young people's rights and wellbeing, the following Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) template should be completed.**

**Where an impact has been identified, a summary of the impact identified following completion of the impact assessment (and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)) requires to be included in the Report at section 5.11.**

**Where an impact has been identified, a copy of the last section in this template (i.e. the CRWIA - Stage 3 Publication Template summary) should be added as an Appendix to your report.**

**If you require further support or guidance in order to complete this section of the report template - or to complete the Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) template - please e-mail the following mailbox:  
[CRWIA@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:CRWIA@northlan.gov.uk)**

<p>1.</p>	<p><b>Name the policy and describe its overall aims.</b></p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2026-28 is the main overarching plan for housing and housing related services. It is an interim two-year strategy which sets out the priorities and actions we will take to achieve our vision:</p> <p>"Affordable and sustainable living for all: a North Lanarkshire where every individual has access to safe, affordable and sustainable housing, fostering vibrant communities and enhancing quality of life".</p> <p>It applies to all types of housing – council, housing association, private rented and owner-occupied homes – and addresses key issues such as housing supply, place-making, homelessness, property condition, energy efficiency, and support for people with specific needs.</p> <p>It is built around four main priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver more homes at the heart of great communities</li> <li>2. Provide sustainable and high-quality homes</li> <li>3. Prevent and eradicate homelessness</li> <li>4. Support independence, health and wellbeing</li> </ol>
<p>2.</p>	<p><b>What aspects of the policy/measure will affect children and young people up to the age of 18?</b></p> <p><i>The Articles of the UNCRC and the child wellbeing indicators under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 apply to all children and young people up to the age of 18, including noncitizen and undocumented children and young people.</i></p> <p>It is likely that all aspects of the policy will have some impact on children and young people up to the age of 18 as it relates to housing and housing-related service provision for all residents of North Lanarkshire. Specifically, it covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homelessness services</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to house condition and energy efficiency</li> <li>• Measures to tackle poverty/ fuel poverty</li> <li>• Regeneration, including town centre regeneration</li> <li>• Improvements to digital connectivity</li> <li>• Increased affordable housing supply</li> <li>• Housing for particular needs</li> </ul>
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>What likely impact – direct or indirect – will the policy/measure have on children and young people?</b></p> <p><i>‘Direct’ impact refers to policies/measures where children and young people are directly affected by the proposed changes, e.g. in early years, education, child protection or relevant to care experienced children. ‘Indirect’ impact refers to policies/measures that are not directly aimed at children but will have an impact on them. Examples include: welfare reforms, parental leave, housing supply, or local transport schemes.</i></p> <p>The LHS will likely have a number of direct and indirect effects on children and young people. Direct impacts centre around actions to improve homelessness prevention and support, improvements to housing quality and energy efficiency, support for those with particular needs and improvements to digital connectivity. Impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of children experiencing homelessness or entering temporary accommodation through earlier intervention and prevention work.</li> <li>• Improved quality, suitability and stability of temporary accommodation for families who require it.</li> <li>• Better support pathways for families with children experiencing homelessness.</li> <li>• Reduced disruption to education, healthcare and social networks when homelessness is prevented or resolved quickly.</li> <li>• Warmer, safer homes that directly benefit the child’s health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Improved energy efficiency reducing cold, damp and mould risk.</li> <li>• Housing suitable for children with disabilities or complex needs.</li> <li>• Adaptations that allow children to live safely at home.</li> <li>• Provision for care experienced young people transitioning to independent living.</li> <li>• Enhanced digital connectivity, improving access to digital learning resources and enabling residents to engage more easily with online services and support.</li> <li>• Improved digital inclusion for young people in low-income families.</li> </ul> <p>Actions aimed at improving the wider housing system, including increasing affordable housing supply, regeneration and place-making, reducing poverty and fuel poverty, climate change and sustainability measures, and improved partnership working, will have an indirect impact on children and young people. Impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased availability of affordable homes, helping families access suitable, good quality housing and reducing the risk of housing instability.</li> <li>• Less overcrowding, allowing children to have the space to play, study and rest.</li> <li>• Safer, more attractive neighbourhoods.</li> <li>• Better access to greenspaces, play areas and community facilities.</li> <li>• Revitalised town centres increasing social, cultural and recreational opportunities for young people.</li> <li>• Reduced fuel poverty for families, improving household financial stability and supporting healthier homes environments for children.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More energy efficiency and future-proof housing, supporting long term health and wellbeing of children.</li> <li>• Easier access to support services for families, improving overall wellbeing.</li> </ul>								
4.	<p><b>Which groups of children and young people will be affected?</b>  <i>Under the UNCRC, 'children' can refer to: individual children, groups of children, or children in general. Some groups of children will relate to the groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010: disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. 'Groups' can also refer to children by age band or setting, or those who are eligible for special protection or assistance: e.g. preschool children, children in hospital, children in rural areas, looked after children, young people who offend, victims of abuse or exploitation, child migrants, or children living in poverty.</i></p> <p>It is likely that all children and young people will be affected in some way. Groups that may be particularly affected include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children living in poverty or low-income households.</li> <li>• Children living in homeless households or those at risk of homeless.</li> <li>• Children with disabilities or complex health needs.</li> <li>• Children that are victims or part of a family affect by domestic abuse.</li> <li>• Care experienced children and young people.</li> <li>• Children in overcrowded or poor quality housing.</li> <li>• Children from minority ethnic communities.</li> <li>• Refugee, asylum seeking and migrant children.</li> <li>• Children in areas affect by regeneration or redevelopment.</li> </ul>								
5.	<p><b>Will this require a CRWIA?</b> Explain your reasons.</p> <p>Since the LHS is likely to have both direct and indirect impacts on children and young people as identified above, a CRWIA will be required.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="245 1288 1386 1588"> <tr> <td data-bbox="245 1288 1082 1355"> <p><b>CRWIA Declaration</b>-Tick the relevant section and complete the form                      CRWIA required.</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1082 1288 1386 1355"> <p>CRWIA not required.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="245 1355 1082 1422"> <p>YES- the plan will impact on children and young people in NL</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1082 1355 1386 1422"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="245 1422 1082 1512"> <p>Authorisation-Policy lead                      Margaret Kelly, Housing Strategy Manager</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1082 1422 1386 1512"> <p>Date                      06/03/2026</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="245 1512 1082 1588"> <p>Person or group completing paperwork                      Alana McKibbin, Housing Strategy Officer</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1082 1512 1386 1588"></td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>CRWIA Declaration</b>-Tick the relevant section and complete the form                      CRWIA required.</p>	<p>CRWIA not required.</p>	<p>YES- the plan will impact on children and young people in NL</p>		<p>Authorisation-Policy lead                      Margaret Kelly, Housing Strategy Manager</p>	<p>Date                      06/03/2026</p>	<p>Person or group completing paperwork                      Alana McKibbin, Housing Strategy Officer</p>	
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**CRWIA Stage 2**  
**The CRWIA - key questions**

<p><b>1. Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the policy/measure?</b>  <i>List all relevant Articles of the UNCRC - All UNCRC rights are underpinned by the four general principles: non-discrimination; the best interests of the child; the right to life, survival and development; and the child's right to have their views given due weight. The articles can be viewed here: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/uncrc">UNCRC summary-1 1.pdf (unicef.org.uk)</a></i></p>
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**Article 2 (non-discrimination)** The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

**Article 3 (best interests of the child)** The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

**Article 5 (parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities)** Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.

**Article 6 (life, survival and development)** Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

**Article 9 (separation from parents)** Children must not be separated from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interests (for example, if a parent is hurting or neglecting a child). Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents, unless this could cause them harm.

**Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)** Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

**Article 13 (freedom of expression)** Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

**Article 16 (right to privacy)** Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life, including protecting children from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation.

**Article 17 (access to information from the media)** Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

**Article 18 (parental responsibilities and state assistance)** Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help they need to raise their children.

**Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect)** Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

**Article 22 (refugee children)** If a child is seeking refuge or has refugee status, governments must provide them with appropriate protection and assistance to help them enjoy all the rights in the Convention. Governments must help refugee children who are separated from their parents to be reunited with them.

**Article 23 (children with a disability)** A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.

**Article 24 (health and health services)** Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

**Article 26 (social security)** Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

**Article 27 (adequate standard of living)** Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

**Article 28 (right to education)** Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

**Article 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups)** Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

**Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)** Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

**Article 39 (recovery from trauma and reintegration)** Children who have experienced neglect, abuse, exploitation, torture or who are victims of war must receive special support to help them recover their health, dignity, self-respect and social life.

**Article 42 (knowledge of rights)** Governments must actively work to make sure children and adults know about the Convention.

## 2. What impact will the policy/measure have on children's rights?

Positive/negative/neutral.

The Local Housing Strategy 2026-28 is expected to have a positive impact on children's rights. Several actions within the strategy directly contribute to upholding UNCRC rights, improving outcomes for children and young people, and embedding rights-based practice across housing and homelessness services:

- Improved housing quality, affordability and living standards.
- Homelessness prevention and support for families and young people.
- Protection from harm, through domestic abuse support and public protection.
- Support for children and those with complex needs.
- Improved digital connectivity.
- Strengthening and embedding children's rights in services.

**3. Will there be different impacts on different groups of children and young people?**

*Which groups of children will be affected by the policy/measure? Are there competing interests between different groups of children and young people, or between children and young people and other groups?*

The LHS is likely to have differential impacts on certain groups of children and young people. The impacts are broadly positive, although the extent of benefit may vary depending on individual circumstances and the speed and effectiveness of implementation.

***Children living in poverty or low-income households***

The LHS includes actions to increase the availability of affordable housing, reduce fuel poverty, tackle disrepair and improve the energy efficiency of homes, all of which support low-income families. These measures help reduce financial pressure on households and help create warmer, safer and more stable living conditions for children.

***Children in homeless households or at risk of homelessness***

Preventing and eradicating homelessness is a priority within the LHS. Actions to strengthen early intervention, reduce time spent in temporary accommodation, as well as targeted support for young people at risk of homelessness, will help improve stability and reduce disruption for children and young people.

***Disabled children and those with complex needs***

Disabled children and those with complex health or support needs will particularly benefit from the LHS due to commitments to increase wheelchair accessible housing, expand specialist provision and support families through the Coming Home programme. This will improve access to suitable homes that meet individual needs and support greater independence and inclusion for disabled children and their families.

***Care experienced young people***

The LHS acknowledges the heightened risk of homelessness among care experienced young people and includes targeted prevention and tenancy sustainment measures to support them. As a result, care-experienced young people are likely to benefit from earlier intervention, more stable transitions into independent living and enhanced support to maintain secure accommodation, reducing the risk of housing crisis.

***Children living in overcrowded housing***

Children living in overcrowded housing are likely to benefit from the LHS actions aimed at increasing the supply of larger, affordable homes and addressing pressures on the local housing system. By helping families to access homes of a suitable size, the strategy supports children's privacy, comfort and ability to rest, study and play within the home environment.

***Children living in poor quality housing***

Children affected by poor quality or substandard housing will benefit from the LHS focus on tackling disrepair, improving housing condition and enhancing energy efficiency across tenures. These improvements help reduce health risks associated with damp, cold or unsafe homes and support children's wellbeing and development.

***Children from ethnic minority communities***

The LHS identifies ethnic minority communities as a group that faces distinct housing related issues and aims to address the barriers these groups may face in accessing appropriate housing. By responding to specific cultural needs and tackling inequalities in housing outcomes, the strategy supports greater fairness, inclusion and improved living conditions for children from minority backgrounds.

***Refugee and asylum-seeking children***

Refugee and asylum-seeking children are likely to benefit from the LHS's coordinated approach to supporting integration into communities, including access to appropriate accommodation, advice and practical support. These measures will help promote stability, safety and smoother settlement for children and their families.

***Children living in areas affected by regeneration***

Children in communities undergoing regeneration may experience long-term positive impacts through improved neighbourhood environments, better housing quality and safer, more vibrant public spaces. Although regeneration can involve temporary disruption during works, the overall impacts for children's wellbeing and community belonging are likely to be positive.

**4. If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any group of children and young people, what options have you considered to modify the proposal, or mitigate the impact?**

*If options to modify the policy/measure are included here, include associated resource implications where relevant.*

There are no known negative impacts associated with implementing the LHS.

**5. How will the policy/measure contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland?**

*Outline how the implementation of the policy/measure will support our duties to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of children in their area, with wellbeing defined by eight wellbeing indicators. The indicators are: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included. More information is available via the link below.*

[SHANARRI+-+Wellbeing+wheel+-+full+text.pdf \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/govscot/SHANARRI+-+Wellbeing+wheel+-+full+text.pdf)

**Safe**

The LHS contributes to children being safe by improving housing condition, tackling disrepair, addressing Below Tolerable Standard properties and improving energy efficiency. Actions to prevent homelessness and support families at risk reduce exposure to crisis situations, while dedicated work on gender-based violence and public protection enhances safety for children living in households affected by abuse or instability.

**Healthy**

Children's health is strengthened through planned improvements to housing quality, reductions in dampness and cold, and efforts to mitigate fuel poverty. The strategy's focus on improving energy efficiency and tackling poor housing conditions supports physical health, while the stability provided through homelessness prevention and access to appropriate accommodation supports mental wellbeing. The strategy's consideration of the needs of disabled children, those with complex health issues and those affected by trauma further promotes healthy outcomes.

**Achieving**

The LHS supports children's ability to achieve by improving the home environments that underpin learning and development. The digital connectivity pilot enhances children's access to online learning resources and educational support. Reducing overcrowding and improving housing conditions also provides children with space to study and rest, supporting school engagement and achievement.

### **Nurtured**

By increasing access to secure, warm and appropriate homes, the LHS helps ensure children are nurtured within safe and stable family environments. Homelessness prevention measures, improved temporary accommodation and support for families reduce stress and instability, enabling parents and carers to better meet children's emotional and developmental needs. Specialist housing support for families with disabled children or complex needs also strengthens nurturing environments.

### **Active**

The LHS contributes indirectly by improving neighbourhoods through regeneration and place-making. Safer, more attractive outdoor environments can support play and outdoor activity for children.

### **Respected**

Children's right to be respected is furthered through the LHS commitment to ensuring that children and young people's rights are upheld within homelessness and housing services. By working to identify ways in which we can further incorporate children's voices, needs and rights within decision making processes we are helping ensure that children feel respected and involved in the services that affect them

### **Responsible**

The LHS supports responsibility indirectly by promoting stable home environments in which children are better able to develop independence and responsibility. For young people transitioning to independent living, including care experienced young people, the strategy's tenancy support and homelessness prevention work provides a supportive foundation for developing life skills.

### **Included**

The strategy promotes inclusion by addressing inequalities faced by low-income households, disabled children, care-experienced young people, Gypsy/Traveller families, ethnic minorities, and refugee and asylum-seeking children. By improving access to appropriate housing, tackling barriers to services and enhancing digital inclusion, the LHS helps ensure all children have equal opportunities to participate, belong and feel part of their communities.

## **6. How will the policy/measure give better or further effect to the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?**

*This will inform the duty to report what has been done to further and better children's rights under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.*

The LHS explicitly commits to furthering children's rights by strengthening how housing and homelessness services uphold and embed the principles of the UNCRC. The strategy includes a dedicated action to ensure that children and young people's rights are upheld and to explore ways in which UNCRC principles can be more fully incorporated into service design and delivery.

The LHS furthers children's rights through its focus on prevention and early intervention in homelessness which supports children's rights to family life, safety and development. By ensuring access to safe, warm and secure homes, and by prioritising improvements to housing quality, energy efficiency and affordability, the strategy strengthens children's rights to health, protection and an adequate standard of living. Actions relating to gender-based violence and public protection reinforce children's rights to be safe from abuse, harm and neglect.

Children's rights to inclusion, equality and non discrimination are further promoted through targeted actions for groups such as disabled children, refugee and asylum-seeking children, Gypsy/Traveller communities and ethnic minority families. These measures help address inequities in housing access and outcomes and ensure that children facing disadvantage are better supported.

The LHS also advances children's rights to information, education and participation. The digital connectivity pilot enhances children's access to online learning and services, supporting their rights to education and to receive information. The broader commitment to embedding UNCRC encourages more child friendly communication, and improved engagement and consideration of children's views in housing related decisions.

**7. What evidence have you used to inform your assessment? What does it tell you?**

*The evidence base may include demographic information, academic research, service monitoring/inspection reports, service evaluation reports, user surveys, etc. In particular, look at what existing evidence tells you about children and young people's views and experiences of the relevant service(s); and/or what it tells you about children and young people's views of the policy proposal. Identify any gaps in the evidence base and set out how you will address these.*

The assessment draws on a wide range of evidence presented within the LHS, including the suite of supporting evidence papers. This includes a detailed analysis of housing need and demand, local demographic trends, household projections, affordability pressures, and the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, all of which contribute to identifying the children and young people most likely to be affected by housing-related inequalities. The LHS also provides evidence on homelessness patterns, including the number of children in homeless households, the reasons for homelessness, repeat presentations and the particular vulnerabilities of young people and care-experienced young people.

Evidence relating to housing quality, disrepair, below tolerable standard properties and energy efficiency informs the understanding of risks to children living in poor-condition or cold homes. Information on specialist housing needs, Gypsy/Traveller families, ethnic minority households and asylum seekers and refugees, demonstrates where specific groups require targeted support due to unequal housing outcomes or barriers to accessing suitable accommodation.

**8. Have you consulted with relevant stakeholders?**

*This would include public or targeted consultations with children and young people, their parents/carers and the children's workforce.*

The development of the LHS involved engagement with a broad range of stakeholders across North Lanarkshire including tenants, residents, community groups and partner organisations who were invited to provide feedback through methods including an

online survey, email submissions and a series of local drop in sessions. These opportunities enabled a wide range of views to contribute to the shaping of the strategy, ensuring that local perspectives, housing needs and priorities were reflected in the strategy.

**9. Have you involved children and young people in the development of the policy/measure?**

*Is there enough information on the views of the children and young people who will be affected by the policy/measure that enables you to make an informed assessment of impact?*

Children and young people have not been involved as a distinct group in the development of the LHS. However, the strategy has been shaped through a broad consultation process that invited contributions from tenants, residents and community stakeholders across North Lanarkshire, including engagement opportunities such as online surveys and drop-in sessions. These opportunities were open to young people, and their views could be captured as part of wider community feedback.

While the consultation was not specifically targeted at children, the LHS includes a commitment to strengthening the way housing and homelessness services uphold children's rights and to identifying ways to further embed UNCRC principles into service delivery. This commitment provides a foundation for future engagement approaches that are more child orientated and better aligned with children's rights, including opportunities to involve children and young people more directly in shaping housing-related decisions that affect them.

## CRWIA - Stage 3 Publication Template

<p><b>CRWIA title: Local Housing Strategy 2026-2028</b>  <b>Publication date: 10/03/2026</b></p>	
<p><b>Summary of policy aims and desired outcomes.</b></p>	<p>The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2026-28 is the main overarching plan for housing and housing related services. It is an interim two-year strategy which sets out the priorities and actions to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver more homes at the heart of great communities</li> <li>2. Provide sustainable and high-quality homes</li> <li>3. Prevent and eradicate homelessness</li> <li>4. Support independence, health and wellbeing</li> </ol>
<p><b>Executive summary.</b></p>	<p>The CRWIA identifies that the LHS is likely to have a positive impact on children's rights and wellbeing. This is achieved through improvements to housing quality and affordability, strengthened homelessness prevention, action on fuel poverty, support for disabled children and those with complex needs, targeted support for vulnerable groups, and investment in digital connectivity. The strategy also commits to upholding children's rights and further embedding the UNCRC within housing and homelessness services.</p>
<p><b>Background.</b></p>	<p>The LHS is a statutory requirement under the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 and sets out the strategic direction for housing and housing related services within North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>The strategy for 2026-2028 sets out a range of actions to improve access to affordable, safe and sustainable housing; prevent and address homelessness; support families with specific housing needs; and enhance the quality of neighbourhoods and communities.</p> <p>Children and young people are directly and indirectly affected by housing policies, as the quality, suitability and stability of housing plays a central role in their health, safety, development and participation in learning and community life. The CRWIA ensures that consideration of children's rights has informed the development of the LHS and that actions within the strategy recognise and respond to the needs of children and young people growing up in North Lanarkshire.</p>
<p><b>Scope of the CRWIA, identifying the children and young people affected by the policy, and summarising the evidence base.</b></p>	<p>The CRWIA covers all aspects of the LHS that may impact children and young people, whether directly (e.g. homelessness support, housing quality, adaptations) or indirectly (e.g. fuel poverty interventions, regeneration activity, digital connectivity improvements).</p> <p>All children in North Lanarkshire may be affected, but some groups are likely to be disproportionately impacted, including children living in poverty, those experiencing homelessness or housing instability, disabled children, care-experienced young people,</p>

	<p>children in overcrowded or poor-quality housing, children from ethnic minority or refugee backgrounds, and those living in regeneration areas.</p> <p>The assessment draws on a comprehensive evidence base contained within the LHS, including detailed housing need and demand analysis, demographic data, SIMD information, local homelessness data, evidence on housing condition and disrepair, specialist housing needs assessments and information on digital exclusion and community regeneration.</p>
<p><b>Children and young people’s views and experiences.</b></p>	<p>Children and young people were not directly consulted as a distinct group during the development of the LHS. However, the wider public consultation process, comprising an online survey, drop-in sessions and opportunities for written feedback, was open to young people as part of the broader community. Their views may therefore be reflected in the overall consultation responses.</p>
<p><b>Key findings, including an assessment of the impact on children’s rights, and how the measure will contribute to children’s wellbeing.</b></p>	<p>The CRWIA identifies that the LHS is likely to have a broadly positive impact on children’s rights and wellbeing. Key positive impacts include improved housing quality and affordability, strengthened homelessness prevention, better support for children with disabilities or complex needs, action to reduce fuel poverty, enhanced digital connectivity and targeted support for groups experiencing inequality, such as ethnic minority and refugee families. The LHS explicitly commits to upholding children’s rights and incorporating UNCRC principles within housing and homelessness services.</p> <p>The SHANARRI assessment highlights that the LHS supports children to be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. The strategy enables more secure and stable homes, healthier living conditions, improved educational access, safer neighbourhoods, better support for vulnerable children and greater inclusion of disadvantaged groups.</p> <p>No negative impacts on children’s rights were identified.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring and review.</b></p>	<p>Delivery of the LHS will be monitored through regular LHS steering group meetings as well as annual progress reports published on the Council’s website. This monitoring will track progress against key actions and will help assess how effectively the strategy is improving housing outcomes for children and young people, including for those most at risk of inequality.</p> <p>Monitoring activity will also consider how well UNCRC principles are being upheld in practice across housing and homelessness services. Where monitoring identifies gaps or areas requiring improvement, actions will be reviewed and updated to ensure the ongoing protection and fulfilment of children’s rights and wellbeing.</p>
<p><b>CRWIA Declaration</b></p>	
<p><b>Authorisation</b></p>	
<p><b>Lead</b> Margaret Kelly Housing Strategy Manager</p>	<p><b>Date</b> 26/03/2026</p>

Enterprise & Communities	
<b>Chief Officer</b> Stephen Llewellyn Chief Officer (Housing) Enterprise & Communities	<b>Date</b> 26/03/2026