

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Draft Strategic Community Plan for Newry, Mourne and Down
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>Our first Community Plan sets out a clear, long term vision for Newry, Mourne and Down to 2030. It outlines the outcomes we will work towards to achieve that vision and, with it, a better quality of life for all.</p> <p>The Community Plan is the overarching plan for the Newry, Mourne and Down District. It brings together the knowledge, expertise and collective resources of a wide range of partners across the public, private and community/voluntary sectors - all working towards a single agreed vision for the area.</p> <p>Community planning presents a unique opportunity to make a real difference to peoples' lives and, in Newry, Mourne and Down, we are committed to making the most of that opportunity.</p> <p>Our Plan has been developed through a co-design process and informed by public engagement. It focuses on addressing evidence based needs and priorities through a partnership approach. The Community Plan demonstrates the partners' collective commitment to improve public services and quality of life for all those who live, visit and work in our district. It will enable us to identify new and innovative approaches, which recognise our unique local circumstances and challenges, and will help to deliver our agreed outcomes.</p>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	All
If so, explain how.	All Section 75 groups should benefit from the implementation of the Community Plan which demonstrates the partners' collective commitment to improve public services and quality of life for all those who live, visit and work in the district.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	The Community Plan was developed through a co-design process and informed by public engagement.
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is the Lead Partner with a responsibility to initiate, maintain, facilitate and participate in Community Planning and to publish and report on the

	<p>Community Plan.</p> <p>The Statutory Partners have a responsibility to participate in and assist the Council in carrying out its community planning duties - perform actions in the Plan and contribute to monitoring.</p> <p>Government Departments have a responsibility to promote and encourage community planning and to have regard to any implications of the community plan.</p> <p>Support Partners agree to participate in community planning on a voluntary basis and perform a role similar to that of statutory partners, ie, participate and assist, perform actions and contribute to monitoring.</p>
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Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?	x	
If yes, are they Financial	The Actions required to deliver the Community Plan will be subject to the commitment of financial resources by the relevant partners.	
If yes, are they Legislative	The guidance on consultation period lengths restricts the time period in which consultations must be concluded i.e. eight weeks)	
If yes, and they are Other please specify:		

Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

	Yes	No
Staff	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are the Lead Partner with a responsibility to initiate, maintain, facilitate and participate in Community Planning and to publish and report on the Community Plan.	

Service users	The Community Plan will impact on the residents, service users and visitors of the Newry, Mourne and District area.	
Other public sector organisations	Statutory Partners and Government Departments.	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	Support Partners	
Other, please specify:	N/A	

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policies and Strategies including:
Who owns them	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newry, Mourne and Down District's Local Development Plan/Statement of Community Involvement • Engagement Strategy • Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report on the Community Plan • Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Equality Scheme

Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities					
Religious belief	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None
	Northern Ireland	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.9%)	101,169 (5.59%)
	Newry, Mourne & Down	171533	113200 (65.99%)	34718 (20.34%)	752 (0.43%)	10229 (5.96%)
	(Source: Census Data 2011).					
Political opinion	Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.					
	The current party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:					

	<p>Sinn Féin 14 seats SDLP 13 seats Democratic Unionist 4 seats Independents 4 seats Ulster Unionist 3 seats Alliance 1 seat TUV 1 seat</p>																																										
Racial group	<p>According to the 2011 Census, 1.8% (32,400) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups; this is more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8%).</p> <p>The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p>The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2011) as follows:</p> <p>Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>English</td> <td>156794</td> <td>97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Polish</td> <td>2100</td> <td>1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lithuanian</td> <td>836</td> <td>0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irish</td> <td>367</td> <td>0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Portuguese</td> <td>86</td> <td>0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Slovak</td> <td>134</td> <td>0.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chinese</td> <td>121</td> <td>0.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tagalog/Filipino</td> <td>55</td> <td>0.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Latvian</td> <td>208</td> <td>0.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Russian</td> <td>109</td> <td>0.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malayalam</td> <td>87</td> <td>0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hungarian</td> <td>74</td> <td>0.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>755</td> <td>0.46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD	Number	Percentage %	English	156794	97.15	Polish	2100	1.18	Lithuanian	836	0.47	Irish	367	0.24	Portuguese	86	0.05	Slovak	134	0.08	Chinese	121	0.07	Tagalog/Filipino	55	0.03	Latvian	208	0.25	Russian	109	0.06	Malayalam	87	0.05	Hungarian	74	0.04	Other	755	0.46
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65-74	145600	12817
75-84	86724	7453
85-89	21165	1849
90+	10231	829

Marital status

The table below illustrates the marital status profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down area:

Marital Status	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	NI
All usual residents: Aged 16+ years	132455	1431540
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years	47722	517393 (35.14%)
Married: Aged 16+ years	65255	680831 (47.56%)
In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	102	1243 (0.09%)
Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	4697	56911 (3.98%)
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	6271	78074 (5.45%)

	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	8408	97088 (6.78%)																	
Sexual orientation	<p>Analysis of the Census 2011 indicates that between 2% and 10% of the population may be lesbian, gay or bisexual.</p> <p>There are no official statistics in relation to the number of gay, lesbian or bisexual people in Northern Ireland. However, research conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5% - 7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT). This is a sizeable proportion of the population here in Northern Ireland.</p>																			
Men and women generally	<p>The gender profile for the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>887323</td> <td>923540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</td> <td>83866</td> <td>85345</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					LGD	Male	Female	Northern Ireland	887323	923540	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345						
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Disability	<p>According to the 2011 Census 19.62% of people in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1810863</td> <td>215232 (11.89%)</td> <td>159414 (8.8%)</td> <td>1436217 (79.31%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down</td> <td>171533</td> <td>19579 (11.4%)</td> <td>14102 (8.22%)</td> <td>135530 (79.01%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population in Northern Ireland has a disability The incidence of disability is higher in Northern Ireland than any other part of the UK • 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss • 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sign Language (ISL) • In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with 					LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited	Northern Ireland	1810863	215232 (11.89%)	159414 (8.8%)	1436217 (79.31%)	Newry, Mourne and Down	171533	19579 (11.4%)	14102 (8.22%)	135530 (79.01%)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> significant visual impairment 52,000 people with learning disabilities <p>(Source: Disability Action)</p>
Dependants	<p>Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and / or a dependent older person.</p> <p>There are 61,998 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 37.5% of which have dependents. With regard to these figures, dependents are defined as those aged 0-15 years or those aged 16-18 years who are in full-time education and living with their parents or grandparents. Similar to the regional trend, the proportion of households with dependents in the District has declined from 50% in 1981 to 37.5% in 2011.</p> <p>There are 5,466 lone parent households with dependent children in Newry, Mourne and Down which equates to almost 9% of number of total households in the District and is the fourth highest in Northern Ireland, after Belfast (17,036), Derry and Strabane (6,337) and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon (6,337). Half of the parents in lone parent household in Newry, Mourne and Down are unemployed, almost a quarter are in full time employment and over a quarter are in part time employment. 89% of the parents in lone parent households are female compared to 11% who are male.</p> <p>In 2012, the teenage conception rate was 1.02 per 1,000 mothers, which is the third lowest in N.Ireland before Lisburn and Castlereagh and Fermanagh and Omagh.</p>

Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Political opinion	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As

	such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Racial group	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Age	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Marital status	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Sexual orientation	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Men and women generally	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Disability	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As

	such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.
Dependants	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Community Plan will have an adverse impact upon this group. The overall aim of the Engagement Action Plan is and was to ensure widespread input from local citizens and various other stakeholders. As such, engagement events/opportunities to date have varied in location (across the District), in times of day and in methodology in order to ensure that as many individuals engaged with the process as possible. Accessible venues were also used, and various assistance services were also available upon request.

Screening Questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 grounds?

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	Effective implementation of the Community Plan will result in realising the Vision of Newry, Mourne and Down in 2030 as "a <i>place with strong, safe and vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people's needs.</i> ".	Major - positive
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?

Section 75 category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Religious belief		Two of the Shared Values promoted by Community Planning Partners are to promote equality and tackle inequality . These are placed at the core of all of our services and actions, as we work towards achieving a shared future for all, and Effective community engagement - Inclusive, participative and effective community
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

		involvement and engagement will be a feature of community planning
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3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	The effective development and implementation of the Community Plan will deliver outcomes to all members of the local community, visitors and workers regardless of religious belief, political opinion or racial grouping.	Minor - positive
Political opinion		
Racial group		

4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Religious belief		The effective implementation of the Engagement Strategy will maximise opportunities for individuals (and communities) to have a say in the Community Planning process. The draft Community Plan reflects their needs and will enhance opportunities for the building of relationships based on mutual respect.
Political opinion		
Racial group		

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

None

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should (please underline one):

1. Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)
2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)
3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time
4. Be subject to an EQIA

If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:

As noted, it is recommended the draft Strategic Community Plan not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required).

The Draft Strategic Community Plan has been developed following an extensive engagement exercise. This included an initial engagement process of 9 District wide events and an online survey, which concluded in March 2015. This identified key priority areas relevant to community planning themes (Feedback Report March 2015).

This was further enhanced by 2 District events for the Community and Voluntary Sectors which led to the establishment of the Strategic Stakeholder Forum which has nominated 14 CVS representatives onto the Community Planning governance structure.

A Baseline Evidence Report was compiled to support development of Community Plan outcomes. (Community Planning Evidence Baseline Report, July 2015).

Seven District Electoral Area Fora were established and undertook 21 local engagement events.

Further consultation will be undertaken on the Draft Strategic Community Plan, between October 2016 and January 2017.

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy? Yes / No. If No, please explain why

If 3. or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

Timetabling and prioritising EQIA

If 3. or 4, is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? NO

If YES, please provide details:

Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority's functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: _____

Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

As per Council's Equality Scheme commitment 4.31, the policy will be reviewed in line with the Council's agreed policy review cycle i.e. every four years, or sooner as necessary, to ensure that it remains up-to-date with legislative advancements etc.

Further to this, the draft Community Plan outlines it will be supported by comprehensive governance, scrutiny and accountability arrangements.


There will be three strands of the partnership which will interact with each other but with defined roles that Support 'internal' and 'external' partnership accountability; Provide a strong focus on delivery of outcomes; Develop a joint partnership performance framework; and Ensure clear Partnership communication.

Membership at all levels in the structure will be made up of Elected Members from the Council, representatives from Statutory Partners such as the Education Authority, Police Service of Northern Ireland, the Health Trusts, the Public Health Agency and other, plus the Community and Voluntary Sector.

The governance structure will support input from the community at all levels, particularly through the 7 District Electoral Area Fora as a member or via public meetings.

Community and Voluntary representative on the 4 Thematic Groups are appointed by the Strategic Community and Voluntary Sector Stakeholder Forum and the Chair and Vice Chair of this Forum are members of the Partnership Board.

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Heather McKee	Assistant Director Community Planning	September 2016
Colin Moffett	Equality Officer	28 October 2016
Approved by: 	Director of Strategic Planning & Performance	15 November 2016

Note: The completed policy screening template, signed off by the appropriate policy lead within the Council, and approved by the senior manager responsible for the policy, should be forwarded to the Equality Officer who will arrange for it to be included in the Council's Quarterly Report on Screening and made available on the Council's website.

