Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Section 75 Policy Screening Report

# Quarterly Report January – March 2017

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| **Policy Number** | **Policy** | **Details of policy** | **Screening Outcome** |
| 131 | Supporting Community Events Policy | The Aim of this policy is to build on Councils civic leadership role and give appropriate consideration and recognition to community engagement and capacity building within the Newry,Mourne and Down District Council area.  The policy will be implemented in the public interest to:   * Empower local communities * Encourage community organisations to play a greater role in the management of events * Promote equality of opportunity, good relations and assist in supporting groups identified under Section 75 Northern Ireland Act (1998). | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 138 | Ordinary Parental Leave Policy | The policy outlines the provisions with regard to Ordinary Parental Leave for employees. | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 139 | Car Purchase Assistance Scheme | Section B of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 provides for a district council to make a loan to an officer for the purchase of a motor car or motor cycle, subject to such conditions as the Department of the Environment, with the approval of Department of Finance and Personnel may determine.  Part 3, section 6, paragraph 6.6 on the National Agreement of Pay and Conditions of Service (Green Book) makes provision for an authorised car user to apply for financial assistance to purchase a car.  The discretionary Car Purchase Assistance Scheme provides the opportunity for eligible employees to apply for a loan from the Council for the purchase of a car to be used in connection with their duties, the loan being repaid via a salary deduction agreement. | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 140 | Travelling Expenses and Subsistence Policy | An employee may incur necessary additional expense on travel and subsistence in the course of their employment. The purpose of this policy is to allow employees to claim additional expenditure incurred whilst on authorised Council business. | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 141 | Tourism Strategy | Tourism has been identified by the Council as key priority within our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, and is seen as pivotal in achieving the Council’s corporate vision to create opportunities for local people and local communities to thrive by supporting sustainable economic growth over time and helping them lead fulfilling lifestyles. The Council has set a goal of becoming one of the premier tourism destinations on the island of Ireland and is looking to focus on ensuring it has the cultural and tourism infrastructure in place that will attract and serve the expectations of a growing number of local and international visitors. The five-year Strategy sets out the strategic direction for the tourism industry within the District of Newry, Mourne and Down. It has been developed to support the Newry, Mourne and Down Corporate Plan 2015-2019 and the Newry, Mourne and Down Economic Regeneration & Investment Strategy 2015-2020, and aligns with key national tourism and economic development policies. | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 144 | Sports Development: Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) Procedures | Two of the key objectives identified by the Active & Healthy  Communities Directorate are to; promote increased levels of  activity and create a strong community base to improve  empowerment and capacity within our communities.  The Active and Healthy Communities Directorate therefore  seeks to assist our sporting community to develop and reach  their sporting goals through a structured environment and are  aware that a percentage of our citizens achieve the level of ‘high  sports performer.’  The procedure seeks to ensure a structured, strategic and co-ordinated approach by Council to financially supporting individuals and clubs selected by their governing body of sport to represent their county/country, or alternatively, have achieved the highest performance level determined by their governing body which would be deemed equivalent to any of the following three levels:   1. Provincial or Interprovincial Level(s) (Ulster or All Ireland) 2. International level (European, Commonwealth or Inter-Countries) 3. World Level (Olympic, World Championships)   The aim of the procedure is to:-   * Regularise the process, levels of Recognition of achievement and allocation of financial support for participation in High Performance Level(s) in sport; * Complement the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan, Core ideology, and the Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan; * Promote high achievement in sport to encourage increased participation at a local level * Empower and improve the capacity of our local communities; * Improve sports and community development opportunities for all; * Support improved Health and Wellbeing outcomes; * To enable our sporting citizens to develop and reach their sporting goals at the highest level.   Applications for Recognition of Achievement (High Performance Level(s)) will only be considered in accordance with the Procedures. | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 145 | Policy on access to and use of NMDDC Indoor Leisure Facilities for Council employees, agency workers and Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors) | The aim and purpose of the policy is to set out the arrangements and protocol for providing access to and use of the following Newry Mourne and Down District Council Indoor Leisure Facilities:   * Ballymote Sports and Well Being Centre * Downpatrick Leisure Centre * Kilkeel Leisure Centre * Newcastle Leisure Centre * Newcastle Tropicana * Newcastle Rock Pool * Newry Sports Centre * Newry Leisure Centre * St Colman’s Sports Complex Newry   This policy supersedes both legacy Newry and Mourne and Down District Councils which gave consideration to the free use of leisure facilities in order to improve the health and wellbeing of employees, to reduce levels of absenteeism and for associated health benefits during certain periods of ill health.  The policy applies to:   * All employees of Newry Mourne and Down District Council; * Agency workers with 12 weeks’ continuous service and who are expected to be retained for at least one month after completion of 12 weeks’ continuous service. * Current serving Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (Councillors) | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 146 | Newry, Mourne and Down District Council draft Performance Improvement Objectives for 2017-18 | This document sets out the recommended approach and timetable for the development and publication of a Performance Improvement Plan for 2017-18; and the following draft performance improvement objectives for 2017-18, all of which are clearly linked to the Community and Corporate Plans for the District.   1. Encourage healthy lifestyles through increased participation in leisure, sport and recreational activities 2. Improve economic growth by creating new business starts, supporting the growth of existing businesses and promoting Newry, Mourne and Down as a premier tourist destination 3. Deliver urban and rural regeneration initiatives that will create a District where people want to live, work and invest in 4. Create a cleaner, greener, more attractive District 5. Encourage and empower local communities to participate in Council engagement structures | No EQIA considered necessary |
| 147 | Credit Card Policy | The purpose of this policy is to set out a framework for the use of Credit Cards including appropriate use and reporting of expenditure. The policy aims to ensure that the operational and administrative costs and the risks associated with credit card use are minimised, while providing cardholders with a convenient method of purchasing good and services on behalf of the Council. | No EQIA considered necessary |