

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Establishment of a Financial Assistance Scheme – re: Languages
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The suggested financial assistance scheme would have three specific themes, as follows:</p> <p>Theme 1: Irish language community renewal and development This theme would be an open call for projects / initiatives that encourage Irish language community capacity building, mentoring and volunteering. It is envisaged that this scheme will inspire better developed Irish language communities to partner with newer or developing language communities to share resources and build better networks and encourage volunteering.</p> <p>Theme 2: Positively engaging the Irish language This theme would be an open call for community engagement projects / initiatives to build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>Theme 3: Minority language scheme This would be an open call for projects / initiatives that facilitates the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	People with a disability, and people of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group.
If so, explain how.	While it should be noted language is not an equality category, across the three themes it might be expected that people with a disability (visual and hearing impairment) have potential to directly benefit, while people of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group will indirectly benefit from the suggested financial assistance scheme.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Director of Corporate Services

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	X	
If yes, are they Legislative	X	
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	X	
Service users	X	
Other public sector organisations	X	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	X	
Other, please specify:		

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMDDC Bilingualism Policy • NMDDC Irish Language Strategy 2017-19 • NMDDC Financial Assistance Policy • NMDDC Equality Scheme • Section 75 of the NI Act 1998 • Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the) Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006 • European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
Who owns them	Council are required to give consideration to these policies and legislation in the delivery of its functions and services.

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	<table border="1" data-bbox="411 506 1386 779"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 506 587 607">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="592 506 751 607">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="756 506 916 607">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="920 506 1096 607">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1101 506 1260 607">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1265 506 1386 607">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 613 587 680">Northern Ireland</td> <td data-bbox="592 613 751 680">1,810,863</td> <td data-bbox="756 613 916 680">817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 613 1096 680">875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 613 1260 680">16,592 (0.92%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 613 1386 680">101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 687 587 779">Newry, Mourne & Down</td> <td data-bbox="592 687 751 779">169,211</td> <td data-bbox="756 687 916 779">122,544 (72.42%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 687 1096 779">40,273 (23.8%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 687 1260 779">861 (0.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 687 1386 779">5533 (3.3%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="411 786 1257 846">(Source: Census Data 2011 - Religion or Religion Brought Up In: KS212NI).</p>	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 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)	Newry, Mourne & Down	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)			
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Newry, Mourne & Down	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)																	
Political opinion	<p data-bbox="392 920 1390 981">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1016 1294 1050">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="392 1086 979 1285"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1086 858 1115">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="863 1086 979 1115">14 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1122 858 1151">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="863 1122 979 1151">13 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1158 858 1187">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="863 1158 979 1187">4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1193 858 1223">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="863 1193 979 1223">5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1229 858 1258">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="863 1229 979 1258">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1265 858 1294">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="863 1265 979 1294">2 seat</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sinn Féin	14 seats	SDLP	13 seats	Democratic Unionist	4 seats	Independents	5 seats	Ulster Unionist	3 seats	Alliance	2 seat									
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Racial group	<p data-bbox="392 1330 1390 1420">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 data-bbox="392 1456 1337 1516">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1552 1398 1612">The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2011) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="392 1648 1382 1709">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 1715 1382 2018"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 1715 858 1816">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="863 1715 1086 1816">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1091 1715 1382 1816">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1823 858 1852">English</td> <td data-bbox="863 1823 1086 1852">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1823 1382 1852">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1859 858 1888">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1859 1086 1888">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1859 1382 1888">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1895 858 1924">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1895 1086 1924">836</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1895 1382 1924">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1930 858 1960">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1930 1086 1960">367</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1930 1382 1960">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1966 858 1995">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="863 1966 1086 1995">86</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1966 1382 1995">0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 2002 858 2031">Slovak</td> <td data-bbox="863 2002 1086 2031">134</td> <td data-bbox="1091 2002 1382 2031">0.08</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
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	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
Age	The age profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD area at Census Day 2011 is as follows:		
	Age Profile	NI	Newry, Mourne & Down
	0-4	124382	12721
	5-7	67662	6876
	8-9	43625	4595
	10-14	119034	12287
	15	24620	2599
	16-17	51440	5260
	18-19	50181	4570
	20-24	126013	11570
	25-29	124099	11805
	30-34	373947	35122
	45-59	347850	32556
	60-64	94290	8624
	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	102	1243

	registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years		(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
LGD	Male	Female										
Northern Ireland	887323	923540										
Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345										
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</p>											

limits their day-to-day activities;

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%)

In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:

- 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 significant visual impairment
- 52,000 people with learning disabilities

(Source: Disability Action)

Dependants

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.

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.

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.

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.

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
	<i>As stated previously, while it should be noted language is not an equality category, across the three themes it might be expected that people with a disability (visual and hearing impairment) have potential to directly benefit, while people of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group will indirectly benefit from the suggested financial assistance scheme.</i>
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Political opinion	No specific needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Racial group	In terms of the suggested scheme, and access to information and services, people whose first language is not English may have specific needs, experiences and priorities.
Age	No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Marital status	No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Sexual orientation	No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Men and women generally	No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Disability	In terms of the suggested scheme, and access to information and services, people with communication disabilities may have specific needs, experiences and priorities.
Dependants	No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.

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	The suggested financial assistance scheme would have three specific themes, as follows:	Minor

	<p>Theme 1: Irish language community renewal and development This theme would be an open call for projects / initiatives that encourage Irish language community capacity building, mentoring and volunteering. It is envisaged that this scheme will inspire better developed Irish language communities to partner with newer or developing language communities to share resources and build better networks and encourage volunteering.</p> <p>Theme 2: Positively engaging the Irish language This theme would be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives to build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>Theme 3: Minority language scheme This would be an open call for projects / initiatives that facilitates the promotion and development of minority languages.</p> <p>Themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, it is acknowledged Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Roman Catholic community background.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council’s Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council’s Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	
Political opinion	<p>The suggested financial assistance scheme would have three specific themes, as follows:</p> <p>Theme 1: Irish language community renewal and development This theme would be an open call for projects /</p>	Minor

	<p>initiatives that encourage Irish language community capacity building, mentoring and volunteering. It is envisaged that this scheme will inspire better developed Irish language communities to partner with newer or developing language communities to share resources and build better networks and encourage volunteering.</p> <p>Theme 2: Positively engaging the Irish language This theme would be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives to build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>Theme 3: Minority language scheme This would be an open call for projects / initiatives that facilitates the promotion and development of minority languages.</p> <p>Themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, it is acknowledged Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Nationalist political opinion.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	
Racial group	<p>The suggested financial assistance scheme would have three specific themes, as follows:</p> <p>Theme 1: Irish language community renewal and development This theme would be an open call for projects / initiatives that encourage Irish language community capacity building, mentoring and volunteering. It is envisaged that this scheme will inspire better developed Irish language</p>	Minor

	<p>communities to partner with newer or developing language communities to share resources and build better networks and encourage volunteering.</p> <p>Theme 2: Positively engaging the Irish language This theme would be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives to build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>Theme 3: Minority language scheme This would be an open call for projects / initiatives that facilitates the promotion and development of minority languages.</p> <p>Themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, it is acknowledged Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are of an Irish National identity. However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council’s Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>Theme 3 provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages e.g. Irish, Ulster Scots, ethnic minority languages and disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council’s Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	
Age		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women		None

generally		
Disability	<p>As stated, in terms of the suggested scheme, and access to information and services, people with communication disabilities may have specific needs, experiences and priorities.</p> <p>Theme 3 of the suggested financial assistance scheme provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages, which will include disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community, and also the disability duties as per Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the) Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006, which requires Council, in carrying out its functions to have due regard to the need to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and to encourage participation by disabled people in public life.</p> <p>Specifically this relates to addressing needs, experiences and priorities for people with communication disabilities, and potentially people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	Minor
Dependants		None

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		<p>No</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Roman Catholic community background.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as</p>

		<p>positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Political opinion		<p>No</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Nationalist political opinion.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Racial group		<p>No</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are of an Irish National identity.</p> <p>However, themes 1 and 2 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>Theme 3 provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages e.g. Irish, Ulster Scots, ethnic minority languages and disability languages. Taking this</p>

		<p>approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Age		No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Marital status		No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Sexual orientation		No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Men and women generally		No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Disability		<p>No</p> <p>While people with communication disabilities may have specific needs, experiences and priorities, theme 3 of the suggested financial assistance scheme provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages, which will include disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community, and also the disability duties as per Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the) Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006, which requires Council, in carrying out its functions to have due regard to the need to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and to encourage participation by disabled people in public life.</p> <p>Specifically this relates to addressing needs, experiences and priorities for people with communication disabilities, and potentially people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>

Dependants		No needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
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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	<p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 of the suggested financial assistance scheme are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Roman Catholic community background.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>Theme 2, of the suggested financial assistance scheme, Positively engaging the Irish language, will be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives that will build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	Minor
Political opinion	<p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 of the suggested financial assistance scheme are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Nationalist political opinion.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p>	Minor

	<p>Theme 2, of the suggested financial assistance scheme, Positively engaging the Irish language, will be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives that will build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>	
Racial group	<p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 of the suggested financial assistance scheme are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are of an Irish National identity.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>Theme 2, of the suggested financial assistance scheme, Positively engaging the Irish language, will be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives that will build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.</p> <p>Theme 3 provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages e.g. Irish, Ulster Scots, ethnic minority languages and disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the</p>	Minor

	community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.	
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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		<p>No –</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Roman Catholic community background.</p> <p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Political opinion		<p>No</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are from a Nationalist political opinion.</p>

		<p>However, themes 1, 2 and 3 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>In addition, theme 3 contributes to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment to ensure the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people (Irish language speakers) whose first language is not English, through promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
Racial group		<p>No</p> <p>It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are of an Irish National identity.</p> <p>However, themes 1 and 2 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.</p> <p>Theme 3 provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages e.g. Irish, Ulster Scots, ethnic minority languages and disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.</p>

		<p>In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. Specifically this relates to people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.</p>
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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).

N/A

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:

The outcome of screening is that the suggested establishment of a Financial Assistance Scheme – re: Languages not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required).

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Equality Scheme requires Council in

carrying out its functions to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity, and regard towards the desirability of promoting good relations.

In addition, Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the) Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006 requires the Council, in carrying out its functions, to have due regard to the need, to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and to encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

Therefore the suggested financial assistance scheme must be developed and delivered taking cognisance of the Council's Section 75 statutory duties and disability duties. It is anticipated the suggested scheme, and the associated three themes, have potential have both a direct and indirect impact on actions to ensure public access to services we provide.

While it should be noted language is not an equality category, It is acknowledged themes 1, 2 and 3 are directly related to the Irish language. While it should be noted language is not an equality category, Irish language is predominantly spoken by people who are of a Catholic, Nationalist and Irish National identity. However, themes 1 and 2 would be designated as positive actions building upon the Council's Bilingualism Policy, audit of Irish Language provision in the Newry, Mourne and Down District area, and the Irish Language Strategy 2017/19.

Therefore, in terms of equality and good relations implications, any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the recommendations would be intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity and good relations.

Theme 2 of the suggested financial assistance scheme, Positively engaging the Irish language, will directly contribute to good relations as it will be an open call for community engagement projects /initiatives that will build positive relations, raise awareness and understanding, address perceptions and promote respect for the Irish language.

Theme 3 provides an opportunity to establish an inclusive funding scheme related to all minority languages e.g. Irish, Ulster Scots, ethnic minority languages and disability languages. Taking this approach will mainstream equality of opportunity principles, and access to funding opportunities, at the centre of the financial assistance process.

In addition, theme 3 will contribute to the Council's Equality Scheme commitment that information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community, and also the disability duties as per Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the) Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006, which requires Council, in carrying out its functions to have due regard to the need to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and to encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

Specifically this relates to addressing needs, experiences and priorities for people with communication disabilities, and potentially people whose first language is not English, through providing financial assistance towards initiatives / projects that facilitate the promotion and development of minority languages.

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:

The implementation of a Financial Assistance Scheme re: Languages would be monitored annually.

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	24/10/17
Approved by:		

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 Head of Corporate Policy who will arrange for it to be included in the Council's Quarterly Report on Screening and made available on the Council's website.