

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Financial Assistance Policy
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	Revised
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The overall aim of financial assistance is to enable Council to maximise the impact of its work across the Council area for the benefit of local residents.</p> <p>The objectives of the policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the impact of, and outcomes from, all Council funding. • Seek to address needs which are clearly demonstrated and fall within, or are compatible with, Council priorities. • Increase community engagement and voluntary participation in addressing areas of common concern. • Enhance the sustainability of community-based activities and provision. • Support community-based work which addresses the needs of those who are most deprived. • Support the development of mutual respect, understanding and appreciation of diversity and shared cultural experiences. • Ensure fairness, transparency and value for money in all Council's Financial Assistance Practice.
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	No
If so, explain how.	Whilst no specific Section 75 category is expected to benefit, the Council is potentially able to develop specific themes relevant to Section 75 categories.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Head of Programmes
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Assistant Director for Community Engagement

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 FAP Guidance Manual • NMDDC FAP Applicant Guidance • NMDDC FAP Applicant Procedure Chart • NMDDC FAP Risk Assessment Monitoring and Evaluation document • Council’s Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedures (September 2018)
Who owns them	NMDDC

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
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<p>Religious belief</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="411 241 1394 512"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 241 588 342">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="592 241 754 342">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="758 241 916 342">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="919 241 1098 342">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1101 241 1251 342">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1254 241 1394 342">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 347 588 412">Northern Ireland</td> <td data-bbox="592 347 754 412">1,810,863</td> <td data-bbox="758 347 916 412">817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td data-bbox="919 347 1098 412">875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 347 1251 412">16,592 (0.92%)</td> <td data-bbox="1254 347 1394 412">101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 416 588 512">Newry, Mourne & Down</td> <td data-bbox="592 416 754 512">169,211</td> <td data-bbox="758 416 916 512">122,544 (72.42%)</td> <td data-bbox="919 416 1098 512">40,273 (23.8%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 416 1251 512">861 (0.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1254 416 1394 512">5533 (3.3%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="411 517 1257 582">(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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<p>Political opinion</p>	<p data-bbox="395 656 1399 721">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="395 754 1294 788">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="395 822 979 1021"> <tr> <td>Sinn Féin</td> <td>16 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SDLP</td> <td>11 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independents</td> <td>5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulster Unionist</td> <td>4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Democratic Unionist</td> <td>3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance</td> <td>2 seats</td> </tr> </table>	Sinn Féin	16 seats	SDLP	11 seats	Independents	5 seats	Ulster Unionist	4 seats	Democratic Unionist	3 seats	Alliance	2 seats																														
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<p>Racial group</p>	<p data-bbox="395 1059 1399 1160">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="395 1193 1342 1258">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1292 1406 1357">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="395 1391 1386 1456">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1460 1382 2013"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="395 1460 860 1561">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="863 1460 1086 1561">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1090 1460 1382 1561">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1565 860 1599">English</td> <td data-bbox="863 1565 1086 1599">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1565 1382 1599">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1603 860 1637">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1603 1086 1637">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1603 1382 1637">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1641 860 1675">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1641 1086 1675">836</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1641 1382 1675">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1680 860 1713">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1680 1086 1713">367</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1680 1382 1713">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1718 860 1751">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="863 1718 1086 1751">86</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1718 1382 1751">0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1756 860 1789">Slovak</td> <td data-bbox="863 1756 1086 1789">134</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1756 1382 1789">0.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1794 860 1827">Chinese</td> <td data-bbox="863 1794 1086 1827">121</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1794 1382 1827">0.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1832 860 1865">Tagalog/Filipino</td> <td data-bbox="863 1832 1086 1865">55</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1832 1382 1865">0.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1870 860 1904">Latvian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1870 1086 1904">208</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1870 1382 1904">0.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1908 860 1942">Russian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1908 1086 1942">109</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1908 1382 1942">0.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1946 860 1980">Malayalam</td> <td data-bbox="863 1946 1086 1980">87</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1946 1382 1980">0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1984 860 2018">Hungarian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1984 1086 2018">74</td> <td data-bbox="1090 1984 1382 2018">0.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 2022 860 2056">Other</td> <td data-bbox="863 2022 1086 2056">755</td> <td data-bbox="1090 2022 1382 2056">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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	(but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years		(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</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day					
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			activities limited a lot	activities limited a little	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 dependants 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 dependants. With regard to these figures, dependants 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 dependants 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
Religious belief	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Political opinion	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Racial group	Potential access to information in languages other than English
Age	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Marital status	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Sexual orientation	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Men and women generally	No needs/experiences/priorities have been identified
Disability	Potential access to information in alternative formats
Dependants	No needs/experiences/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	As detailed in section 6.3 of the Council's Equality Scheme, we will ensure equality of opportunity in accessing information, we provide information in alternative formats on request, where reasonably practicable. Where the exact request cannot be met we will ensure a reasonable alternative is provided.	Minor
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	We will ensure equality of opportunity in accessing information, we provide	
Political opinion		
Racial group		

Age	information in alternative formats on request, where reasonably practicable. Where the exact request cannot be met we will ensure a reasonable alternative is provided. In addition, the Council is potentially able to develop specific themes relevant to Section 75 categories.	
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

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	There is potential for positive policy impact as Council is able to develop specific themes relevant to section 75 categories, e.g. Good Relations and Minority Communities Fund themes.	Minor
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		No
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:

The outcome of screening the Financial Assistance Policy is that it not be subject to an EQIA.

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

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Justyna McCabe	Head of Programmes	11/06/2019
Approved by:		
Janine Hillen	Assistant Director Community Engagement	30/07/2019

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.