

## Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

### Policy Information

Name of the policy	Fire Safety Management Policy
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	Revised
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The Council, as the "Duty Holder", by making this policy commits to provide safe working conditions for its employees, and others who may be affected by activities in its premises.</p> <p>The Council through this policy commits to assess the risks of fire within all its premises and to implement appropriate fire safety precautions in each premise.</p> <p>The Council through the successful implementation of its Management Plan will meet these policy objectives.</p>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how.	No specific Section 75 category might be expected to benefit from the policy and procedure.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	C Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Who owns and who implements the policy?	C Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability

### Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		<b>X</b>
If yes, are they Financial		
If yes, are they Legislative		
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		
Voluntary/community/trade unions		
Other, please specify:		

### Other policies with a bearing on this policy

<p>What are they Who owns them</p>	<p>This document should be read in conjunction with the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newry, Mourne &amp; Down District Council Health &amp; Safety Policy</li> <li>• Newry, Mourne &amp; Down District Council Health &amp; Safety Policy Organisational Procedures</li> <li>• Newry, Mourne &amp; Down District Council Fire Safety Management Plan (Management Plan)</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant statutory regulations and documents to be consulted as part of the policy include: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health &amp; Safety at Work (NI) Order 1978</li> <li>• Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (NI)2000</li> <li>• Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010</li> <li>• Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (NI) 2003</li> </ul>
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### 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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Religious belief	<table border="1" data-bbox="392 241 1417 555"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 241 564 353">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="564 241 743 353">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="743 241 906 353">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="906 241 1102 353">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1102 241 1273 353">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1273 241 1417 353">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 353 564 434"><b>Northern Ireland</b></td> <td data-bbox="564 353 743 434">1,903,178</td> <td data-bbox="743 353 906 434">869,753 (45.7%)</td> <td data-bbox="906 353 1102 434">827,545 (43.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1102 353 1273 434">28,514 (1.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1273 353 1417 434">177,360 (9.3%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 434 564 555"><b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b></td> <td data-bbox="564 434 743 555">182,074</td> <td data-bbox="743 434 906 555">131,300 (72.1%)</td> <td data-bbox="906 434 1102 555">39,970 (22.0%)</td> <td data-bbox="1102 434 1273 555">1,327 (0.7%)</td> <td data-bbox="1273 434 1417 555">9,477 (5.2%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="405 562 815 595">(Source: Census Data 2021).</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None	<b>Northern Ireland</b>	1,903,178	869,753 (45.7%)	827,545 (43.5%)	28,514 (1.5%)	177,360 (9.3%)	<b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b>	182,074	131,300 (72.1%)	39,970 (22.0%)	1,327 (0.7%)	9,477 (5.2%)
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Political opinion	<p data-bbox="392 696 1374 768">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="392 808 1366 842">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="392 887 1062 1115"> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 887 935 920">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="935 887 1062 920">20 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 920 935 954">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="935 920 1062 954">8 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 954 935 987">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="935 954 1062 987">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 987 935 1021">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="935 987 1062 1021">5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1021 935 1055">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="935 1021 1062 1055">1 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1055 935 1115">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="935 1055 1062 1115">4 seats</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="392 1155 1414 1379">Councillors are elected within seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) across the Council area. With respect to party political representation, democratic deficits exist within particular DEAs i.e three DEAs have no PUL Councillor representation (Newry, Crotlieve and Downpatrick), two DEAs have one PUL (Slieve Croob and Slieve Gullion) Councillor and, one DEA has one CNR (Rowallane).</p>	Sinn Féin	20 seats	SDLP	8 seats	Independents	3 seats	Democratic Unionist	5 seats	Ulster Unionist	1 seats	Alliance	4 seats						
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Racial group	<p data-bbox="392 1431 1414 1536">According to the 2021 Census, 3.4% (65,604) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups. This is almost double the proportion in 2011 (1.8%).</p> <p data-bbox="392 1581 1398 1731">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile. The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2021) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="392 1776 1358 1843"><b>Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 1850 1374 2042"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 1850 855 1962">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="855 1850 1082 1962">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1082 1850 1374 1962">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1962 855 2007">English</td> <td data-bbox="855 1962 1082 2007">168,408</td> <td data-bbox="1082 1962 1374 2007">96.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 2007 855 2042">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="855 2007 1082 2042">2,143</td> <td data-bbox="1082 2007 1374 2042">1.22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD	Number	Percentage %	English	168,408	96.1	Polish	2,143	1.22									
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English	168,408	96.1																	
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	Lithuanian	1,149	0.66
	Irish	553	0.32
	Romanian	347	0.2
	Portuguese	119	0.06
	Arabic	170	0.09
	Bulgarian	677	0.39
	Chinese (not otherwise specified)	70	0.04
	Slovak	98	0.05
	Hungarian	106	0.06
	Spanish	77	0.04
	Latvian	279	0.15
	Russian	180	0.10
	Tetun	22	0.01
	Malayalam	51	0.03
	Tagalog/Filipino	44	0.03
	Cantonese	38	0.02
	Other languages	711	0.41

Age	According to the 2021 Census, the age profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD is as follows:		
	Age Profile	NI	Newry, Mourne & Down
	0-4	113,825	11,722
	5-7	73,456	7,693
	8-9	51,020	5,259
	10-14	126,919	13,151
	15	23,220	2,254
	16-17	46,641	4,923
	18-19	43,343	4,024
	20-24	111,383	10,022
	25-29	116,407	10,354
	30-44	375,518	34,970
	45-59	381,910	36,612
	60-64	113,043	10,755
	65-74	176,934	16,922
	75-84	110,149	9,872
	85-89	25,877	2,344
	90+	13,517	1,191

Marital status	The table below provides an overview of the marital status profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down area:		
	<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</b>	<b>NI</b>
	All usual residents:	141,996	1,514,743

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Aged 16+ years</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years</td> <td>52,128 (36.7%)</td> <td>576,708 (38.1%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Married: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>68,076 (47.9%)</td> <td>690,509 (45.6%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>201 (0.14%)</td> <td>2,742 (0.19%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years</td> <td>4,975 (3.5%)</td> <td>57,272 (3.8%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved</td> <td>7,704 (5.4%)</td> <td>91,128 (6.0%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>8,912 (6.3%)</td> <td>96,384 (6.4%)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Census 2021</p>	Aged 16+ years			Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years	52,128 (36.7%)	576,708 (38.1%)	Married: Aged 16+ years	68,076 (47.9%)	690,509 (45.6%)	In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	201 (0.14%)	2,742 (0.19%)	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	4,975 (3.5%)	57,272 (3.8%)	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	7,704 (5.4%)	91,128 (6.0%)	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	8,912 (6.3%)	96,384 (6.4%)
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Sexual orientation	<p>Analysis of the Census 2021 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>936,132</td> <td>967,043</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</td> <td>90,063</td> <td>92,011</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Census 2021</p>	LGD	Male	Female	Northern Ireland	936,132	967,043	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	90,063	92,011												
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Disability	<p>According to the 2021 Census 22.88% of people in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area has a long-term health problem or</p>																					

disability that 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	1,903,179	217,964 (11.45%)	245,057 (12.88%)	1,440,158 (75.67%)
Newry, Mourne and Down	182,074	19,789 (10.87%)	21,868 (12.01%)	140,417 (77.13%)

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 Sigh 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.

According to the Census 2021, there are 68,396 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 33.9% of which have dependent children. 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 33.9% in 2021.

There are 5,639 lone parent households with dependent children in Newry, Mourne and Down which equates to just over 8% of number of total households in the District and is the fourth highest in Northern Ireland, after Belfast (17,292), Derry and Strabane (7,639) and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon (6,556). Half of the parents in lone

	<p>parent households in Newry, Mourne and Down are unemployed, almost a quarter are in full time employment and over a quarter are in part time employment. 93% of the parents in lone parent households in the District are female compared to 11% who are male.</p> <p>In 2019-21, the teenage birth rate (under 20 years old) was 6.5 per 1,000 mothers, which is the fourth highest in Northern Ireland after Belfast (11.4); Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey (6.9) and Mid and East Antrim (6.8) but below the regional average of 6.8 per 1,000 births.</p>
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### **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.

<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>Details of needs/experiences/priorities</b>
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the Section 75 categories have been identified in relation to the Fire Safety Management Policy.
Political opinion	
Racial group	
Age	
Marital status	
Sexual orientation	
Men and women generally	
Disability	
Dependants	

## 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?

<b>Section 75 category</b>	<b>Details of policy impact</b>	<b>Level of impact? Major/minor/none</b>
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the Section 75 categories have been identified in relation to the Fire Safety Management Policy.	None
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?

<b>Section 75 category</b>	<b>If Yes, provide details</b>	<b>If No, provide details</b>
Religious belief		No  No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the Section 75 categories have been identified in relation to the Fire Safety Management Policy.
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
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?

<b>Good relations category</b>	<b>Details of policy impact</b>	<b>Level of impact? Major/minor/none</b>
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the good relations categories have been identified in relation to the Fire Safety Management Policy.	None
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 <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , 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

**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. Be subject to an EQIA

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

It is recommended the Fire Safety Management Policy not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required).

The reason for this decision is that no specific needs, experiences and priorities for the nine Section 75 categories have been identified in relation to the policy.

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

**Timetabling and prioritising EQIA**

If 3. 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:

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### **Approval and Authorisation**

<b>Screened by:</b>	<b>Position/Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	24/2/26
<b>Approved by:</b>		
C Sage	Assistant Director Sustainability	24/2/26

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.