

# Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

## Policy Information

Name of the policy	International Relations Strategy
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	Revised and new
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The strategy updates and supersedes Council's current International Relations Policy and International Relations Framework. It complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.</p> <p>The purpose of this International Relations Strategy is to ensure Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is optimally positioned on the international stage to realise our ambitions, and that our resources and priorities are aligned with the overarching strategic vision to drive economic growth across the district, thereby contributing to Northern Ireland's draft Programme for Government.</p> <p>The strategy sets out Council's approach to developing international relations in terms of our role, and the context of strengthening relationships, demonstrating civic leadership, maximising business and cultural opportunities associated with our diaspora, and identifying new market opportunities, promote trade and investment, and attract visitors and tourism.</p>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	The policy is designated as a positive action for the development of the Council's proposed international partnership arrangements and engagement, and is not specifically targeted at benefiting a particular Section 75 category.
If so, explain how.	N/A
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enterprise &amp; Strategy Development Manager</li> <li>• Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration</li> <li>• Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism</li> </ul>
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

## Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		
If yes, are they Financial	<b>X</b>	
If yes, are they Legislative	<b>X</b>	
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 and who owns them	N,MDDC Corporate Plan N,MDDC Community Plan NI draft Programme for Government, NI draft Industrial (Economic) Strategy The NI Executive's International Relations Strategy
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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					
Religious belief	<b>LGD</b>	<b>All usual residents</b>	<b>Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant and other Christian</b>	<b>Other religions</b>	<b>None</b>
	<b>Northern Ireland</b>	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.9%)	101,169 (5.59%)
	<b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b>	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 party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:					
	Sinn Féin		16 seats			

	<p>SDLP 11 seats  Democratic Unionist 3 seats  Independents 5 seats  Ulster Unionist 4 seats  Alliance 2 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><b>Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</b></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> <p>With regard to trade, the NI Economic Strategy notes that export led growth is a key economic driver, citing a need to both grow exports and diversify into new markets. Export focused firms enjoy higher levels of innovation, skills and productivity, are less susceptible to downturns in domestic markets and are therefore more resilient.</p> <p>Sales data from Invest NI companies in Newry, Mourne and Down for 2018, shows that the concentration of key markets is relatively narrow, with USA £396m (25%), GB £319m (20%), Northern Ireland £239m (15%) Republic of Ireland £160m (10%) and EU markets £158m (10%) accounting for over 80% of total sales of £1.58bn.</p>	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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## Invest NI Companies Sales by Destination

Newry, Mourne & Down 2018\*

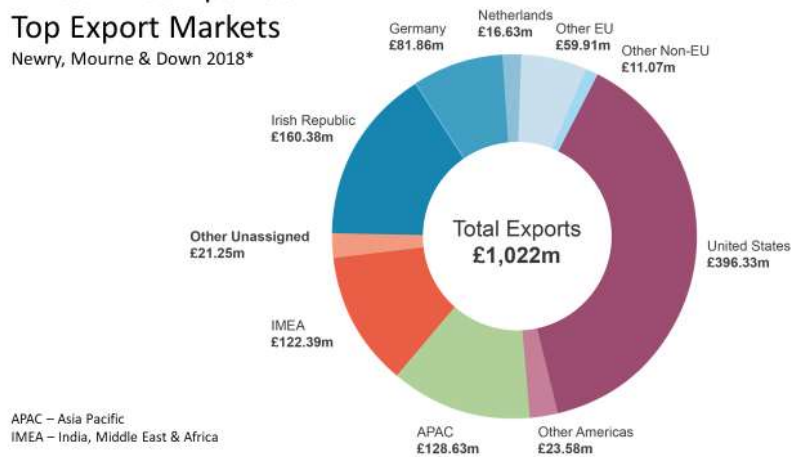


\*Exports data cover businesses supported by Invest NI with headquarters in Newry, Mourne and Down

If we exclude NI and GB, a more detailed breakdown of export sales for NMDDC is as follows:

## Invest NI Companies Top Export Markets

Newry, Mourne & Down 2018\*



\*Exports data cover businesses supported by Invest NI with headquarters in Newry, Mourne and Down

The plan to leave the European Union in October 2019 has created significant uncertainty in terms of prospects for economic growth and attracting investment. Even at this late stage, there is still no real clarity regarding our future access to the EU single market. However, the evidence clearly demonstrates that GB, Republic of Ireland, EU and USA will remain key, priority markets for Northern Ireland and NMDDC businesses even after Brexit.

NMDDC's International Relations Strategy must be flexible and agile enough to respond to the emerging changes and impacts of Brexit and exploit any new trading relationships that result in the coming years.

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 registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	102	1243 (0.09%)
Separated (but still legally married or	4697	56911 (3.98%)	

	still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years													
	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 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> </tbody> </table>				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%)
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%)	
Dependants	<p>In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss</li> <li>• 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sign Language (ISL)</li> <li>• In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with significant visual impairment</li> <li>• 52,000 people with learning disabilities</li> </ul> <p>(Source: Disability Action)</p> <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 International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse

	<p>impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Political opinion	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Racial group	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>In terms of measuring and reporting outcomes one such indicator may be the increase in the number of international students and exchange programmes to our region, and International Relations activities will include consolidating work to date in developing new opportunities in China, and undertaking a review of our existing International Relations activities (e.g. Kirovsk, Russia and Northern Pines, USA) and assess each against their continued value and benefit to Council's strategic objectives, with a view to withdrawing, refocusing or continuing.</p> <p>This proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Age	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Marital status	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Sexual	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the</p>



orientation	<p>International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Men and women generally	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Disability	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>
Dependants	<p>There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy and priority actions will have an adverse impact upon this group.</p> <p>The proposed approach complements and supports our Community Plan and Council's Corporate Plan to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work visit, trade with and invest in.</p>

## 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 Political opinion	As noted, effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.	Minor – positive
Racial group	As noted, effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and	Major – positive

	<p>position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.</p> <p>The approach and actions being taken would be designated as a positive action seeking to increase the number of international students and exchange programmes to our region.</p> <p>International Relations activities will include consolidating work to date in developing new opportunities in China, and undertaking a review of our existing International Relations activities (e.g. Kirovsk, Russia and Northern Pines, USA) and assess each against their continued value and benefit to Council's strategic objectives, with a view to withdrawing, refocusing or continuing.</p>	
Age	As noted, effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.	Minor – positive
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		The strategy sets out an assessment framework that will evaluate existing and proposed new international relations partnerships / activities, and makes a commitment to measuring and reporting outcomes.
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	As noted, effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to	Minor - positive

	live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.	
Political opinion	Civic leadership will be a central element of Council's approach, and the effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.	Minor – positive
Racial group	<p>Effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.</p> <p>The approach and actions being taken would be designated as a positive action seeking to increase the number of international students and exchange programmes to our region.</p> <p>As noted, International Relations activities will include consolidating work to date in developing new opportunities in China, and undertaking a review of our existing International Relations activities (e.g. Kirovsk, Russia and Northern Pines, USA) and assess each against their continued value and benefit to Council's strategic objectives, with a view to withdrawing, refocusing or continuing.</p>	Major - positive

**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		The strategy sets out an assessment framework that will evaluate existing and proposed new international relations partnerships / activities, and makes a commitment to measuring and reporting outcomes.
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 International Relations Strategy not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required).

There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the International Relations Strategy will have a negative adverse impact, and the Effective implementation of the strategy will be to grow our economy and position our region as a competitive location to start and grow a business, to live, work, visit, trade with and invest in.

The strategy sets out an assessment framework that will evaluate existing and proposed new international relations partnerships / activities, and makes a commitment to measuring and reporting outcomes.

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.

<b>Priority criterion</b>	<b>Rating (1-3)</b>
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 strategy 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.

With regard to effectively monitoring to help identify any future adverse impacts, the strategy sets out an assessment framework that will evaluate existing and proposed new international relations partnerships / activities, and makes a commitment to measuring and reporting outcomes.

## Approval and Authorisation

<b>Screened by:</b>	<b>Position/Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Martin Robinson	Enterprise & Strategy Development Manager	9 October 2019
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	9 October 2019
<b>Approved by:</b>		
Jonathan McGilly	Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration	14 October 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 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.