# Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

# **Policy Information**

Name of the policy/project	Mournes Gateway Project
Is this an existing, revised or new policy/project?	New capital project
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	Please see appendix 1
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	Age Men and women generally Disability Dependants
If so, explain how.	The Mourne Mountains Gateway Project is a Tourism Project within the Belfast Region City Deal, aimed at enhancing Northern Ireland's tourism offering and which seeks to redefine the visitor destination experience associated with the Mourne Mountains and coastline.
	The project proposal is for the establishment of the Thomas Quarry Visitor Centre in the Mournes, with a Gondola/cable car uplift that will commence in Donard Park. It will be a world class international tourist attraction which will provide sustainable enhancements for access from Newcastle town into the Mournes. The project aims to catalyse the sustainable tourism industry in Northern Ireland.
	The vision of the Gateway Project is to: "Deliver a world-class visitor attraction that will support the sustainable regional growth of tourism in Northern Ireland and will help to position Newry, Mourne and Down as one of the premier tourism destinations on the Island of Ireland.
	The project will provide major enhancements to the visitor experience in and around the Mournes, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural heritage and habitat of the region".
	<ul> <li>The project will deliver:</li> <li>1. Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities &amp; age groups</li> <li>2. The project will contribute to the Belfast Region City Deal's ambition to deliver a step change in the region's economic prosperity, help achieve a 15-year programme of inclusive growth, an increase of £470m Gross Value Added and create up to 20,000 new and better jobs, accessible to people</li> </ul>

	from all communities. 3. The estimated economic benefits of the project include: a. 226 direct, indirect and induced jobs b. 251 construction job c. £5.1m annual GVA by 2032, £74.6m GVA over 30 years
Who initiated or wrote the policy/developed the project?	NMDDC is responsible for the development of the Project Outline Business Case with a multi- disciplinary project team appointed, including structural, mechanical and civil engineers, architects, planners, a geo-environmental team, an ecology team, a landscape architect team, transport specialists, commercial consultant and economist to deliver the OBC in line with BRCD requirements in March 2021.
	As part of the development of the OBC for the Mournes Gateway Project Council formed a Project Board with membership drawn from key stakeholders including the National Trust, Tourism N, MHT &DfC. Officers have engaged with the project group from August 2019 to consult and inform on the development of the OBC, including options appraisals, project risks, environmental & ecological studies, and critical success factors in the delivery of the project.
Who owns and who implements the policy/project?	NMDDC

### Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?	Yes	
If yes, are they Financial	Yes – Finance: Risk that the estimated cost of the project greatly exceeds the proposed level of capital & revenue funding available Council.	
If yes, are they Legislative	Yes – Risk of Build: Failure to comply with statutory or regulatory requirements, particularly around nature conservation, landscape designations and planning cause delays and adverse impact on project delivery.	
If yes, and they are Other please specify:		

NB. The Risks involved with the project, including consideration of implementing factors; risk management and mitigation have been addressed in a detailed Risk Management Strategy that forms part of the Outline Business Case.

### Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy/project will impact upon?

	Yes	No
Staff	Yes – creation of new jobs & employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project.	
Service users	Yes – increased opportunity to access the Mourne Mountains. Increased tourism provision in the district & associated benefits from the projected economic outcomes of the project.	
Other public sector organisations	Yes – improved capital infrastructure & transport provision in & around Newcastle. Increased tourism spend & GVA generated in the district & wider Belfast City Deal Region.	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	Yes – creation of new jobs & employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project. Improved capital infrastructure & transport provision in & around Newcastle. Proposed creation of a Charitable foundation with the aim of funding new social, community, conservation and Heritage projects in the Mournes AONB.	
Other, please specify:		

# Other policies & strategies with a bearing on this policy/project

	NI Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021 Economy 2030: A Consultation on an Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland Draft Tourism Strategy for NI (in development) NI Executive - New Decade, New Approach Document Council Corporate plan 2021-2023 Belfast Region Industrial Strategy
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### Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy/project? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Section 75	Details of evidence / information						
Category Religious							
belief	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	(13.1176) 122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)	
	(Source: Cen KS212NI).	sus Data 20 <sup>4</sup>	11 - Religion	or Religion Br	ought Up In	:	
Political opinion	Elected politica opinion of peo	ple within the	e Council are	a.		·	
	The party brea	kdown of the	e Council's e	lected membe	rs is as follo	WS:	
	Sinn Féin SDLP			seats seats			
	Independents Ulster Unionist			seats seats			
	Democratic Ur Alliance		3 s	seats			
Racial group	According to the population of N than double the	Northern Irela	and belongs	to minority eth			
	The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.						
	The compositie Council area is				ourne and D	own Distric	
	Minority Ethn Area	ic Language	e Profile of t	he Newry, Mo	ourne and D	own LGD	
	Main languag Newry, Mourr District LGD			Number	Percent	age %	
	English			156794	97.1	15	
	Polish			2100	1.1		
	Lithuanian			836	0.4		
	Irish			367	0.2		
	Portuguese			86	0.0		
	Slovak			134	0.0	ŏ	

Age	Chinese Tagalog/Filipin Latvian Russian Malayalam Hungarian Other The age profile 2011 is as follo Age Pro	of the Nev	vry, Mourne	121 55 208 109 87 74 755	0.06 0.05 0.04
Age	Latvian Russian Malayalam Hungarian Other The age profile 2011 is as follo	of the Nev	vry, Mourne	208 109 87 74 755	0.25 0.06 0.05 0.04
Age	Russian Malayalam Hungarian Other The age profile 2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne	109 87 74 755	0.06 0.05 0.04
Age	Malayalam Hungarian Other The age profile 2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne	87 74 755	0.05 0.04
Age	Hungarian Other The age profile 2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne	74 755	0.04
Age	Other The age profile 2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne	755	
Age	The age profile 2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne		0.40
Age	2011 is as follo		vry, Mourne		0.10
	Age Pro			e and Dow	n LGD area at Census Day
		ofile	NI		Newry, Mourne & Down
	0-4		12438	32	12721
	5-7		6766	2	6876
	8-9		4362		4595
	10-14		11903		12287
	15		2462		2599
	16-17		5144		5260
	18-19		5018		4570
	20-24		12601		11570
	25-29		12001		
					11805
	30-34		37394		35122
	45-59		347850		32556
	60-64	9429			8624
	65-74		145600		12817
	75-84		8672		7453
	85-89		2116		1849
	90+	)+		1	829
Marital status	The table belo and Down area	a:	es the mari	tal status	profile of the Newry, Mourne
	Status		wn LGD		
	All usual residents: Aged 16+ years		2455		1431540
	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years	47722		517393 (35.14%)	
	Married: Aged 16+	65	255		680831 (47.56%)
	In a	1	02		1243
	Aged 16+ years				(47.56%)

	registered same-sex		(0.09%)	
	civil			
	partnership: Aged 16+			
	years			
	Separated	4697	56911	
	(but still legally		(3.98%)	
	married or			
	still legally in a same-sex			
	civil			
	partnership): Aged 16+			
	years			
	Divorced or formerly in a	6271	78074 (5.45%)	
	same-sex			
	civil partnership			
	which is			
	now legally dissolved			
	Widowed or	8408	97088	
	surviving partner from		(6.78%)	
	a same-sex			
	civil partnership:			
	Aged 16+			
	years			
Sexual	2		s that between 2% and 10% of the	
orientation	population may be I	esplan, gay of bis	exual.	
			on to the number of gay, lesbian or lowever, research conducted by the	<b>`</b>
			5 - 7% of the UK population identify	
			or 'trans' (transsexual, transgender zeable proportion of the population h	
	in Northern Ireland.			
Men and women	The gender profile	for the Newry, Mo	ourne and Down LGD is as follows:	
generally	LGD	Male	Female	
-	Northern Ireland	887323		
	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345	
Disability	According to the 20	11 Census 19 629	% of people in the Newry, Mourne a	nd
_ 100.511()			ng-term health problem or disability t	

	limits their day-	to-day activitie	S;		
	LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not
	Northern Ireland	1810863	limited a lot 215232 (11.89%)	limited a little 159414 (8.8%)	limited 1436217 (79.31%)
	Newry, Mourne and Down	171533	19579 (11.4%)	14102 (8.22%)	135530 (79.01%)
	<ul> <li>In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:</li> <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 Sigh 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>				
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/project/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Political opinion	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Racial group	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Age	People of different age, including those with mobility issues, may experience difficulty accessing services.
	As set out with chapter 6 of Council's Equality Scheme, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is committed to ensuring the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community.
	As previously noted, the Mourne Mountains Gateway Project is a Tourism Project within the Belfast Region City Deal, which will enhance visitor destination experience.
	The project proposal of the establishment of the Thomas Quarry Visitor Centre in the Mournes, with a Gondola/cable car uplift commencing in Donard Park, will enhance access from Newcastle town into the Mournes.
	The project will provide major enhancements to the visitor experience in and around the Mournes and increase access to the Mournes for people of different age, including those with mobility issues.
Marital status	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Sexual orientation	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Men and women generally	No specific needs, experiences or priorities identified.
Disability	People with disability, including those with mobility issues, experience barriers which impact upon opportunity to access services and effectively participate within public life.
	As set out with chapter 6 of Council's Equality Scheme, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is committed to ensuring the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community. 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:

	<ul> <li>promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and</li> <li>encourage participation by disabled people in public life.</li> </ul>
	As previously noted, the Mourne Mountains Gateway Project is a Tourism Project within the Belfast Region City Deal, which will enhance visitor destination experience.
	The project proposal of the establishment of the Thomas Quarry Visitor Centre in the Mournes, with a Gondola/cable car uplift commencing in Donard Park, will enhance access from Newcastle town into the Mournes.
	The project will provide major enhancements to the visitor experience in and around the Mournes. This would be designated as a positive action increasing access to the Mournes for people with disability, including those with mobility issues, and also meet Council's disability duty to encourage participation of disabled people in public life.
Dependants	People with dependents, including young and older people, and those with mobility issues, may experience difficulty accessing services.
	As set out with chapter 6 of Council's Equality Scheme, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is committed to ensuring the information we disseminate and the services we provide are fully accessible to all parts of the community.
	As previously noted, the Mourne Mountains Gateway Project is a Tourism Project within the Belfast Region City Deal, which will enhance visitor destination experience.
	The project proposal of the establishment of the Thomas Quarry Visitor Centre in the Mournes, with a Gondola/cable car uplift commencing in Donard Park, will enhance access from Newcastle town into the Mournes.
	The project will provide major enhancements to the visitor experience in and around the Mournes and increase access to the Mournes for people with dependents, including young and older people, and those with mobility issues.

# **Screening Questions**

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy/project, for each of the Section 75 grounds?

Section 75 category	Details of policy/project impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None
Age	<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities &amp; age groups, including those with mobility issues.</li> <li>Improved transport provision in &amp; around Newcastle.</li> <li>Creation of new jobs &amp; employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project.</li> </ul>	Major
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally	• Creation of new jobs & employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project.	Major
Disability	<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities &amp; age groups, including those with mobility issues.</li> <li>Improved transport provision in &amp; around Newcastle.</li> </ul>	Major
Dependants	<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by people with dependents, including young and older people, and those with mobility issues.</li> </ul>	Major

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?

Section 75 category	on 75 equality cat If <b>Yes,</b> provide	If <b>No</b> , provide details		
	details			
Religious belief		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.		
Political opinion		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.		
Racial group		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.		
Age		As noted the initiative will provide:		
		<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities &amp; age groups, including those with mobility issues.</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>Improved transport provision in &amp; around Newcastle.</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>Creation of new jobs &amp; employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project.</li> </ul>		
Marital status		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.		
Sexual orientation		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.		
Men and women		As noted the initiative will provide:		
generally		Creation of new jobs & employment opportunities associated with projected economic outcomes of the project.		
Disability		As noted the initiative will provide:		
		<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by all abilities &amp; age groups, including those with mobility issues.</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>Improved transport provision in &amp; around Newcastle.</li> </ul>		
Dependants		As noted the initiative will provide:		
		<ul> <li>Increased access to the Mournes by people with dependents, including young and older people, and those with mobility issues.</li> </ul>		

**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		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None

**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 specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.
Political opinion		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.
Racial group		No specific needs, experiences or priorities were identified.

### 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:

It is envisaged that the Project will have a positive impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy as detailed in the responses above.

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? If No, please explain why

N/a

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:

In addition to outlining proposed monitoring arrangements on how the impact of the policy's implementation will be assessed, the following comment should be included:

"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."

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Andy Patterson	NMDDC Assistant Director – Tourism, Culture & Events	15 June 2021
Approved by:		
Conor Mallon	Director - Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism	18 June 2021

#### **Approval and Authorisation**

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.

# <u> Appendix 1 – Project Outcomes</u>

Impact Evaluation Pathway by 2032				
Inputs	Provision	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Capital investment of	Gondola style cable car to a	New Tourism	New "World Class" "Giant"	Contribution to doubling
£36m in The Mourne	Visitor Centre at Thomas Quarry,	Proposition of scale	experience along	of tourism spend by 2030
Mountains Gateway	modular designed Visitor Centre	for NI	Dublin~Belfast corridor	
project	catering for 350k visitors and			Development of new
	expandable, linkages into the	Attractor for out of	Increased access to the	world class tourism
	Mournes, variety of transport	state (OoS) visitors to	Mournes by all abilities -	offering between Dublin
	solutions, highest environmental considerations	NI & NMD district	widening participation.	and Belfast
		New offering for	Focus on delivering	Addresses regional
	Unique offering of the Coast, the	Domestic tourism	highest environmentally	dispersion and year-
	Mountains and the Heritage	market	sustainable product	round attraction
		Total visitor numbers	Family friendly facility	GVA of £5.1m pa by
		of 367k		2032
		OoS visitors of 297k	All weather, all seasons	
		pa (new and existing)	facility	GVA of £74.6m over 30
		Day trip visitors of		years
		143k pa	33 direct new jobs, 226	
		Bed nights of 247k pa	direct, indirect and	
		OoS bed nights of	induced jobs	
		243k pa		