

# Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

## Policy Information

Name of the policy	Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme (Ph III)
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New Scheme
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The purpose of this Scheme is to provide urban environmental improvements, which will comprise of the installation of new paving and kerbing on the footways. New decorative street lighting, street furniture, tree planting and the under-grounding of overhead services are also proposed as part of the scheme.</p> <p>Its aim is to provide this physical regeneration investment into a very busy part of Newry's main street, 'Hill Street'.</p>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	This proposed project will have a direct impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people.
If so, explain how.	The current streetscape has not had investment in over 30 years and is very hazardous in regards, uneven pavement surfaces, lack of tactiles at crossings and poor lighting throughout. Upgrading these obvious issues, will directly benefit some of the core Section 75 groups, especially in regards to mobility.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Seamus Crossey, Capital Projects Officer (ERT)
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Marie Ward, 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	√	
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		√

Service users	√	
Other public sector organisations		√
Voluntary/community/trade unions	√	
Other, please specify:		N/A

### Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newry City Public Realm Strategy</li> </ul>
Who owns them	The Public Realm Strategy was completed jointly between the District Council and Department For Communities (DFC) and used as the basis for funding and delivering future Public Realm works in the city afterwards.

### 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"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Catholic</th> <th>Protestant and other Christian</th> <th>Other religions</th> <th>None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Northern Ireland</b></td> <td>1,810,863</td> <td>817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td>875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td>16,592 (0.9%)</td> <td>101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b></td> <td>171533</td> <td>113200 (65.99%)</td> <td>34718 (20.34%)</td> <td>752 (0.43%)</td> <td>10229 (5.96%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(Source: Census Data 2011).</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None	<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%)
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Political opinion	<p>Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p>The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Sinn Féin</td> <td>14 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SDLP</td> <td>13 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Democratic Unionist</td> <td>4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independents</td> <td>5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulster Unionist</td> <td>3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance</td> <td>2 seat</td> </tr> </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	According to the 2011 Census, 1.8% (32,400) of the usually resident																		

	<p>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" data-bbox="395 562 1382 1122"> <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>	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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Age	<p>The age profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD area at Census Day 2011 is as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1256 1401 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Profile</th> <th>NI</th> <th>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>0-4</td><td>124382</td><td>12721</td></tr> <tr><td>5-7</td><td>67662</td><td>6876</td></tr> <tr><td>8-9</td><td>43625</td><td>4595</td></tr> <tr><td>10-14</td><td>119034</td><td>12287</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>24620</td><td>2599</td></tr> <tr><td>16-17</td><td>51440</td><td>5260</td></tr> <tr><td>18-19</td><td>50181</td><td>4570</td></tr> <tr><td>20-24</td><td>126013</td><td>11570</td></tr> <tr><td>25-29</td><td>124099</td><td>11805</td></tr> <tr><td>30-34</td><td>373947</td><td>35122</td></tr> <tr><td>45-59</td><td>347850</td><td>32556</td></tr> <tr><td>60-64</td><td>94290</td><td>8624</td></tr> <tr><td>65-74</td><td>145600</td><td>12817</td></tr> <tr><td>75-84</td><td>86724</td><td>7453</td></tr> <tr><td>85-89</td><td>21165</td><td>1849</td></tr> <tr><td>90+</td><td>10231</td><td>829</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	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
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Marital status	<p>The table below illustrates the marital status profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down area:</p>																																																			

	<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Newry, Mourn and Down LGD</b>	<b>NI</b>
	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 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" data-bbox="408 611 1267 752"> <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" data-bbox="395 954 1402 1361"> <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> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down</td> <td>171533</td> <td>19579 (11.4%)</td> <td>14102 (8.22%)</td> <td>135530 (79.01%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <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>	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%)
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Dependants	<p>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.</p> <p>There are 61,998 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 37.5% of which</p>															

	<p>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>
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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

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	While the policy will positively directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that people of different religious belief have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy.
Political opinion	While the policy will positively directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that people of different political opinion have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy.
Racial group	While the policy will positively directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that people of different racial group have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy.
Age	The policy has potential to directly impact upon people of different age (older people and young people).
Marital status	While the policy will directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that people of different marital status have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to

	this policy.
Sexual orientation	While the policy will positively directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that people of different sexual orientation have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy.
Men and women generally	While the policy will positively directly impact upon people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, it is not envisaged that men and women have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy.
Disability	People with disability, including people with visual impairment or mobility issues, will have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to this policy. Sections 5.4 and 6.9 outline information on additional factors and safety of pedestrians to be taken into consideration in making decisions.
Dependants	The policy has potential to directly impact upon people with dependents (families and carers).

## 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		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None
Age		Major - As noted, Council acknowledges people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, will have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to the outworking of this scheme. Having consulted directly with a number of Umbrella Mobility Groups during the Concept Design Stage, Council working in partnership with the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) have incorporated many of the suggestions put forward by the mobility groups into the Planning Submission design.
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None

Men and women generally		None
Disability		Major - As noted, Council acknowledges people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, will have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to the outworking of this scheme. Having consulted directly with a number of Umbrella Mobility Groups during the Concept Design Stage, Council working in partnership with the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) have incorporated many of the suggestions put forward by the mobility groups into the Planning Submission design.
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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. This is a Public Realm Scheme and cannot assist in this category
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No.
Age		As noted, Council acknowledges people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, will have



		specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to the outworking of this scheme. Having consulted directly with a number of Umbrella Mobility Groups during the Concept Design Stage, Council working in partnership with the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) have incorporated many of the suggestions put forward by the mobility groups into the Planning Submission design.
Marital status		No.
Sexual orientation		No.
Men and women generally		No.
Disability		As noted, Council acknowledges people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people, will have specific needs / experiences / priorities in relation to the outworking of this scheme. Having consulted directly with a number of Umbrella Mobility Groups during the Concept Design Stage, Council working in partnership with the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) have incorporated many of the suggestions put forward by the mobility groups into the Planning Submission design.
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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?

<b>Good relations category</b>	<b>Details of policy impact</b>	<b>Level of impact? Major/minor/none</b>
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. This is a Public Realm Scheme and cannot assist in this category
Political opinion		No. This is a Public Realm Scheme and cannot assist in this category
Racial group		No. This is a Public Realm Scheme and cannot assist in this category

## 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:

Having screened the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme the decision is that it is not to be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)

The purpose of this Project is to improve the physical streetscape infrastructure in one of the oldest parts of Newry City Centre. (Lower Hill Street). While other areas within the city centre (i.e. remainder of Hill Street and Monaghan Street) have been brought up to an acceptable urban environment standard over this last decade, Lower Hill Street has missed out and is now long overdue for significant investment and regeneration.

The current status quo within the project area is one of uneven ponding pavements, with a patchwork quilt of surfaces, no tactiles at existing pedestrian crossing points, no pedestrian crossing points as key junctions, tree planters/poles/columns in the middle of pathways and poor quality lighting standards throughout.

At the outset of the project the Council were well aware of the below standard streetscape environment they were faced with and through its consultants set about undertaking a detailed Concept Design process for a new Public Realm Scheme at this location. As part of the Concept stage Council engaged directly with the Department For Infrastructure (DFI) as the main adopting authority in regards to the pathways and lighting infrastructure in the area.

However, being mindful of the whole area of access and mobility within a modern urban environment, the Council directly engaged with a number of mobility umbrella groupings, to discuss the scheme with them. These groups were:

- RNIB (Northern Ireland)
- IMTAC
- Guide Dogs For the Blind

Having visited the proposed project area, these above grouping put forward a variety of suggestions and recommendations that the final design should try to look at and take on board to ensure maximum mobility access for all. (See attached Appendix)

This feedback was in turn discussed with the adopting authority (DFI) and on their recommendation the majority of the mobility suggestions were included in the final planning design drawings. Where some of the mobility suggestions could not be incorporated directly into the design:

- Higher Kerb Show (Existing historic high carriageway level in proportion to the paths)
- Wider Footways on side streets (Historic narrow street widths)

Others such as installing a Controlled Crossing rather than an Uncontrolled Crossing are being subjected to a Traffic Survey, to ensure that the right decision is made.

In summary the Council has tried to ensure that key Section 75 groupings (people with disability, visual impairment, people with mobility issues, older people, families and carers and young people), will be impacted by this project in a positive way. Having worked closely with key mobility groupings as outlined above, important mitigation has been put in place to ensure that this scheme, delivers a modern urban environment within the confines of being situated in one of the oldest and most historic parts of Newry City.

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 project which is currently about to be submitted to Planning, will monitor the feedback it receives from all consultees during the process. Also the Planning Submission drawings will be shared with the mobility groups and they will be kept up to

speed on the resulting timescales for the project.

## Approval and Authorisation

<b>Screened by:</b>	<b>Position/Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Seamus Crossey	Capital Projects Officer	28 February 2019
<b>Approved by:</b>		
Marie Ward	Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism.	28 February 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.