

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Policy on requests to plant a tree on Council property
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	The aim of this policy is to provide the framework for a consistent approach to decision-making in relation to requests to plant a council property.
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	None directly anticipated
If so, explain how.	
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy Suzanne Rice, Corporate Policy & Equality Officer
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Dorinnia Carville, Director of Corporate Services

Implementation factors

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

Main stakeholders affected

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

	Yes	No
Staff	X	
Service users	X	
Other public sector organisations	X	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	X	
Other, please specify:	Members of the community generally	

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

<p>What are they</p>	<p>External policy context: There are a number of relevant policy frameworks in place in Northern Ireland which relate to, and inform, the issue installation of new artworks/sculptures on council property including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together: Building a United Community strategy, key priority - Our Shared Community Shared Aim: to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone • Section 75 of the NI Act 1998 • Equality Commission for Northern Ireland advice on Good Relations in Local Councils • Equality Commission for Northern Ireland Guidance on Promoting a good and harmonious working environment <p>Internal policy context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Scheme re: Section 75 of the NI Act 1998 • Good Relations Action Plan (Section 75 (2)) • Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's local Biodiversity Plan
<p>Who owns them</p>	<p>While these are corporate responsibilities specific responsibility for the internal policy context lies with the Director of Corporate Services, Director of Active and Healthy Communities and Director of Economic Regeneration and Tourism.</p>

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" data-bbox="411 506 1391 779"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 506 587 607">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="592 506 751 607">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="756 506 916 607">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="920 506 1096 607">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1101 506 1260 607">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1265 506 1391 607">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 613 587 680">Northern Ireland</td> <td data-bbox="592 613 751 680">1,810,863</td> <td data-bbox="756 613 916 680">817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 613 1096 680">875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 613 1260 680">16,592 (0.9%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 613 1391 680">101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 687 587 777">Newry, Mourne & Down</td> <td data-bbox="592 687 751 777">171533</td> <td data-bbox="756 687 916 777">113200 (65.99%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 687 1096 777">34718 (20.24%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 687 1260 777">752 (0.43%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 687 1391 777">10229 (5.96%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="411 786 794 813">(Source: Census Data 2011).</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None	Northern Ireland	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.9%)	101,169 (5.59%)	Newry, Mourne & Down	171533	113200 (65.99%)	34718 (20.24%)	752 (0.43%)	10229 (5.96%)
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 (0.9%)	101,169 (5.59%)														
Newry, Mourne & Down	171533	113200 (65.99%)	34718 (20.24%)	752 (0.43%)	10229 (5.96%)														
Political opinion	<p data-bbox="384 920 1399 981">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1021 1294 1048">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="384 1088 979 1285"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1088 858 1115">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="863 1088 979 1115">16seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1122 858 1149">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="863 1122 979 1149">11 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1155 858 1182">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="863 1155 979 1182">4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1189 858 1216">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="863 1189 979 1216">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1223 858 1249">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="863 1223 979 1249">2 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1256 858 1283">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="863 1256 979 1283">5 seats</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sinn Féin	16seats	SDLP	11 seats	Ulster Unionist	4 seats	Democratic Unionist	3 seats	Alliance	2 seats	Independents	5 seats						
Sinn Féin	16seats																		
SDLP	11 seats																		
Ulster Unionist	4 seats																		
Democratic Unionist	3 seats																		
Alliance	2 seats																		
Independents	5 seats																		
Racial group	<p data-bbox="384 1364 1399 1458">According to the 2011 Census, 1.8% (32,400) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups; this is more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8%).</p> <p data-bbox="384 1498 1342 1559">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1599 1399 1659">The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2011) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="384 1700 1399 1760">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 1767 1382 2033"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 1767 858 1861">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="863 1767 1086 1861">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1091 1767 1382 1861">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1868 858 1895">English</td> <td data-bbox="863 1868 1086 1895">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1868 1382 1895">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1901 858 1928">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1901 1086 1928">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1901 1382 1928">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1935 858 1962">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="863 1935 1086 1962">836</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1935 1382 1962">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1968 858 1995">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="863 1968 1086 1995">367</td> <td data-bbox="1091 1968 1382 1995">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 2002 858 2029">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="863 2002 1086 2029">86</td> <td data-bbox="1091 2002 1382 2029">0.05</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
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
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 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="411 680 1265 819"> <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" data-bbox="395 1025 1401 1431"> <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"> • More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population in Northern Ireland has a disability The incidence of disability is higher in Northern Ireland than any other part of the UK • 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss • 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sign Language (ISL) • In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with significant visual impairment • 52,000 people with learning disabilities <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%)
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>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 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 Northern 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	A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations. There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.
Political opinion	A consistent approach to decision making in relation to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations. There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.
Racial group	A consistent approach to decision making in relation to request to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.

	<p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Age	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p> <p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Marital status	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p> <p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Sexual orientation	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p> <p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Men and women generally	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p> <p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Disability	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p> <p>There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.</p>
Dependants	<p>A consistent approach to decision making in relation to requests to plant a tree on council property is the need for council when assessing the application to be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity for all section 75 categories and to have regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p>

	There must be a clearly defined scope to any proposed policy and associated procedures.
--	---

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	The policy has been developed to give individuals and organisations the opportunity to request to plant a tree on council property. This procedures and procedures detail the approach which it to be undertaken by all applicants regardless of section 75 category status.	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?

Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide details
Religious belief		<p>To implement the policy aim, the Council has developed a guidelines and associated procedure document.</p> <p>The policy and associated procedure defines specific criteria, organisational roles and responsibilities with regard to the assessment of applications.</p> <p>It also states that Council must be mindful of its obligations to have due regard to the need to promote Equality of Opportunity and for all section 75 categories and to have due regard to the desirability of promoting Good Relations.</p>
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?

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	There is nothing to suggest that the policy and implementation Guidelines and Associated Procedure will adversely impact upon	None
Political opinion		
Racial group		

	<p>good relations.</p> <p>The aim of this policy is to provide the framework for a consistent approach to decision-making in relation to the installation of the artworks/sculptures on council property.</p> <p>To implement the policy aim, the Council has developed a Guidelines and Associated Procedure.</p> <p>The policy and procedure defines specific criteria, organisational roles and responsibilities with regard to the assessment of applications.</p> <p>The following principles will apply to the process: The principles of the process are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific criteria / terms and conditions • Application form • Assessment • Consultation (if required) • Decision-making • Appeal mechanism 	
--	---	--

4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide details
Religious belief		To implement the policy aim, the Council has developed a Guidelines and Associated Procedure.
Political opinion		
Racial group		

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

None

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should (please underline one):

1. **Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)**
2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)
3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time
4. Be subject to an EQIA

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

The Policy with the associated procedure and guidelines have been established to ensure a consistent approach of consideration and decision making is applied to requests for new artworks/sculptures on council property.

The principles of the process will be as follows:

- Specific criteria
- Application form
- A 4 stage Assessment
- Consultation (if required)
- Decision-making and notification of the outcome
- Agreement to Council's terms and conditions
- Appeal mechanism for unsuccessful applications.

Applications will only be approved after agreement by council on the following:

- Rationale for the artwork/sculpture;
- The nature of the design of the artwork/sculpture
- The identification and availability of the preferred site.

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 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).

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Suzanne Rice	Corporate Policy & Equality Officer	1 September 2020
Approved by:		
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	1 September 2020

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy, made easily accessible on your website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.