

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

| | |
|--|--|
| Name of the policy | Portable Appliance Management and Testing Policy |
| Is this an existing, revised or new policy? | Revised |
| What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes) | <p>The objectives of this policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, that portable electrical appliances used within the Council estate do not present a risk to the health, safety and welfare of staff, contractors, clients and visitors to the Council estate. • Provide and maintain safe systems of work for the use of portable electrical appliances, that are safe and without risk to health & safety; • Provide such information, instruction, training and supervision to ensure employees carry out their works safely. |
| Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how. | No specific Section 75 category might be expected to benefit from the policy and procedure. |
| Who initiated or wrote the policy? | Aidan Mallon |
| Who owns and who implements the policy? | Conor Sage, Assistant Director Environment |

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 | | |
| If yes, are they Legislative | | |
| If yes, and they are Other please specify: | | |

Main stakeholders affected

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

| | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----|
| Staff | X | |
| Service users | X | |
| Other public sector organisations | | |
| Voluntary/community/trade unions | | |
| Other, please specify: | | |

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>What are they Who owns them</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Health & Safety Policy • Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Health & Safety Policy Organisational Procedures • Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Portable Appliance Testing Procedure <p>Other relevant statutory regulations and documents to be consulted as part of the policy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety at Work (NI) Order 1978 • Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations (NI) 2000 • The Electricity at Work Regulations (NI) 1991 • The 18th Edition of the IET Wiring Regulations (BS 7671) • Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (NI) 1999 • Maintaining Portable Electrical Equipment in low-risk environments INDG236(rev3) HSE 2013 • Relevant British Standards |
|--|---|

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="392 241 1417 555"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 241 564 353">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="564 241 743 353">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="743 241 903 353">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="903 241 1102 353">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1102 241 1273 353">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1273 241 1417 353">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 353 564 434">Northern Ireland</td> <td data-bbox="564 353 743 434">1,903,178</td> <td data-bbox="743 353 903 434">869,753 (45.7%)</td> <td data-bbox="903 353 1102 434">827,545 (43.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1102 353 1273 434">28,514 (1.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1273 353 1417 434">177,360 (9.3%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 434 564 555">Newry, Mourne & Down</td> <td data-bbox="564 434 743 555">182,074</td> <td data-bbox="743 434 903 555">131,300 (72.1%)</td> <td data-bbox="903 434 1102 555">39,970 (22.0%)</td> <td data-bbox="1102 434 1273 555">1,327 (0.7%)</td> <td data-bbox="1273 434 1417 555">9,477 (5.2%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="405 562 815 595">(Source: Census Data 2021).</p> | LGD | All usual residents | Catholic | Protestant and other Christian | Other religions | None | Northern Ireland | 1,903,178 | 869,753 (45.7%) | 827,545 (43.5%) | 28,514 (1.5%) | 177,360 (9.3%) | Newry, Mourne & Down | 182,074 | 131,300 (72.1%) | 39,970 (22.0%) | 1,327 (0.7%) | 9,477 (5.2%) |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| LGD | All usual residents | Catholic | Protestant and other Christian | Other religions | None | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Ireland | 1,903,178 | 869,753 (45.7%) | 827,545 (43.5%) | 28,514 (1.5%) | 177,360 (9.3%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Newry, Mourne & Down | 182,074 | 131,300 (72.1%) | 39,970 (22.0%) | 1,327 (0.7%) | 9,477 (5.2%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Political opinion | <p data-bbox="392 696 1374 768">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="392 808 1366 842">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="392 887 1062 1115"> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 887 935 920">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="935 887 1062 920">20 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 920 935 954">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="935 920 1062 954">8 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 954 935 987">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="935 954 1062 987">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 987 935 1021">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="935 987 1062 1021">5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1021 935 1055">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="935 1021 1062 1055">1 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1055 935 1115">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="935 1055 1062 1115">4 seats</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="392 1155 1414 1379">Councillors are elected within seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) across the Council area. With respect to party political representation, democratic deficits exist within particular DEAs i.e three DEAs have no PUL Councillor representation (Newry, Crotlieve and Downpatrick), two DEAs have one PUL (Slieve Croob and Slieve Gullion) Councillor and, one DEA has one CNR (Rowallane).</p> | Sinn Féin | 20 seats | SDLP | 8 seats | Independents | 3 seats | Democratic Unionist | 5 seats | Ulster Unionist | 1 seats | Alliance | 4 seats | | | | | | |
| Sinn Féin | 20 seats | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SDLP | 8 seats | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Democratic Unionist | 5 seats | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ulster Unionist | 1 seats | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alliance | 4 seats | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Racial group | <p data-bbox="392 1431 1414 1536">According to the 2021 Census, 3.4% (65,604) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups. This is almost double the proportion in 2011 (1.8%).</p> <p data-bbox="392 1581 1398 1731">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile. The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2021) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="392 1776 1358 1843">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="392 1850 1374 2042"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="392 1850 855 1962">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="855 1850 1082 1962">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1082 1850 1374 1962">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 1962 855 2007">English</td> <td data-bbox="855 1962 1082 2007">168,408</td> <td data-bbox="1082 1962 1374 2007">96.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="392 2007 855 2042">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="855 2007 1082 2042">2,143</td> <td data-bbox="1082 2007 1374 2042">1.22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD | Number | Percentage % | English | 168,408 | 96.1 | Polish | 2,143 | 1.22 | | | | | | | | | |
| Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD | Number | Percentage % | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| English | 168,408 | 96.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Polish | 2,143 | 1.22 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------|------|
| | Lithuanian | 1,149 | 0.66 |
| | Irish | 553 | 0.32 |
| | Romanian | 347 | 0.2 |
| | Portuguese | 119 | 0.06 |
| | Arabic | 170 | 0.09 |
| | Bulgarian | 677 | 0.39 |
| | Chinese (not otherwise specified) | 70 | 0.04 |
| | Slovak | 98 | 0.05 |
| | Hungarian | 106 | 0.06 |
| | Spanish | 77 | 0.04 |
| | Latvian | 279 | 0.15 |
| | Russian | 180 | 0.10 |
| | Tetun | 22 | 0.01 |
| | Malayalam | 51 | 0.03 |
| | Tagalog/Filipino | 44 | 0.03 |
| | Cantonese | 38 | 0.02 |
| | Other languages | 711 | 0.41 |

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

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

| | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Aged 16+ years</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years</td> <td>52,128 (36.7%)</td> <td>576,708 (38.1%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Married: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>68,076 (47.9%)</td> <td>690,509 (45.6%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>201 (0.14%)</td> <td>2,742 (0.19%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years</td> <td>4,975 (3.5%)</td> <td>57,272 (3.8%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved</td> <td>7,704 (5.4%)</td> <td>91,128 (6.0%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years</td> <td>8,912 (6.3%)</td> <td>96,384 (6.4%)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Census 2021</p> | Aged 16+ years | | | Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years | 52,128 (36.7%) | 576,708 (38.1%) | Married: Aged 16+ years | 68,076 (47.9%) | 690,509 (45.6%) | In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years | 201 (0.14%) | 2,742 (0.19%) | Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years | 4,975 (3.5%) | 57,272 (3.8%) | Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved | 7,704 (5.4%) | 91,128 (6.0%) | Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years | 8,912 (6.3%) | 96,384 (6.4%) |
|--|--|--------------------|------|--------|--|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|----------------|------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|---|-----------------|------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Aged 16+ years | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years | 52,128 (36.7%) | 576,708 (38.1%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married: Aged 16+ years | 68,076 (47.9%) | 690,509 (45.6%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years | 201 (0.14%) | 2,742 (0.19%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years | 4,975 (3.5%) | 57,272 (3.8%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved | 7,704 (5.4%) | 91,128 (6.0%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years | 8,912 (6.3%) | 96,384 (6.4%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sexual orientation | <p>Analysis of the Census 2021 indicates that between 2% and 10% of the population may be lesbian, gay or bisexual.</p> <p>There are no official statistics in relation to the number of gay, lesbian or bisexual people in Northern Ireland. However, research conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5% - 7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT). This is a sizeable proportion of the population here in Northern Ireland.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men and women generally | <p>The gender profile for the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>936,132</td> <td>967,043</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</td> <td>90,063</td> <td>92,011</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Census 2021</p> | LGD | Male | Female | Northern Ireland | 936,132 | 967,043 | Newry, Mourne and Down LGD | 90,063 | 92,011 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LGD | Male | Female | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Ireland | 936,132 | 967,043 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Newry, Mourne and Down LGD | 90,063 | 92,011 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disability | <p>According to the 2021 Census 22.88% of people in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area has a long-term health problem or</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

disability that limits their day-to-day activities.

| LGD | All usual residents | Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot | Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little | Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited |
|------------------------|---------------------|---|--|---|
| Northern Ireland | 1,903,179 | 217,964 (11.45%) | 245,057 (12.88%) | 1,440,158 (75.67%) |
| Newry, Mourne and Down | 182,074 | 19,789 (10.87%) | 21,868 (12.01%) | 140,417 (77.13%) |

In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:

- More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population in Northern Ireland has a disability The incidence of disability is higher in Northern Ireland than any other part of the UK
- 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss
- 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sigh Language (ISL)
- In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with significant visual impairment
- 52,000 people with learning disabilities

(Source: Disability Action)

Dependants

Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and / or a dependent older person.

According to the Census 2021, there are 68,396 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 33.9% of which have dependent children. With regard to these figures, dependents are defined as those aged 0-15 years or those aged 16-18 years who are in full-time education and living with their parents or grandparents. Similar to the regional trend, the proportion of households with dependents in the District has declined from 50% in 1981 to 33.9% in 2021.

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

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

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

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

Screening Questions

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

| Section 75 category | Details of policy impact | Level of impact? Major/minor/none |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Religious belief | No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the Section 75 categories have been identified in relation to the Portable Appliance Management and Testing Policy. | None |
| Political opinion | | |
| Racial group | | |
| Age | | |
| Marital status | | |
| Sexual orientation | | |
| Men and women generally | | |
| Disability | | |
| Dependants | | |

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

| Section 75 category | If Yes , provide details | If No , provide details |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Religious belief | | No |
| 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 | No specific needs, experiences and priorities for the good relations categories have been identified in relation to the Policy. | None |
| Political opinion | | |
| Racial group | | |

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

| Good relations category | If Yes , provide details | If No , provide details |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Religious belief | | No |
| Political opinion | | |
| Racial group | | |

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

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

None

Screening Decision

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

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

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

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

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

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy? Yes / No. If No, please explain why

If 3. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

Timetabling and prioritising EQIA

If 3. is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? NO

If YES, please provide details:

Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.

| Priority criterion | Rating (1-3) |
|--|---------------------|
| Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations | |
| Social need | |
| Effect on people's daily lives | |
| Relevance to a public authority's functions | |

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: _____

Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Approval and Authorisation

| Screened by: | Position/Job Title | Date |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Colin Moffett | Head of Corporate Policy | 25 March 2026 |
| | | |
| Approved by: | | |
| Conor Sage | Assistant Director Sustainability | 25/3/26 |

Note: The completed policy screening template, signed off by the appropriate policy lead within the Council, and approved by the senior manager responsible for the policy, should be forwarded to the Head of Corporate Policy who will arrange for it to be included in the Council's Quarterly Report on Screening and made available on the Council's website.