

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Professional Fees for Officers
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	To ensure a consistent approach for Council employees who are eligible to reclaim the cost of professional membership fees
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	No
If so, explain how.	
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Human Resources
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Human Resources (owner), responsibility for line managers to implement

Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		No
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	Yes	
Service users		No
Other public sector organisations		NO
Voluntary/community/trade unions		No
Other, please specify:		No

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they	None
Who owns them	

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 (20.34%)</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 (20.34%)	752 (0.43%)	10229 (5.96%)
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Newry, Mourne & Down	171533	113200 (65.99%)	34718 (20.34%)	752 (0.43%)	10229 (5.96%)																			
Political opinion	<p data-bbox="384 916 1399 983">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1016 1294 1050">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="384 1084 979 1319"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1084 858 1117">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="858 1084 979 1117">14 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1124 858 1158">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="858 1124 979 1158">13 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1164 858 1198">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1164 979 1198">4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1205 858 1238">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="858 1205 979 1238">5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1245 858 1279">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1245 979 1279">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1285 858 1319">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="858 1285 979 1319">1 seat</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1326 858 1352">TUV</td> <td data-bbox="858 1326 979 1352">1 seat</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Sinn Féin	14 seats	SDLP	13 seats	Democratic Unionist	4 seats	Independents	5 seats	Ulster Unionist	3 seats	Alliance	1 seat	TUV	1 seat				
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Racial group	<p data-bbox="384 1359 1399 1460">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 1494 1342 1561">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1594 1399 1662">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 1695 1399 1762">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 1762 1382 2029"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 1762 858 1863">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="858 1762 1086 1863">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1086 1762 1382 1863">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1870 858 1904">English</td> <td data-bbox="858 1870 1086 1904">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1870 1382 1904">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1910 858 1944">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1910 1086 1944">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1910 1382 1944">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1951 858 1984">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="858 1951 1086 1984">836</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1951 1382 1984">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1991 858 2024">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1991 1086 2024">367</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1991 1382 2024">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 2031 858 2065">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="858 2031 1086 2065">86</td> <td data-bbox="1086 2031 1382 2065">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
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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"> <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	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;

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%)

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 Sign 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.

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/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Political opinion	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Racial group	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Age	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Marital status	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Sexual orientation	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Men and women generally	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Disability	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Dependants	It is not anticipated this policy will affect the needs, experiences or priorities of this group.

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	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Political opinion	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Racial group	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Age	There is nothing to suggest	None

	the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	
Marital status	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Sexual orientation	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Men and women generally	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Disability	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None
Dependants	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on section 75 grounds.	None

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 opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Political opinion		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Racial group		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Age		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Marital status		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Sexual orientation		No opportunities have been identified to promote

		equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Men and women generally		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Disability		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Dependants		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories

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 the introduction of this policy will have an impact on good relations	None
Political opinion	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on good relations	None
Racial group	There is nothing to suggest the introduction of this policy will have an impact on good relations	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 Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Religious belief		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Political opinion		No opportunities have been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
Racial group		No opportunities have

		been identified to promote equality of opportunity for people within the section 75 categories
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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:

Following screening it has been decided not subject the policy to an EQIA, it is not expected the policy will have an adverse impact on any of the section 75 groupings.

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:

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.”

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Philip Preen	HR Policy and Projects Manager	2 February 2021
Approved by:		
Catrina Miskelly	Assistant Director Human Resources and Safeguarding	

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