

# Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

## Policy Information

Name of the policy	Public Toilet Strategy document
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New.
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The strategy has been developed by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council providing guidance on a way forward for provision, control and management of its Public Toilet facilities within the district. The strategy provides recommendations and proposals on how the Council should provide a Public Convenience service which meets the needs for the future.</p> <p>As the strategy developed, Council has become considerably more aware of the economic and commercial values directly affected by toilet provision. Whilst Council's focus is always concentrated on our residents and local community groups, it has refocused attention to the large numbers of visitors and tourists that come through the district every day, week, month and year and that these persons bring economic opportunity and goodwill. The visitor experience can have a dramatic effect on our continuing drive to make Newry, Mourne and Down a cleaner/safer environment for everyone to work in, live in and visit. We need to make our town centres, shopping areas and visitor attractions considerably more accessible to visitors of all abilities and toilets play a significantly important role in making all our visitor attractions a warm and inviting experience.</p>
<p>Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?</p> <p>If so, explain how.</p>	<p>Whilst the Council has no legal responsibility or regulation placed upon it to provide any public toilets; government has always deemed it to be a Council responsibility.</p> <p>Council must decide where and how many facilities it needs to fulfil its public/civic duty to support residents, visitors, families with young children, vulnerable adults, older persons, commercial traders and most particularly those user groups with disabilities and their carers.</p> <p>In relation to people with people with disability and caring responsibility for dependents, recommendation 8 within the strategy outlines, <i>"Council to consider investigating the possibility of including a small number of Changing Places facilities in some of the toilet blocks where space permits."</i></p>
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Gail Kane, Head of Facilities Management
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Gail Kane, Head of Facilities Management

## Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		<b>x</b>
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	x	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	x	
Other, please specify:	x - members of the public	

## Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they	
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="411 546 1394 819"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 546 587 645">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="592 546 751 645">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="756 546 916 645">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="920 546 1096 645">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1101 546 1260 645">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1265 546 1394 645">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 651 587 719"><b>Northern Ireland</b></td> <td data-bbox="592 651 751 719">1,810,863</td> <td data-bbox="756 651 916 719">817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 651 1096 719">875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 651 1260 719">16,592 (0.92%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 651 1394 719">101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 725 587 819"><b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b></td> <td data-bbox="592 725 751 819">169,211</td> <td data-bbox="756 725 916 819">122,544 (72.42%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 725 1096 819">40,273 (23.8%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 725 1260 819">861 (0.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 725 1394 819">5533 (3.3%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="411 826 1257 893">(Source: Census Data 2011 - Religion or Religion Brought Up In: KS212NI).</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 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)	<b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b>	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)
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Political opinion	<p data-bbox="384 965 1415 1032">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1061 1415 1106">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="384 1128 979 1330"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1128 858 1162">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="858 1128 979 1162">16 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1167 858 1200">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="858 1167 979 1200">11 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 1243 858 1276">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1243 979 1276">4 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1281 858 1314">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1281 979 1314">3 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1319 858 1352">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="858 1319 979 1352">2 seats</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sinn Féin	16 seats	SDLP	11 seats	Independents	5 seats	Ulster Unionist	4 seats	Democratic Unionist	3 seats	Alliance	2 seats						
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Racial group	<p data-bbox="384 1368 1415 1469">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 1503 1415 1570">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1603 1415 1671">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 1704 1415 1771"><b>Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 1771 1394 2051"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 1771 858 1872">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="858 1771 1086 1872">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1086 1771 1394 1872">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1879 858 1912">English</td> <td data-bbox="858 1879 1086 1912">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1879 1394 1912">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1917 858 1951">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1917 1086 1951">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1917 1394 1951">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1955 858 1989">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="858 1955 1086 1989">836</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1955 1394 1989">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1993 858 2027">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1993 1086 2027">367</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1993 1394 2027">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 2031 858 2051">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="858 2031 1086 2051">86</td> <td data-bbox="1086 2031 1394 2051">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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	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
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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

<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>Details of needs/experiences/priorities</b>
Religious belief	As a public toilet service, people of all faiths and none can avail of this service.
Political opinion	There are no different needs, experiences and priorities for people of different political opinions.
Racial group	As a public toilet service, people of all religious groups and none can avail of this service.
Age	Potential damage to facilities by way of anti-social behaviour.
Marital status	No different needs, experiences and priorities have been identified.
Sexual orientation	There are no different needs, experiences and priorities for people of different sexual orientations.
Men and women generally	Impact upon genders in relation to use of either male or female toilet facilities. In some public toilet facilities there may be only unisex toilet facilities so that all units can be used by anyone.
Disability	Accessible toilet requirements have been identified and will be taken into consideration when upgrading and refurbishing any toilet facilities.
Dependants	Impact upon people with dependents in relation to provision of both accessible toilets and baby changing facilities

## 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		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally	There may be specific requirements regarding toilet facilities in line with the persons gender.	minor
Disability	<p>There may be specific requirements regarding toilet facilities for persons with certain accessibility needs.</p> <p>In relation to people with people with disability and caring responsibility for dependents, recommendation 8 within the strategy outlines, <i>“Council to consider investigating the possibility of including a small number of Changing Places facilities in some of the toilet blocks where space permits.”</i></p>	minor
Dependants	<p>Potential impact upon people with dependents.</p> <p>In relation to people with people with disability and caring responsibility for dependents, recommendation 8 within the strategy outlines, <i>“Council to consider investigating the possibility of including a small number of Changing Places facilities in some of the toilet blocks where space permits.”</i></p>	minor



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		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Political opinion		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Racial group		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Age		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Marital status		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Sexual orientation		The Strategy for the provision of a public toilet service within the district provides guidance for residents and non-residents of the district on recommendations for future arrangements of this service to the public.
Men and women generally		The Strategy will continue to build upon awareness and understanding of public toilet requirements for all genders.
Disability		<p>The strategy will continue to build upon awareness and understanding of public toilet requirements from all those with accessibility requirements.</p> <p>As previously stated, in relation to people with people with disability and caring responsibility for dependents,</p>

		recommendation 8 within the strategy outlines, <i>“Council to consider investigating the possibility of including a small number of Changing Places facilities in some of the toilet blocks where space permits.”</i>
Dependants		The strategy will continue to build upon awareness and understanding of public toilet requirements from all those with dependants.  As previously stated, in relation to people with people with disability and caring responsibility for dependents, recommendation 8 within the strategy outlines, <i>“Council to consider investigating the possibility of including a small number of Changing Places facilities in some of the toilet blocks where space permits.”</i>

3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		
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 <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide details
Religious belief		As noted, Council has not identified the strategy will impact upon good relations.  The document sets out the recommendations/proposals for the control of the public conveniences within the district & provides guidance for residents and non- residents of the future of the public toilet service going forward.
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).

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:

The outcome of screening is that the policy not be subjected to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required). As noted, the strategy acknowledges consideration of specific requirements regarding toilet facilities in line with the public's gender, disability and whether they have dependants.

In terms of increasing access to information and services recommendation 12 outlines, "*Liaison with the Council's Marketing/PR Department to implement a marketing campaign to publish details of all public toilet facilities within the district.*"

In addition, Work Package 5 sets out to "*Review of Changing Places need within the district – Research needed to exact requirements of Changing Places facilities & consultation with all Stakeholders to ensure correct locations are found. Detailed Business Case to Council following this research and consultation.*"

Further to consideration by Council, the Public Toilet Strategy will be subject to a twelve-week public consultation, and the equality screening document will be reviewed at this stage prior to implementation.

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:     N/A

## 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 Public Convenience Strategy for the future proposed arrangements of a public toilet service within the Newry, Mourne and Down District 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

<b>Screened by:</b>	<b>Position/Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	13 February 2020
<b>Approved by:</b>		
Gail Kane	Head of Facilities Management	13 February 2020

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.