# Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

**Policy Information** 

Policy information	
Name of the policy	Safeguarding Policy
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New Policy
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	This policy will set out the framework for safeguarding and ensure that Council meets all its legal responsibilities to children, adults at risk and families that it directly or indirectly provides a service to.  This policy aims to:  Promote zero-tolerance of harm to all children and adults at risk  Influence the way the organisation thinks about harm to children and adults at risk by embedding a culture which recognises every person's right to respect and dignity, honesty, humanity and compassion in every aspect of their life  Establish clear procedures for reporting and responding to concerns/ incidents  Ensure safe recruitment, selection and other relevant Human Resources procedures are integral in creating safe environments for children and adults at risk  Ensure effective and co-ordinated multiagency responses are provided  Promote a continuous learning approach to safeguarding
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	Children and adults at risk and families that it directly or indirectly provides a service to
If so, explain how.	The policy is intended to promote and prevent harm occurring to children and adults at risk and to ensure that protection mechanisms are implemented when harm has occurred.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Colleen Morrison Safeguarding Coordinator
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Catrina Miskelly Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding)

Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from		x
the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		
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:		

# Other policies with a bearing on this policy

This policy operates in parallel and is supported by the following council
policies:
<ul> <li>Equality &amp; Good Relations</li> </ul>
Training and Development
Whistleblowing
Social Media
Health & Safety
<ul><li>Fraud &amp; Corruption</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Complaints, Comments and Compliments</li> </ul>
Data Protection
Code of Conduct
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

### 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	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Category	

Religious						
belief	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 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)
	Newry, Mourne & Down	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)
	KS212NI).			or Religion Br		
Political opinion	opinion of peo	ple within the	Council are	an approximatea.  lected membe		·
		ardown or the			13 13 43 10110	W3.
	Sinn Féin SDLP			seats seats		
	Democratic U	nioniet		seats		
	Independents	iioriist		seats		
	Ulster Unionis	t		seats		
	Alliance			seat		
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Racial group	population of I than double the The minority e indicator of the The compositi Council area is Minority Ethn Area	Northern Irelate proportion thnic language BME common of language noted by NI	ind belongs in 2001 (0.8 ge profile with unity profile ge groups in SRA (2011)	to minority eth %).  hin the area set the Newry, Moas follows:	nic groups; the erves as a property of the pourne and Depurne and Depure an	this is mo ossible own Distr
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# 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	4697	56911 (3.98%)

	logolly				
	legally				
	married or				
	still legally in				
	11 - 1		1		
	a same-sex				
	civil				
	partnership):				
	Aged 16+				
	years				
	Divorced or	627 <sup>-</sup>	1	78074	
		021	'	(5.45%)	
	formerly in a			(3.43%)	
	same-sex				
	civil				
	partnership				
	which is				
	now legally				
	dissolved				
		0.404	`	07000	
	Widowed or	8408	5	97088	
	surviving			(6.78%)	
	partner from				
	a same-sex				
	civil				
	partnership:				
	Aged 16+				
	years				
Sexual orientation	population may t	oe lesbian, g	gay or bisexual.	petween 2% and	
-	There are no offi bisexual people HM Treasury shouthers as g	cial statistic in Northern ows that be ay, lesbian, (LGBT). Th	gay or bisexual. s in relation to the Ireland. Howeve tween 5% - 7% of bisexual or ´trar	ne number of gay er, research cond of the UK populat ns´ (transsexual, to proportion of the	r, lesbian or ucted by the ion identify transgendered
-	There are no offi bisexual people HM Treasury sho themselves as gand transvestite) in Northern Irelan	cial statistic in Northern ows that be ay, lesbian, (LGBT). Th	gay or bisexual.  s in relation to the land. However, tween 5% - 7% of bisexual or 'trantis is a sizeable	ne number of gay er, research cond of the UK populat ns´ (transsexual, t	r, lesbian or ucted by the ion identify transgendered population here
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		limited a lot	limited a little	limited
Northern	1810863	215232	159414	1436217
Ireland		(11.89%)	(8.8%)	(79.31%)
Newry,	171533	19579	14102	135530
Mourne and		(11.4%)	(8.22%)	(79.01%)
Down				

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.

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

Category	
Religious belief	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Political opinion	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Racial group	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Age	Council will work in partnership to safeguard children and adults at risk, or in need of protection, whether the contact is direct or indirect.  Effective safeguarding activity will:  Promote the welfare for the child/adult at risk  Prevent harm occurring though early identification of risk and appropriate, timely intervention  Protect children and adults at risk from harm when this is required.
Marital status	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Sexual orientation	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Men and women generally	No evidence of needs, experiences or priorities particular to the policy
Disability	Council will work in partnership to safeguard children and adults at risk, or in need of protection, whether the contact is <b>direct or indirect</b> .  Effective safeguarding activity will:  Promote the welfare for the child/adult at risk  Prevent harm occurring though early identification of risk and appropriate, timely intervention  Protect children and adults at risk from harm when this is required.
Dependants	Council will work in partnership to safeguard children and adults at risk, or in need of protection, whether the contact is direct or indirect.  Effective safeguarding activity will:  Promote the welfare for the child/adult at risk  Prevent harm occurring though early identification of risk and appropriate, timely intervention  Protect children and adults at risk from harm when this is required.

# **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	Prevention and Protection	Major Positive Impact

	from harm	
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally		None
Disability	Prevention and Protection from harm	Major Positive Impact
Dependants	Prevention and Protection from harm	Major Positive Impact

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

Section 75 category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide details
Religious belief	n/a	
Political opinion	n/a	
Racial group	n/a	
Age	Council recognises that the Safeguarding Policy must be owned at all levels within the organisation and as such, this policy is addressed to all elected members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, volunteers, grant-aided organisations, hirers of facilities, contracted services and the general public. It provides a clear statement of the Council's responsibilities towards children and adults at risk. We aspire to having safe and respectful experiences for all with the District.	
Marital status	n/a	
Sexual orientation	n/a	
Men and women generally	n/a	
Disability	Council recognises that the Safeguarding Policy must be owned at all levels within the organisation and as such, this policy is addressed to all elected members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, volunteers, grant-aided organisations, hirers of facilities, contracted services and the general public. It provides a clear statement of the Council's responsibilities towards children and adults at risk.	

	We aspire to having safe and respectful experiences for all with the District.	
Dependants	Council recognises that the Safeguarding Policy must be owned at all levels within the organisation and as such, this policy is addressed to all elected members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, volunteers, grant-aided organisations, hirers of facilities, contracted services and the general public. It provides a clear statement of the Council's responsibilities towards children and adults at risk. We aspire to having safe and respectful experiences for all with the District.	

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		None
Racial group		None

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

Good relations category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If No, provide details
Religious belief		This policy aims to promote safe and respectful experiences for all.
Political opinion		This policy aims to promote safe and respectful experiences for all.
Racial group		This policy aims to promote safe and respectful experiences for all.

#### 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:

There are no mitigating measures in relation to the implementation of this policy. The Policy does not require an EQIA as its aim is to provide safe and respectful experiences for all and create robust referral systems when protection systems are required for those who are most vulnerable within society.

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:	
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### **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."

This policy is accompanied by tailored operating procedures that will outline the standards required for appropriate safeguarding.

The Policy will be implemented via a series of briefings, roadshows and training sessions in accordance with the need of the relevant department.

Quality assurance visits will be undertaken periodically to ensure compliance with the policy and associated procedures.

The impact of the policy would be monitored via feedback from the Steering Group and

Designated Safeguarding Officers from across the organisation regarding the effectiveness and suitability of the operating procedures.

# **Approval and Authorisation**

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Colleen Morrison	Safeguarding Coordinator	26/9/17
2		
Approved by: CATRINA MUKELLY		
16. Phisely	Assistant Director corporate Devices	02/10/2017.

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.