

Policy Screening Form

Policy Scoping

Policy Title: Aquatics Framework

Brief Description of Policy. Please state if it is a new, existing or amended policy.

Council have appointed a consultant to develop a new five year Aquatic Framework for the Borough for 2019-2024, which will focus on working together with key stakeholders to develop the whole area of aquatics.

Intended aims/outcomes. What is the policy trying to achieve?

The aim is to produce a 5 year Aquatic Framework and Action Plan which identifies the following priorities:

- Harmonisation across all Council facilities
- Swim tuition programmes and tuition activities
- Participant pathways, club links & talent development
- Targeting specific groups (women and girls, people with a disability, areas of high social need etc.) and identify the barriers to their participation
- Workforce development (paid and voluntary)
- Recreational activities
- Club development plan(s) for resident swimming clubs (if desired)
- Development of South Lakes Leisure Centre to include both indoor and outdoor water space and activities
- Development of the Armagh Leisure Project
- Viability and sustainability of the strategy

Policy Framework

Has the policy been developed in response to statutory requirements, legal advice or on the basis of any other professional advice? Does this affect the discretion available to Council to amend the policy?

The proposed policy has been developed in contribution to the Council's vision to have 'a happy healthy, and connected community, a vibrant and sustainable economy and appealing places for living, working and learning.'

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the policy? If so, please outline.

This proposed policy is intended to benefit all members of the public that use and do not use the Council's aquatic facilities including people from all nine section 75 categories. Resident Aquatic Sports Clubs will also benefit. Specific section 75 groups will be targeted including women and girls and people with a disability.

Who initiated or wrote the policy (if Council decision, please state). Who is responsible for implementing the policy?

Who initiated or wrote policy?

Who is responsible for implementation?

The Council approved the development of the policy on 29 May 2018.

The Council is responsible for implementation.

Are there any factors which might contribute to or detract from the implementation of the policy (e.g. financial, legislative, other)?

Financial

Main stakeholders in relation to the policy

Please list main stakeholders affected by the policy (e.g. staff, service users, other statutory bodies, community or voluntary sector, private sector)

- Council Members
- Council staff involved in current operational management i.e. centre managers, swimming co-ordinators and head teachers
- Resident aquatic clubs and other voluntary sports clubs using local water facilities
- Disability groups including Disability Sport NI and Special Olympics Ulster
- Swim Ulster
- Swim Ireland
- SNI
- Public consultation including potential users/non-users
- Education Authority/Schools

Are there any other policies with a bearing on this policy? If so, please identify them and how they impact on this policy.

- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Community Plan
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Corporate Plan
- Get Active ABC Strategy (Draft)
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon EBA 2020 Strand 1 Opportunities Action Plan 2018

Other Government Strategies that have a bearing on this project include;

- Sport Matters 2009-2019
- Sport NI Corporate Plan 2015-2020
- Lifelong Involvement in Sport and Physical Activity Framework
- Swim Ireland Strategic Plan 2017-2021
- Active Living : No Limits Action Plan 16-21
- A Healthier Future 2005-2025
- A Fitter Future for All – Obesity Prevention Framework for NI 2011-2021
- Making Life Better

Available Evidence

Council should ensure that its screening decisions are informed by relevant data. What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

Section 75 category	Evidence
Religious belief	<p>The proposed project offers the potential to make a positive contribution to the strategic imperatives established by the Northern Ireland Government, its non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and Council.</p> <p>An indepth consultation is being undertaken with a range of stakeholders which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council Members ○ Council staff involved in current operational management i.e. centre managers, swimming co-ordinators and head teachers ○ Resident aquatic clubs and other voluntary sports clubs using local water facilities ○ Disability groups including Disability Sport NI and Special Olympics Ulster ○ Swim Ulster ○ Swim Ireland ○ SNI ○ Public consultation including potential users/non-users ○ Education Authority/Schools <p>As part of the consultation respondents are read the following statement 'The Council is committed to its equality and good relations duties as set out under section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and as part of this consultation we would like to ensure that you/your organisation has every opportunity to express its views on the proposal.'</p> <p>As outlined above a cross section of section 75 categories will benefit from this policy.</p>
Political opinion	
Racial group	
Age	
Marital status	
Sexual orientation	
Men and women generally	
Disability	
Dependants	

Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information gathered above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories in relation to this particular policy/decision?

Section 75 category	Needs, experiences and priorities
Religious belief	<p>The proposed project will have a positive impact on all section 75 categories. It is hoped that there will be a specific positive impact on women and girls and people with a disability with targeted interventions.</p>
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 categories?

Category	Policy Impact	Level of impact (Major/minor/none)
Religious belief	The proposed project will have a positive impact on all section 75 categories. Specific section 75 groups will be targeted including women and girls and people with a disability.	Positive minor impact
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependents		

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

Category	If yes, provide details	If no, provide reasons
Religious belief		The proposed project has the potential to have a positive impact on all section 75 categories
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependents		

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

Category	Details of Policy Impact	Level of impact (major/minor/none)
Religious belief	This proposed project has the potential to have a positive impact on those of a different religious belief, political opinion and racial group.	Positive minor impact
Political opinion		
Racial group		

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

Category	If yes, provide details	If no, provide reasons
Religious belief		As stated above the project has the potential to have a positive impact on those of a different religious belief, political opinion and racial group.
Political opinion		
Racial group		

Multiple Identity

Generally speaking, people fall into more than one Section 75 category (for example: disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; young lesbian, gay and bisexual people). Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant s75 categories concerned.

The proposed project will have a positive impact on a range of section 75 categories as well as those with multiple identities.

Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006

Is there an opportunity for the policy to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

See below

Is there an opportunity for the policy to encourage participation by disabled people in public life?

The project has the potential to increase the participation, particularly in underrepresented groups which includes people with disabilities.

Screening Decision

A: NO IMPACT IDENTIFIED ON ANY CATEGORY – EQIA UNNECESSARY

Please identify reasons for this below

The proposed project will have a positive impact on all other section 75 categories.

It offers the potential to make a positive contribution to the strategic imperatives established by the Northern Ireland Government, its non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and Council.

The project also has the potential to increase participation in aquatics, particularly in the underrepresented groups of women and girls, people with disabilities and areas of social need.

The European Commission, White Paper on Sport, (2007), identified the importance of the 'societal role of sport' in terms of;

- Utilising the potential for sport for social inclusion, integration and equal opportunities
- Enhancing the role of sport in education and training
- Promoting volunteering and active citizenship

The proposed project will address through its development, programming and operation make a contribution to each of these identified societal benefits.

B: MINOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY AS IMPACT CAN BE ELIMINATED OR MITIGATED

Where the impact is likely to be minor, you should consider if the policy can be mitigated or an alternative policy introduced. If so, EQIA may not be considered necessary. You must indicate the reasons for this decision below, together with details of measures to mitigate the adverse impact or the alternative policy proposed.

C: MAJOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA REQUIRED

If the decision is to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

Timetabling and Prioritising

If the policy has been screened in for equality impact assessment, please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

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 equality impact assessment.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people’s daily lives	

The total rating score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the council in timetabling its EQIAs.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? If yes, please give details.

Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help the authority identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy. It is recommended that where a policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced to mitigate adverse impact, monitoring be undertaken on a broader basis to identify any impact (positive or adverse).

Further information on monitoring is available in the Equality Commission’s guidance on monitoring

Identify how the impact of the policy is to be monitored

Monitoring the pattern of utilisation.

Approval and Authorisation

A copy of the screening form for each policy screened should be signed off by the senior manager responsible for that policy. The screening recommendation should be reported to the relevant Committee/Council when the policy is submitted for approval.

Screened by	Position/Job title	Date
Gillian Dewart	Sports Development Officer	22.08.18
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Catrina Regan	Head of Health & Recreation	22.08.18

Please forward a copy of the completed form with policy attached to mary.hanna@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk who will ensure that screening forms and policies are available on the Council website.

This officers is also responsible for issuing reports on a quarterly basis on those policies “screened out for EQIA”. This allows stakeholders who disagree with this recommendation to submit their views. In the event of any stakeholder disagreeing with the decision to screen out any policy, the screening exercise will be reviewed.