

Appendix 1 Equality Screening Form

Policy Scoping

Policy Title:  Permanent Closure of Playscheme

Brief Description of Policy (please attach copy if available). Please state if it is a new, existing or amended policy.

The policy entails the permanent closure of Playschemes effective February 2025, with a strategic repurposing of the associated funding. This reallocation is aimed at supporting a broader community wellbeing activity programme that will be implemented across all community facilities. The policy reflects a shift in focus toward providing more inclusive and diverse opportunities for community engagement, health, and wellness, leveraging existing infrastructure to maximise reach and impact.

This is an amended policy, transitioning from a targeted service delivery model (Playschemes) to a holistic approach that aligns with evolving community needs and priorities. By repurposing funds, the initiative seeks to create a sustainable framework for delivering enhanced and varied services, promoting inclusivity and addressing broader determinants of wellbeing within the community.

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

The intended aims and outcomes of this policy are to transition from the existing Playscheme model to a more comprehensive community wellbeing programme, leveraging resources to benefit a wider demographic. The policy seeks to redistribute the funding previously allocated to Playschemes into a holistic initiative that supports a diverse range of health, wellness, and engagement activities within all 13 community facilities across the Borough.

By doing so, the policy aims to achieve the following outcomes:

1. **Enhanced Accessibility:** Provide equitable access to wellbeing programmes that cater to individuals of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
2. **Broader Community Impact:** Deliver a diversified range of activities and services designed to address community needs, promote social inclusion, and foster community cohesion.
3. **Optimised Use of Resources:** Ensure that funding is utilised more effectively by supporting programmes that have a wider scope and measurable benefits across the Borough.
4. **Sustainability:** Develop a long-term framework for community support that is adaptable and responsive to changing needs, ensuring continuity of service delivery and impact.
5. **Improved Health and Wellbeing:** Encourage active lifestyles, mental health awareness, and community engagement through targeted initiatives that address key wellbeing priorities.

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 The Council to amend the policy?

The policy has been developed following a comprehensive review of the Playscheme over the past three years. This evaluation highlighted a consistent lack of usage and ongoing challenges in staffing the service effectively. Based on these findings, it was professionally recommended to close the Playscheme and redirect the funding toward community and wellbeing programmes that can deliver broader benefits and greater community engagement.

The decision is not influenced by statutory requirements or legal obligations, as there are no legal or statutory implications associated with the closure of the Playscheme. This allows the Council full discretion to amend or implement the policy as deemed necessary to meet evolving community needs. The approach ensures that resources are allocated strategically to initiatives with the potential for higher impact and sustainability, aligning with the Council's broader priorities for community development and wellbeing.

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

The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs. Benefiting groups include:

- **Children and Young People:** The programme will provide tailored initiatives that support physical activity, mental health, and social interaction for younger demographics, encouraging their development and wellbeing.
- **Women:** Focused activities such as wellness workshops, fitness classes, and support networks will address the specific needs of women in the community, including their health, confidence, and social inclusion.
- **Young Mothers:** Programmes designed to provide childcare support, parenting workshops, and social opportunities will directly benefit young mothers, fostering their participation in community life while addressing their unique challenges.
- **Men:** Targeted outreach, physical activities, and mental health initiatives will ensure that men are equally engaged, reducing barriers to their involvement in wellbeing programmes.
- **Disability Groups:** The programme will prioritise accessibility, offering inclusive activities and support services tailored to individuals with disabilities, enhancing their participation and quality of life.

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

Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Ruth Allen Head of Community Development
Who is responsible for implementation?	Community Development Department

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

No

Main stakeholders in relation to the policy

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

The main stakeholders affected by the policy include:

1. **Current Staff of the Playscheme:**
Staff directly involved in delivering Playscheme services will experience role changes. They will be redeployed into other roles within the Council, ensuring their skills and experience are retained and utilised in the delivery of broader community initiatives.
2. **Current Users of the Playscheme:**
Children and families who have relied on the Playscheme will be impacted by its closure. However, they will benefit from the development of a new, comprehensive community and wellbeing programme designed to meet their evolving needs.
3. **Wider Community Members:**
The new programme will extend its reach to a broader demographic, including individuals who may not have been served by the Playscheme, ensuring more inclusive opportunities for health, wellness, and engagement.
4. **Community and Voluntary Sector:**
Organisations in these sectors may collaborate with the Council to implement and deliver aspects of the wellbeing programme, enhancing their role and contribution to community development.
5. **Other Statutory Bodies:**
Partnerships with statutory bodies, such as health and education services, may be strengthened through shared objectives to support community wellbeing, fostering a coordinated approach to service delivery.
6. **Private Sector:**
Local businesses and service providers may also be indirectly impacted through potential opportunities to support or collaborate on the new programme, contributing to its implementation and success.

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

These include:

1. **Community Plan 2017 - 2030:**
Council's Community Plan, titled "Connected," sets out a long-term vision for the borough from 2017 to 2030. This plan emphasises partnership and community participation, aiming to improve the wellbeing of the borough and the quality of life for its resident
2. **Equality Scheme**
The new programme adheres to principles of inclusivity, equity, and accessibility, meeting the needs of diverse groups and complying with legal obligations under Section 75.

3. **Health and Wellbeing Strategy:**

This strategy may provide a framework for promoting physical and mental health across the community, guiding the design and focus of activities in the new programme to align with health promotion goals.

4. **Workforce Redeployment Policy**

This policy will inform the processes for transitioning staff from the Playscheme into other roles within the Council, ensuring fair and supportive treatment of employees

Available Evidence

The 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. For up to date [S75 Borough Statistics](#)

Section 75 category	Evidence
Religious belief	<p>According to the 2021 Census, the population of Armagh City, Banbridge, and Craigavon Borough Council (ACBCBC) was 218,656 residents. When asked about their current religion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 41.7% identified as belonging to a Protestant or other Christian religion.• 41% identified as Catholic.• 14.7% identified as having no religion.• 1.1% identified as belonging to another religion. <p>The Playscheme operated from three sites within the Craigavon area, each reflecting distinct community demographics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• North Lurgan: This site is situated in a predominantly nationalist area, with a higher representation of residents identifying as Catholic.• Killicomaine: Located in a predominantly unionist area, this site serves a community with a significant Protestant and other Christian population.• Brownlow Hub: Situated within a mixed community, this site serves a diverse demographic, including individuals from various religious and non-religious backgrounds. <p>These locations reflect the borough's demographic diversity and underscore the importance of ensuring that the reallocated funding and new community wellbeing programme are inclusive and accessible to individuals from all religious backgrounds, as well as those with no religious affiliation. By doing so, the Council can promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations among different community groups in alignment with Section 75 requirements.</p>
Political opinion	<p>When considering political opinion in the three locations mentioned, it is important to note that the political landscape in Northern Ireland often aligns closely with</p>

	<p>community and religious demographics. Census data and electoral patterns provide insight into the predominant political opinions in these areas:</p> <p>North Lurgan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This area is predominantly nationalist and has historically shown strong support for political parties such as Sinn Féin and the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP). • The high proportion of residents identifying as Catholic (as per Census 2021) aligns with a nationalist political identity. • Electoral results from recent local and Assembly elections indicate a consistent majority vote for nationalist parties in this area. <p>Killicomaine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killicomaine is a predominantly unionist area, with strong support for unionist political parties such as the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP). • The high proportion of residents identifying as Protestant or belonging to other Christian religions correlates with unionist political leanings. • Unionist parties typically dominate electoral outcomes in this area, reflecting the community's political preferences. <p>Brownlow Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Brownlow area is characterised as a mixed community, reflecting a blend of nationalist and unionist political opinions as well as individuals who do not align with either bloc. • Recent electoral data shows a more balanced distribution of votes between nationalist and unionist parties, with a growing representation for Alliance Party and other non-aligned or cross-community parties. • The demographic diversity in Brownlow aligns with broader trends of increasing political plurality in mixed areas.
Racial group	<p>When examining the racial demographics of North Lurgan, Killicomaine, and Brownlow Hub, the 2021 Census provides valuable insights into the diversity within these areas. While Northern Ireland overall has historically had a predominantly White population, increasing immigration and multiculturalism have contributed to greater racial diversity, particularly in urban and mixed areas like Brownlow.</p> <p>Racial Demographics (2021 Census - Borough-Wide Data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White: 97.4% of the population identified as White.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asian: 1% identified as Asian (including Indian, Chinese, and other Asian backgrounds). • Mixed/Multiple Ethnicities: 0.5% identified as belonging to two or more ethnic groups. • Black: 0.3% identified as Black (including African and Caribbean). • Other Ethnic Groups: 0.8% identified as belonging to other ethnic groups. <p>Breakdown by Location</p> <p>North Lurgan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predominantly White, reflecting the area's historical demographic trends. • There may be smaller numbers of ethnic minorities due to increasing immigration in recent years, but the area remains relatively homogeneous compared to more urbanised regions. <p>Killicomaine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like North Lurgan, Killicomaine has a predominantly White population. • Like other predominantly unionist areas, the presence of racial minorities is limited but growing gradually due to new communities settling in Northern Ireland. <p>Brownlow Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownlow is a more mixed and urbanised area and reflects the highest level of racial diversity among the three locations. • The area has seen a notable increase in ethnic minority populations, particularly families from Eastern European (e.g., Polish, Lithuanian) and Asian (e.g., Indian, Chinese, and Filipino) backgrounds. • Racial diversity in this area aligns with its mixed religious and political demographics, creating a more multicultural environment.
Age	The playscheme provided a service for children aged between 4 and 13 years old.
Marital status	<p>Marital status provides insights into household composition and social dynamics in the areas served by the Playscheme (North Lurgan, Killicomaine, and Brownlow Hub). The 2021 Census data for the Armagh City, Banbridge, and Craigavon Borough Council area gives a borough-wide perspective, with variations likely present in each specific location.</p> <p>Marital Status (2021 Census - Borough-Wide Data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single (Never Married): 34.5% • Married (Including Same-Sex Marriages): 49.8% • Separated or Divorced: 9.5% • Widowed: 6.2%

Sexual orientation	<p>Sexual Orientation - Broader Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2021 Census in Northern Ireland for the first time included a voluntary question on sexual orientation, providing important data at a regional level. • In Northern Ireland overall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approximately 93.5% of respondents identified as heterosexual or straight. ○ Around 3% identified as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (LGB). ○ The remaining 3.5% did not provide a response or identified otherwise.
Men and women generally	<p>Gender Distribution (2021 Census - Borough-Wide Data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Population: 218,656 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Male: 49.3% ○ Female: 50.7%
Disability	<p>Disability Statistics (2021 Census - Borough-Wide Data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-Term Health Problems or Disabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 20.3% of the population reported having a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities. ○ 79.7% reported no limitations. • Carers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approximately 12% of the population identified as providing unpaid care, reflecting the support needs of individuals with disabilities.
Dependants	<p>Dependants Statistics (2021 Census - Borough-Wide Data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households with Dependent Children: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 33.9% of households in the borough had dependent children. ○ Of these, many were families with multiple children, reflecting the family-oriented nature of the community. • Unpaid Carers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approximately 12% of the population provided unpaid care for dependants, whether children, older adults, or individuals with disabilities. ○ Of those providing care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7.5% provided 1-19 hours of care per week.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2.3% provided 20-49 hours of care per week. ▪ 2.2% provided 50 or more hours of care per week
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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	N/A
Political opinion	N/A
Racial group	N/A
Age	The Playscheme will no longer be providing a service for children aged between 4 and 13 years old
Marital status	N/A
Sexual orientation	N/A
Men and women generally	N/A
Disability	N/A
Dependants	N/A

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		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None
Age	The Playscheme delivered a programme for children aged between 4 and 13 years living within the 3 specified areas.	Minor
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally		None
Disability		None
Dependants		None

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		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No
Age	The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the	

	Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs. The programme will provide tailored initiatives that support physical activity, mental health, and social interaction for younger demographics, encouraging their development and wellbeing	
Marital status	No	
Sexual orientation	No	
Men and women generally	<p>The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs. Focused activities such as wellness workshops, fitness classes, and support networks will address the specific needs of women in the community, including their health, confidence, and social inclusion.</p> <p>Programmes designed to provide childcare support, parenting workshops, and social opportunities will directly benefit young mothers, fostering their participation in community life while addressing their unique challenges.</p> <p>Targeted outreach, physical activities, and mental health initiatives will ensure that men are equally engaged, reducing barriers to their involvement in wellbeing programmes.</p>	
Disability	The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the	

	Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs. The programme will prioritise accessibility, offering inclusive activities and support services tailored to individuals with disabilities, enhancing their participation and quality of life.	
Dependants	No	

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		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?

Category	If yes, provide details	If no, provide reasons
Religious belief		The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme will contribute to the promotion of good relations across the Borough.
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 closure of the Playscheme will have an impact on children aged between 4 and 13 years living within the 3 specified areas. However, the introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories including children aged between 4 and 13 by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs.

Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006

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

The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs. Benefiting groups include:

- **Disability Groups:** The programme will prioritise accessibility, offering inclusive activities and support services tailored to individuals with disabilities, enhancing their participation and quality of life.

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

Screening Decision

A: NO IMPACT IDENTIFIED ON ANY CATEGORY – EQIA UNNECESSARY

Please identify reasons for this below

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, an 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.

The Playscheme delivered a programme for children aged between 4 and 13 years living within the 3 specified areas of North Lurgan, Killicomaine and Brownlow Hub. This policy entails the permanent closure of Playschemes effective February 2025, with a strategic repurposing of the associated funding. This reallocation is aimed at supporting a broader community wellbeing activity programme that will be implemented across all community facilities. The policy reflects a shift in focus toward providing more inclusive and diverse opportunities for community engagement, health, and wellness, leveraging existing infrastructure to maximise reach and impact.

This is an amended policy, transitioning from a targeted service delivery model (Playschemes) to a holistic approach that aligns with evolving community needs and priorities. By repurposing funds, the initiative seeks to create a sustainable framework for delivering enhanced and varied services, promoting inclusivity and addressing broader determinants of wellbeing within the community.

The introduction of the community and wellbeing programme, replacing the Playscheme, is anticipated to positively impact several Section 75 categories by offering inclusive and accessible activities designed to address diverse needs.

C: MAJOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA REQUIRED

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

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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.

Policy 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.

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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 (www.equalityni.org).

Identify how the impact of the policy is to be monitored

The Playscheme will end early 2025, and therefore will require no further monitoring. All users have been engaged with and a period of notice given to parents. No further monitoring will be required.

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/The Council when the policy is submitted for approval.

Screened by	Position/Job title	Date
Emma Gribben	Playscheme Manager	06/02/2025
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Ruth Allen	Head of Community Development	06/02/2025

A copy of the completed screening form should be signed off and approved by the senior manager responsible for that policy. The completed screening form should be attached to the relevant Committee paper when the policy is submitted for approval.

Following approval by Council please forward a copy of the completed approved policy and screening form to:

Equality@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

The policy and completed screening form will be made available on the Council's website.

Appendix 2 Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)

SECTION 1

Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority: Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough The Council

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Permanent Closure of Playscheme

1C Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to:

Developing a

Adopting a

Implementing a **Policy**

Revising a

Designing a Public Service ☐

Delivering a Public Service ☐

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above

Permanent Closure of Playscheme

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

The policy entails the permanent closure of Playschemes effective February 2025, with a strategic repurposing of the associated funding. This reallocation is aimed at supporting a broader community wellbeing activity programme that will be implemented across all community facilities. The policy reflects a shift in focus toward providing more inclusive and diverse opportunities for community engagement, health, and wellness, leveraging existing infrastructure to maximise reach and impact.

This is an amended policy, transitioning from a targeted service delivery model (Playschemes) to a holistic approach that aligns with evolving community needs and priorities. By repurposing funds, the initiative seeks to create a sustainable framework for delivering enhanced and varied services, promoting inclusivity and addressing broader determinants of wellbeing within the community.

The intended aims and outcomes of this policy are to transition from the existing Playscheme model to a more comprehensive community wellbeing programme, leveraging resources to

benefit a wider demographic. The policy seeks to redistribute the funding previously allocated to Playschemes into a holistic initiative that supports a diverse range of health, wellness, and engagement activities within all 13 community facilities across the Borough.

By doing so, the policy aims to achieve the following outcomes:

6. **Enhanced Accessibility:** Provide equitable access to wellbeing programmes that cater to individuals of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
7. **Broader Community Impact:** Deliver a diversified range of activities and services designed to address community needs, promote social inclusion, and foster community cohesion.
8. **Optimised Use of Resources:** Ensure that funding is utilised more effectively by supporting programmes that have a wider scope and measurable benefits across the Borough.
9. **Sustainability:** Develop a long-term framework for community support that is adaptable and responsive to changing needs, ensuring continuity of service delivery and impact.
10. **Improved Health and Wellbeing:** Encourage active lifestyles, mental health awareness, and community engagement through targeted initiatives that address key wellbeing priorities.

1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition) ☐

Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below) ☐

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable ☒

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

The Playscheme operated in the three urban areas of North Lurgan, Killicomaine and Brownlow Hub

SECTION 2

Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If response is No go to 2E

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas *differently* from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Rural Businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Tourism | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Education or Training in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Poverty in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Deprivation in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Crime or Community Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Development | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agri-Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (Please state) | |

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

The Playscheme operated in the three urban areas of North Lurgan, Killicomaine and Brownlow Hub

SECTION 3

Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If response is No go to 3E

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Consultation with Rural Stakeholders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation with Other organisations | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Published Statistics | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Surveys or Questionnaires | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other Methods or Information Sources
(include details in Question 3C below) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

The Playscheme operated in the three urban areas of North Lurgan, Killicomaine and Brownlow Hub

SECTION 4

Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

N/A

SECTION 5

Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If response is No go to 5C

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

If the response to Section 5A was YES go to 6A.

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

The Playscheme operated in the three urban areas of North Lurgan, Killicomaine and Brownlow Hub. There will be a reallocation of funding that will be aimed at supporting a broader community wellbeing activity programme that will be implemented across all community facilities. This will benefit both urban and rural areas.

SECTION 6

Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

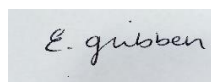
I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained, and relevant information compiled. ☒

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:

Position:

Department / Directorate:

Signature:



Date: 06/02/2025

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:

Position:

Department / Directorate:

Signature: Ruth Allen

Date: 06/02/2025