

# Equality Screening Form

## Policy Scoping

**Policy Title:**  **Proposed Relocation of Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II** 

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

This is a new Policy.

In February 2024 a report was presented to the Council's Governance, Resources and Strategy Committee ("GRS Committee") about His Majesty the King's Portrait Scheme (the "Scheme"). Under the Scheme public authorities across the UK were given the opportunity to apply, at no charge, for one framed portrait of His Majesty King Charles III to mark his new reign. The deadline for applications to the Scheme was the 28th March 2024. Members of the Committee agreed that an application (to receive a copy of the portrait of His Majesty King Charles III) should be submitted and that the location of the portrait would be a matter for the Emerging Issues Working Group to consider. The decision was ratified at the Full Council meeting in February 2024. A copy of the portrait of King Charles III was received during 2024.

It should be noted that a portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II hung in the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (near to the Lord Mayor's Office) for many years. The location, for the hanging of the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, was the subject of an Equality Impact Assessment in the former Craigavon Borough Council and this location (the Mezzanine) was agreed. On this basis, it was recommended, on equality and good relations grounds, that the portrait received of King Charles III should also be hung in the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (in place of the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II).

The proposed location of the portrait was raised at the Emerging Issues Working Group in May 2024 and feedback was sought from Party Leaders. Party Leaders were content that the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II be replaced with the portrait of His Majesty King Charles III. Party Leaders were also content that the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II went into storage.

At the September Committee meeting some Members expressed concern with the proposal that the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II be put into storage and they felt that efforts should be made to find a more appropriate location for the portrait. The suggestion of the Palace in Armagh was made as an alternative location. It was agreed that investigations should be made, in relation to the relocation of the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II, for an alternative location to be found (rather than for the portrait to go into storage) and that report should be brought back to Committee in due course.

Investigations (for locations for the portrait to be relocated to) were carried out. One suggestion was for the portrait to be relocated to the Primates Chapel in Armagh. The rationale for this being that the Chapel was where the late Queen Elizabeth II conferred City status on Armagh in 1995. There is a plaque erected in the entrance to the Chapel which records the event. The portrait could be located above the plaque. Another suggestion was that the portrait could be archived to the County Museum.

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

The aim of the Policy is to find a suitable location for the relocation of the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

**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 in response to the need to find an alternative location for the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

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

Primates Chapel

The opportunity to be able to view the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II in the Primates Chapel (which is open to the public on request) or the County Museum (on request) may be particularly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community.

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

<b>Who initiated or wrote the policy?</b>	The Council
<b>Who is responsible for implementation?</b>	The Council

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

None identified.

**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)

Members of the public.

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

Local  
Good Relations Strategy  
Equality Scheme

Regional  
The Together: Building a United Community Strategy T:BUC  
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland Guidance on Good Relations in Local Councils  
2015

### 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>Census 2021 a population of 218,656 residents in ACBCBC,</p> <p>when asked what their current religion;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41.7% identified as belonging to Protestant or other Christian religion</li> <li>• 41% identified Catholic and</li> <li>• 14.7% identified no religion and</li> <li>• 1.1% other religion.</li> </ul>
Political opinion	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has 41 elected members. A breakdown of results of the Local Government Election in May 2023 for the borough are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democratic Unionist Party – 13</li> <li>• Ulster Unionist Party – 6</li> <li>• Sinn Fein – 15</li> <li>• Social Democratic and Labour Party – 1</li> <li>• Alliance – 4</li> <li>• Independent – 1</li> <li>• TUV – 1</li> </ul> <p>A total of 87,684 votes were polled in the borough from an eligible electorate of 155,625 giving an overall turnout of 56.34%. This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of the political opinion of people within the borough.</p>
Racial group	<p>Census 2021 results identified approximately 3.3% of the borough population from a minority ethnic grouping with 8.6% of the population born outside of UK and 6.8% don't have English as their main language. The most prevalent languages spoken in ABC, outside of English are Polish (1.7%) and Lithuanian (1.2%). The main ethnic minority groups identified in the census were Mixed, Black African and Chinese.</p>

Age	<p>2021 Census results on age of Borough citizens identified.</p> <p>0-15 years 22.1%,  16 – 24 years 10%,  25 – 49 years 32.9%  50 – 64 years 19%  65 and over 16%</p> <p>This represented a 26.7% increase in the 65+ age group and a 25.62% increase in the 50-64yr age group since the last census in 2011.</p>
Marital status	<p>The 2021 Census provides information on the marital and civil partnership status of those aged 16 and over. Almost half of residents aged 16+ in the borough were married (49.0%).</p>
Sexual orientation	<p>The question on sexual orientation was new for the 2021 Census and was asked of all people aged 16 and over. However, while completing the census is a legal obligation, there was no statutory penalty for those people who failed to provide an answer to the question on sexual orientation. 90.5% identified as heterosexual or straight, 1.5% LGB+, 8% did not state their sexual orientation.</p>
Men and women generally	<p>2021 Census data – male 49.5% -- Female 50.5%</p>
Disability	<p>2021 Census results identified 22.3% of Borough citizens as having a limiting long term health problem or disability, affecting 36,488 households. Of those citizens in the Borough with a limiting long term health problem or disability, 56.8% are in the 65+ age group.</p>
Dependants	<p>The 2021 Census showed that 32% or 27,192 households in the borough contained dependent children.</p> <p>Results from the 2021 Census also show that 12% of the borough's population aged 5 years old and over (or 24,741 individuals) provided unpaid care. Of those who provided unpaid support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46% provided 1 – 19 hours per week</li> <li>• 24% provided 20 – 49 hours per week</li> <li>• 30% provided 50+ hours per week.</li> </ul> <p>Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities show that at November 2022 there were 8,120 claimants, or 4.8% of 16 and over population, claiming Carer's Allowance in the borough.</p>

### 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	<u>Primates Chapel</u>

	<p>The opportunity to be able to view the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II in the Primates Chapel (which is open to the public on request) may be particularly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community (than if the portrait was archived to the Museum). It is likely to have a neutral impact on those who have a different political opinion</p> <p><u>County Museum</u> The opportunity to view the portrait, should it be archived in the County Museum, would be limited and may not be wholly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community. It is likely to have a neutral impact on those who have a different political opinion</p>
Racial group	N/A
Age	N/A
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	Positive	Minor
Political opinion	Positive	Minor
Racial group	None	None
Age	None	None
Marital status	None	None
Sexual orientation	None	None
Men and women generally	None	None
Disability	None	None
Dependants	None	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		N/A
Political opinion		N/A
Racial group		N/A
Age		NA
Marital status		N/A
Sexual orientation		N/A
Men and women generally		N/A
Disability		N/A
Dependants		N/A

**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	N/A	N/A
Political opinion	<p>Equality Commission guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good Relations: A Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007</p> <p>The opportunity to view the portrait in either the Primates Chapel or the County Museum archives would likely only occur on request.</p>	Minor
Racial group	N/A	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	No	None
Political opinion	No	The relocation of the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II to Primates Chapel or the County Museum is likely to be particularly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community. It is likely to have a neutral impact on those who have a different political opinion
Racial group	No	None

**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 relocation of the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II to Primates Chapel or the County Museum is likely to be viewed more favourably by persons who identify with the Unionist community.

## **Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006**

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

N/A

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

N/A

### **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.

##### Primates Chapel

The relocation of the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II to Primates Chapel or the County Museum is likely to be particularly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community. It is likely to have a neutral impact on those who have a different political opinion.

The portrait of Queen Elizabeth II would be located in a building which is not frequented or used by Council staff or the public visiting the Council on a regular basis. Any person wishing to view the portrait would need to make a request as the building is not open to the public every day.

##### County Museum

The opportunity to view the portrait, should it be archived in the County Museum, would be limited and may not be wholly welcomed by persons who identify with the Protestant/Unionist community. It is likely to have a neutral impact on those who have a different political opinion.

The portrait would be placed in the archives in the County Museum and therefore not located in an area frequented by Council staff or visitors to the Council. Any person wishing to view the portrait would need to make a request.

Updated following the meeting of the Governance, Resources and Strategy Committee on 8 January 2025

At the meeting of the Governance, Resources and Strategy Committee on 8 January the elected members considered the two options and approved the recommendation that the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II be relocated to the Primates Chapel in Armagh.

## **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.

#### **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.

No.

### **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](http://www.equalityni.org)).

Identify how the impact of the policy is to be monitored



The Policy will be subject to review by the Monitoring Office.

### 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
Kate McCusker	Legal, Governance & Monitoring Officer	20/12/2024
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Roger Wilson	Chief Executive	20/12/2024

Please forward a copy of the completed policy and form to:

[Equality@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk](mailto:Equality@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)

who will ensure these are made available on the Council's website.

The above officer 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.

## 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**

Proposed relocation of the Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II

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

Developing a

Adopting a

Implementing a

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**

Proposed relocation of the Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II

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

The aim of the Policy is to find a suitable location for the relocation of the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

**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 proposal to relocate the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth from the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (near to the Lord Mayor's Office) to The Primates Chapel at The Palace Demesne, Armagh will not have an impact on people living in rural areas.

## **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)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**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 proposal to relocate the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth from the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (near to the Lord Mayor's Office) to The Primates Chapel at The Palace Demesne, Armagh will not have an impact on people living in rural areas.

**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

☐

Consultation with Other organisations

☐

Published Statistics

☐

Research Papers

☐

Surveys or Questionnaires

☐

Other Publications

☐

Other Methods or Information Sources

(include details in Question 3C below)

☐

**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 proposal to relocate the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth from the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (near to the Lord Mayor's Office) to The Primates Chapel at The Palace Demesne, Armagh will not have an impact on people living in rural areas.

**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 proposal to relocate the portrait of the late Queen Elizabeth from the Mezzanine area in Craigavon Civic Centre (near to the Lord Mayor's Office) to The Primates Chapel at The Palace Demesne, Armagh will not have an impact on people living in 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: Kate McCusker

Date: 20/12/2024

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:

Position:

Department / Directorate:

Signature: Roger Wilson

Date: 20/12/2024