

## Appendix 2 Equality Screening Form

### Policy Scoping

Policy Title:  Dromore Place Plan

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

New

The Dromore Place Plan is a new locality plan for Dromore. Its aim is to develop a new integrated local plan for the town, incorporating any existing strategies and policies for the place. The plan identifies a series of strategically aligned outcomes and actions to support sustainability, the built environment, strategic growth, community life, connectivity within Dromore

The new plan contains 5 key outcomes and 37 actions and is built on a diverse engagement process throughout its development.

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

The Dromore Place Plan is the creation of a new locality/community plan for the town. The aim of the plan is to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Dromore through harnessing the place shaping powers and functions of community planning partners.

The Plan details five outcomes

1. Historic Dromore – A thriving heritage town
2. Stocked Dromore – A vibrant town stocked with new businesses, economic growth, assets and life
3. Active Dromore – An energetic town with a wealth of activity opportunities
4. Discovered Dromore – A charming town with an abundance to explore
5. Connected Dromore – A sustainable town with physical and community linkages

These priorities were identified through research and community engagement from May 2024 – March 2025 and are strategically aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Programme for Government, and *Connected*, a community plan for Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon, 2017-2030. A policy review of various other strategies, policies and plans relevant to the town was also carried out as part of the desktop review, as well as a town health check, adopting methodological approaches from the Department for Communities, MAG Living High Street Craft Kit 2022.

The plan is made up of nine chapters

- Chapter 1 – Provides an overview of Dromore’s history and current day position.

- Chapter 2 – Presents the future vision for Dromore and provides a description of it being a destination of choice.
- Chapter 3 – Introduces the Place Plan process including the structure of the Community Planning Partnership and timeline of developing the documents.
- Chapter 4 – Case for Change contains key analysis from desktop research and strategic alignment opportunities that exist across government and with wider stakeholders.
- Chapter 5 – Focuses on engagement with the community and stakeholders, how engagement was delivered to gain feedback and highlights opinions, ideas and aspirations for the town.
- Chapter 6 – Details the Essential Qualities health check as detailed in the Living High Street Craft Kit 2022.
- Chapter 7 – Presents the outcomes that identify key aspects and attributes of the place that currently exist but need to develop and shape in a way to meet the needs of the community.
- Chapter 8 – Details the big ideas and actions which have been identified through the discovery and engagement phase.
  - Big Ideas – Tackling Vacancy and Dereliction; Quillyburn Lands; Dromore Viaduct; Active Riversides.
  - Clustered Action Themes – Built Environment and Strategic Growth; History and Interpretation; Sustainability; The Great Outdoors; Community Life and Heart of the Town.
- Chapter 9 – Summarises the Dromore Place Plan through a Theory of Change style diagram.

### 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?

Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 and places a duty on community planning partners to take forward collaborative actions to realise the outcomes in the community plan, under which this plan aligns. It is anticipated that the Dromore Place Plan document will constitute a material consideration for the Council when deciding certain applications for planning or other types of consent within the settlement development limit for Dromore and will also inform the Council's Local Development Plan.

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

All Section 75 groups should benefit from the implementation of the Dromore Place Plan. The draft plan has engaged Section 75 groups in its development and we will hold further engagement workshops during the public consultation stage.

**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>	HLM Architects Ltd were appointed by ABC Council on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership to develop and write the plan.
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	<p>The plan has been created collaboratively through the Dromore Place Plan Project Team which is made up of representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABC Council</li> <li>• Department for Communities</li> <li>• HLM Architects Ltd</li> <li>• Invest NI</li> <li>• NI Housing Executive</li> </ul>
<p><b>Who is responsible for implementation?</b></p>	<p>The Community Planning Strategic Partnership is responsible for its delivery.</p> <p>ABC Council Internal Place Working Group will monitor progress against delivery of the actions detailed within the plan.</p>

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

The Dromore Place Plan is dependent on buy in, commitment and resources of all Community Planning Partners and strategic and community partners who will be required to help deliver the plan. Implementation of some of the actions is reliant on various funding streams.

**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 community, which is defined in its broadest sense in the community planning statutory guidance and includes:

- residents;
- service users;
- voluntary body representatives whose activities benefit the borough;
- businesses; and
- other persons interested in the social, economic or environmental wellbeing of the area.
- Community Planning Partners
- Community and Voluntary Sector Panel members
- Business Partnership Alliance
- Elected Members
- Government departments

Please refer to the Dromore Place Plan Chapter 4 which details the strategic analysis of policies and strategies which was carried out during the discovery phase to identify common themes and to ascertain what alignment opportunities exist across government and with wider stakeholders. Including but not limited to:

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

- Connected Community Plan for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2017-2030
- Programme for Government
- UK Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener, 2021
- Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Partnership Strategy 2022
- An Economic Vision for a decade of innovation (DFE) 2021 and Action Plan 2023
- Rural Policy Framework NI
- ABC Good Relations Strategy
- Community planning partners' corporate plans
- Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland
- Local Development Plan for the ABC Borough
- Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland
- ABC Agricultural Strategy
- Sustainability for the Future – DAERA's plan to 2050
- ABC Tourism Strategy 2017-2022
- ABC Play Strategy 2018 - 2026
- Get Moving ABC Framework
- Age Friendly Strategy
- ABC Vacancy Study 2019

### 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](#)

A total number of 1078 people were engaged during the entire process.

The evidence gathered between May and June 2024 from the following engagement methods/sessions was considered to develop the Draft Dromore Place Plan:

- Online survey
- Online public engagement workshop x 1
- Face to Face public engagement workshops x 5
- Online focus workshop with Section 75 representatives x 1
- Discovery Walks x 4
- Attendance at Community Events x 3
- Meeting and interviews x 31
- Dromore Primary School, Primary 6 class creative session x 1
- Dromore High School Youth Club photography project
- Forums held in Town Hall and Community Centre x 9

Public consultation was carried out on the Draft Place Plan from 2 December 2024 – 2 February 2025. The following engagement was carried out:

- Online survey
- Young people's survey
- Online meeting with Section 75 representatives x 1
- Face to face workshops x 2
- Meetings and Interviews x 26
- Drop in Sessions x 3

- Discovery Walks x 4
- Attendance at Community events x 2
- Organised Community events x 3

Section 75 category	Evidence																																																																													
Religious belief	<p>The 2021 Census shows that the majority of the Dromore settlement belonged to or were brought up in the Protestant religion (69%) compared to 17% who belonged to or were brought up in the Catholic religion. Those belonging to or brought up with no religion has increased from 7% to 14% in the Dromore Settlement area. Similar changes have been observed in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough overall where the majority still belong to or were brought up in the Protestant religion, but the percentage has fallen by 5 percentage points from 52% in 2011 to 47% in 2021.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 741 1334 1115"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="368 741 612 846">Religion or Religion Brought Up In</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="612 741 975 846">Dromore Settlement</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="975 741 1334 846">Armagh City, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon Borough</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th data-bbox="612 846 791 891">2011</th> <th data-bbox="791 846 975 891">2021</th> <th data-bbox="975 846 1153 891">2011</th> <th data-bbox="1153 846 1334 891">2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 891 612 936"><b>Catholic</b></td> <td data-bbox="612 891 791 936">16%</td> <td data-bbox="791 891 975 936">17%</td> <td data-bbox="975 891 1153 936">43%</td> <td data-bbox="1153 891 1334 936">44%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 936 612 981"><b>Protestant</b></td> <td data-bbox="612 936 791 981">76%</td> <td data-bbox="791 936 975 981">69%</td> <td data-bbox="975 936 1153 981">52%</td> <td data-bbox="1153 936 1334 981">47%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 981 612 1025"><b>Other</b></td> <td data-bbox="612 981 791 1025">1%</td> <td data-bbox="791 981 975 1025">1%</td> <td data-bbox="975 981 1153 1025">1%</td> <td data-bbox="1153 981 1334 1025">1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1025 612 1070"><b>None</b></td> <td data-bbox="612 1025 791 1070">7%</td> <td data-bbox="791 1025 975 1070">14%</td> <td data-bbox="975 1025 1153 1070">5%</td> <td data-bbox="1153 1025 1334 1070">8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1070 612 1115"><b>Total</b></td> <td data-bbox="612 1070 791 1115"><b>6,003</b></td> <td data-bbox="791 1070 975 1115"><b>6,395</b></td> <td data-bbox="975 1070 1153 1115"><b>199,693</b></td> <td data-bbox="1153 1070 1334 1115"><b>218,656</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="368 1122 1347 1245"><i>Table 4: Religion or Religion brought up in of residents in Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. 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Political opinion	<p>Lagan River DEA is made up of the following political representation:</p> <p>Alliance - 1 DUP – 3 UUP – 1</p> <p>The Lagan River DEA representatives were invited to give ideas and feedback on the Dromore Place Plan on two separate occasions to date during the development stage.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Political Opinion</th> <th>Survey during initial Engagement</th> <th>Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nationalist generally</td> <td>8.71%</td> <td>5.13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neither</td> <td>43.98%</td> <td>41.67%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unionist generally</td> <td>45.64%</td> <td>37.18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not Answered</td> <td>1.66%</td> <td>16.02%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Information about Political opinion was gathered during the community engagement survey. There was a high proportion of respondents choosing the ‘Neither’ category.</p>	Political Opinion	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan	Nationalist generally	8.71%	5.13%	Neither	43.98%	41.67%	Unionist generally	45.64%	37.18%	Not Answered	1.66%	16.02%																								
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Racial group	<p>On Census Day 2021, approximately 98.6% of residents in the Dromore Settlement Area were white. This is slightly higher than the figure for the borough overall at 96.7%. Mixed race is the next biggest ethnic group in the Dromore Settlement area even though it accounts for just 0.7% of the total population.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Ethnicity</th> <th colspan="2">Dromore Settlement</th> <th colspan="2">Armagh City, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon Borough</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2011</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2011</th> <th>2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>White</td> <td>99.00%</td> <td>98.56%</td> <td>98.54%</td> <td>96.69%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed</td> <td>0.30%</td> <td>0.70%</td> <td>0.30%</td> <td>0.76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chinese</td> <td>0.02%</td> <td>0.06%</td> <td>0.26%</td> <td>0.31%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irish Traveller</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0.06%</td> <td>0.07%</td> <td>0.24%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Asian</td> <td>0.43%</td> <td>0.05%</td> <td>0.23%</td> <td>0.27%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black African</td> <td>0.02%</td> <td>0.16%</td> <td>0.10%</td> <td>0.52%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ethnicity	Dromore Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough		2011	2021	2011	2021	White	99.00%	98.56%	98.54%	96.69%	Mixed	0.30%	0.70%	0.30%	0.76%	Chinese	0.02%	0.06%	0.26%	0.31%	Irish Traveller	0.00%	0.06%	0.07%	0.24%	Other Asian	0.43%	0.05%	0.23%	0.27%	Black African	0.02%	0.16%	0.10%	0.52%
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<b>Pakistani</b>	0.00%	0.02%	0.10%	0.13%
<b>Indian</b>	0.15%	0.11%	0.19%	0.28%
<b>Black Other</b>	0.00%	0.02%	0.05%	0.24%
<b>Other ethnicities</b>	0.09%	0.27%	0.15%	0.56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,003</b>	<b>6,395</b>	<b>199,693</b>	<b>218,656</b>

Table 5: Ethnicity of residents in Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Census 2011 and Census 2021, NISRA. Please note percentages may not sum due to rounding.

98.3% of the survey respondents identified as white which aligns to the census data above.

Data from the Census 2021 shows that approximately 88% of the population in Dromore settlement area were born in Northern Ireland compared to 85.5% in the borough overall. Approximately 3.9% of residents in the Dromore Settlement area were born in England while 1.6% of residents were born in the Republic of Ireland. Residents born outside of the UK and Ireland has increased from 4.3% to 5.0% in Dromore settlement area.

Country of Birth	Dromore Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough	
	2011	2021	2011	2021
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	89.7%	88.2%	89.0%	85.5%
<b>England</b>	3.5%	3.9%	3.1%	3.2%
<b>Scotland</b>	1.1%	1.1%	0.7%	0.7%
<b>Wales</b>	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	1.3%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%
<b>Other</b>	4.3%	5.0%	5.5%	8.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,003</b>	<b>6,395</b>	<b>199,693</b>	<b>218,656</b>

Table 6: Country of birth of residents in Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Census 2011 and Census 2021, NISRA. Please note percentages may not sum due to rounding.

#### Main Language

The percentage of the population whose main language is English has fallen from 97.1% in 2011 to 93.8% in 2021 in Dromore Settlement area and from 95.7% to 93.2% in the borough overall.

Polish was the second most common main language for residents of the Dromore settlement area and the borough overall and this is unchanged from the 2011 Census. Persons with Lithuanian as a main language account for 0.75% of residents in the Dromore settlement area while those with 'other languages' account for 0.31% of the total population.

Main Language	Dromore Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough	
	2011	2021	2011	2021
<b>English</b>	97.11%	93.78%	95.72%	93.17%

<b>Polish</b>	1.16%	0.88%	1.53%	1.69%
<b>Romanian</b>	-	0.22%	-	0.37%
<b>Chinese</b>	0.02%	0.00%	0.07%	0.09%
<b>Bulgarian</b>	-	0.03%	-	0.70%
<b>Arabic</b>	-	0.02%	-	0.11%
<b>Hungarian</b>	0.07%	0.02%	0.05%	0.17%
<b>Russian</b>	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%	0.15%
<b>Irish</b>	0.02%	0.08%	0.13%	0.20%
<b>Lithuanian</b>	0.77%	0.75%	0.91%	1.24%
<b>Portuguese</b>	0.02%	0.13%	0.44%	0.84%
<b>Spanish</b>	-	0.09%	-	0.06%
<b>Latvian</b>	0.00%	0.08%	0.18%	0.22%
<b>Cantonese</b>	-	0.00%	-	0.05%
<b>Tagalog/Filipino</b>	0.19%	0.08%	0.09%	0.06%
<b>Slovak</b>	0.00%	0.06%	0.10%	0.18%
<b>Other languages</b>	0.65%	0.31%	0.68%	0.71%
<b>Total (Aged 3+)</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>6,172</b>	<b>190,526</b>	<b>210,402</b>

*Table 7: Main Language of residents aged 3+ in Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Census 2011 and Census 2021, NISRA. Note: The breakdown of languages has been taken from the 2021 Census. Those with no data for 2011 were likely included in the 'other languages' category. Percentages may not sum due to rounding.*

Age Dromore Settlement Area had an estimated population of 6,395 on Census Day 2021. In terms of gender, females make up a slightly higher percentage, accounting for approximately 52% of the total. The 16-64 age group has seen the greatest increase in the ten year period by 10.1% which in contrast the borough overall has seen an increase in this age group by only 5.9%. In Dromore settlement area, the population aged between 0-15 years has decreased by 5.4%.

	Dromore Settlement Area			Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough		
	2011	2021	% Change	2011	2021	% Change
<b>All Persons</b>	<b>6,003</b>	<b>6,395</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>199,693</b>	<b>218,656</b>	<b>9.5%</b>
<b>Males</b>	2,871	3,044	<b>6.0%</b>	98,713	108,268	9.7%
<b>Females</b>	3,132	3,348	<b>6.9%</b>	100,980	110,388	9.3%
<b>0-15 Years</b>	1,403	1,327	<b>-5.4%</b>	44,206	48,246	9.1%
<b>16-64 Years</b>	3,767	4,146	<b>10.1%</b>	127,860	135,421	5.9%
<b>65+ Years</b>	833	915	<b>9.8%</b>	27,627	34,993	26.7%

Table 2: Gender and age profile of Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Census 2021, NISRA.

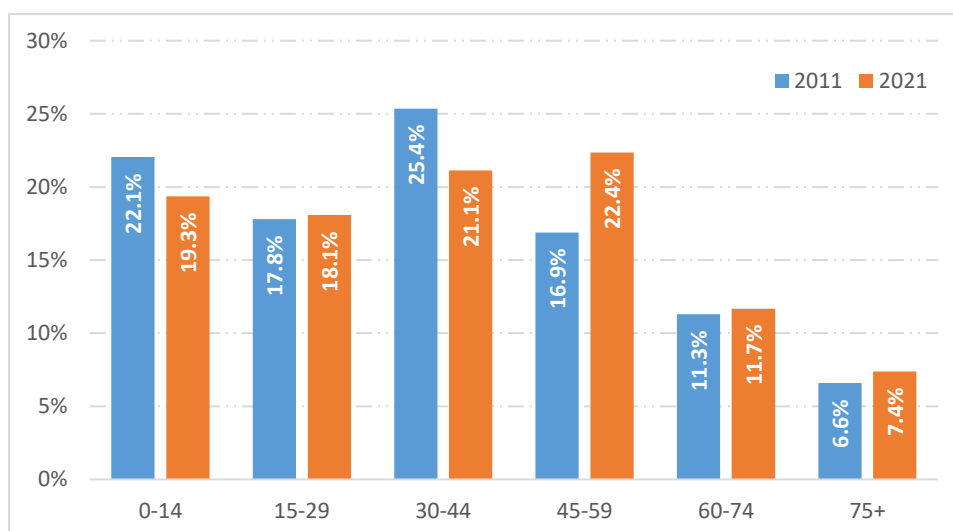


Figure 4: Age Structure of the population of Dromore Settlement Area in 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Census 2021, NISRA.

Figure 4 presents a more detailed breakdown of the age structure in Dromore Settlement area in 2011 and 2021. There has been a decline in the population aged from 0-14 from 22.1% in 2011 to 19.3% in 2021 while the biggest increase has been in the percentage of the population aged between 45-59 which has increased by 5.5 percentage points to 22.4% in 2021.

Overall, the percentage of the population aged 45+ has increased in Dromore from 35% in 2011 to 41% in 2021 and in the borough from 38% in 2011 to 42% in 2021. A similar shift has occurred in Northern Ireland overall so Dromore, like the rest of Northern Ireland and indeed the rest of the world, is experiencing a demographic shift which comes with its own opportunities and challenges.

Age	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan
under 15	0.00%	0.00%
16-24	2.49%	1.28%
25-34	17.84%	15.38%
35-44	25.31%	25.00%
45-54	27.39%	25.64%
55-64	19.09%	23.08%
65-74	6.64%	7.69%
75-84	1.24%	0.64%
85+	0.00%	0.00%
Not Answered	0.00%	1.28%

Most of the survey respondents were in the 45-54 years age bracket, followed closely by 35-44 years in both surveys. 26.97% of the initial survey

respondents were aged 55+. Through concentrated efforts this percentage increased to 32.69% of survey respondents aged 55+ completing the public consultation survey.

The initial engagement survey highlighted a lack of engagement by children and young people via the survey.

This was recognised during the engagement phase and separate activities for children and young people were delivered: -

- A Dromore Park design session was held with Dromore Central Primary School, Primary 6 children.
- Young people from the Dromore High School youth club took part in a photography project 'The Good, The Bad and More of Dromore'

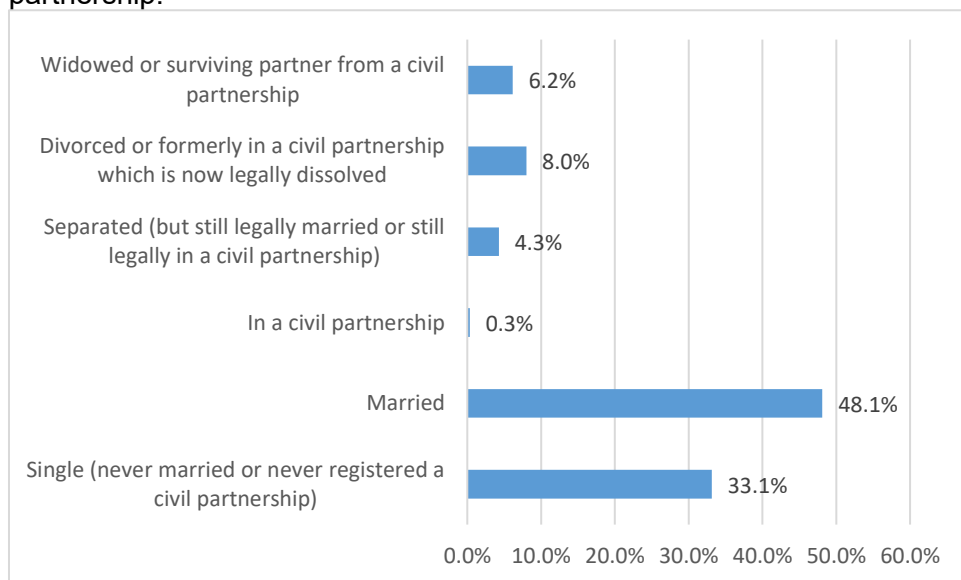
To further engage with persons within the Age Friendly category a session was held with members of the Dromore Knit and Natter group and a number of Older Persons dropped into the weekly Forums to chat with the team on a 1 – 1 basis.

At the request of one of the local schools a young persons survey was created during the public consultation stage. Disappointingly only 4 surveys were returned.

At the request of Dromore High School a workshop was delivered to A Level geography students.

**Marital status**

On Census Day 2021, 48.1% of residents in the Dromore Settlement Area were married while 33.1% were single. Just 17 people (0.3%) were in a civil partnership.



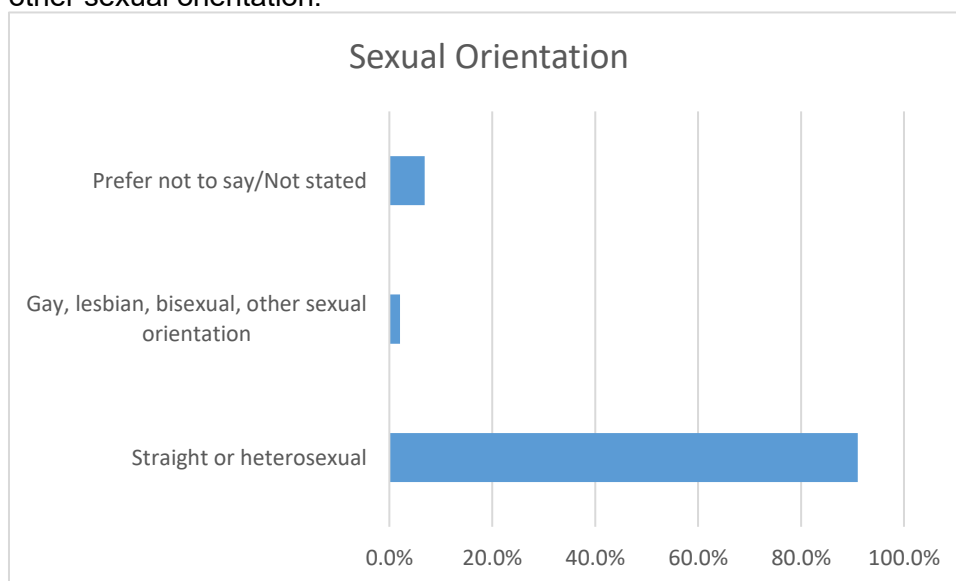
The survey responses came back as follows

Marital Status	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation

		on draft Place Plan
Single, that is, never married and never registered in a same-sex civil partnership	14.94%	17.31%
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	0.41%	0.00%
Married	75.10%	67.31%
Separated, but still legally in a same-sex civil partnership	0.41%	0.00%
Separated, but still legally married	1.66%	1.92%
Formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	0.41%	0.00%
Divorced	5.39%	8.33%
Surviving partner in a same-sex civil partnership	0.00%	0.64%
Widowed	0.83%	1.28%
Not Answered	0.83%	3.21%

Sexual orientation

On Census Day 2021, 91% of residents in the Dromore Settlement Area were Straight or heterosexual while approximately 2% were gay, lesbian, bisexual, other sexual orientation.



Statistics from the engagement and public consultation surveys are very similar in breakdown to the census data above

Sexual Orientation	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan
Bisexual	0.00%	0.64%
Gay or Lesbian	4.15%	1.28%

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Heterosexual or Straight</td> <td>93.78%</td> <td>87.82%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prefer not to say</td> <td>0.41%</td> <td>5.77%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not Answered</td> <td>1.66%</td> <td>4.49%</td> </tr> </table>	Heterosexual or Straight	93.78%	87.82%	Other	0.00%	0.00%	Prefer not to say	0.41%	5.77%	Not Answered	1.66%	4.49%																																																																	
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Men and women generally	<p>On Census Day 2021, Dromore Settlement Area had an estimated population of 6,395. Of those, approximately 3,348 (52%) were female while 3,044 (48%) were male.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="3">Dromore Settlement Area</th> <th colspan="3">Armagh City, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon Borough</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>2011</th> <th>2021</th> <th>% Change</th> <th>2011</th> <th>2021</th> <th>% Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>All Persons</b></td> <td><b>6,003</b></td> <td><b>6,395</b></td> <td><b>6.5%</b></td> <td><b>199,693</b></td> <td><b>218,656</b></td> <td><b>9.5%</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Males</b></td> <td>2,871</td> <td>3,044</td> <td><b>6.0%</b></td> <td>98,713</td> <td>108,268</td> <td>9.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Females</b></td> <td>3,132</td> <td>3,348</td> <td><b>6.9%</b></td> <td>100,980</td> <td>110,388</td> <td>9.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>0-15 Years</b></td> <td>1,403</td> <td>1,327</td> <td><b>-5.4%</b></td> <td>44,206</td> <td>48,246</td> <td>9.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>16-64 Years</b></td> <td>3,767</td> <td>4,146</td> <td><b>10.1%</b></td> <td>127,860</td> <td>135,421</td> <td>5.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>65+ Years</b></td> <td>833</td> <td>915</td> <td><b>9.8%</b></td> <td>27,627</td> <td>34,993</td> <td>26.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Table 2: Gender and age profile of Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 &amp; Census 2021, NISRA.</i></p> <p><u>Gender</u> The majority of people who completed the surveys were female.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Survey during initial Engagement</th> <th>Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>35.68%</td> <td>31.41%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>63.07%</td> <td>65.38%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-binary/non-confirming</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prefer not to disclose</td> <td>0.83%</td> <td>1.92%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prefer to self describe below</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not Answered</td> <td>0.41%</td> <td>1.28%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Dromore Settlement Area			Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough				2011	2021	% Change	2011	2021	% Change	<b>All Persons</b>	<b>6,003</b>	<b>6,395</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>199,693</b>	<b>218,656</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>Males</b>	2,871	3,044	<b>6.0%</b>	98,713	108,268	9.7%	<b>Females</b>	3,132	3,348	<b>6.9%</b>	100,980	110,388	9.3%	<b>0-15 Years</b>	1,403	1,327	<b>-5.4%</b>	44,206	48,246	9.1%	<b>16-64 Years</b>	3,767	4,146	<b>10.1%</b>	127,860	135,421	5.9%	<b>65+ Years</b>	833	915	<b>9.8%</b>	27,627	34,993	26.7%	Gender	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan	Male	35.68%	31.41%	Female	63.07%	65.38%	Non-binary/non-confirming	0.00%	0.00%	Prefer not to disclose	0.83%	1.92%	Prefer to self describe below	0.00%	0.00%	Not Answered	0.41%	1.28%
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Disability	<p>According to the 2021 Census, more than one in five people in Dromore (21.9% or 1,403 individuals) had a limiting long-term health problem or disability.</p> <p>Census 2021 results can also be disaggregated by age and the results show the prevalence of a limiting long-term health problem or disability is related to age<sup>1</sup>. More than 60% of the population aged 65+ in the borough had a limiting</p>																																																																													

<sup>1</sup> [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin - Health \(nisra.gov.uk\)](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/census-2021-main-statistics-for-northern-ireland-statistical-bulletin-health)

long-term health problem or disability compared to 7% of those aged between 0-14.

	Population	With a limiting long term health problem or disability	Percentage
<b>0-14</b>	1,237	92	7.4%
<b>15-39</b>	2,067	232	11.2%
<b>40-64</b>	2,179	528	24.2%
<b>65+</b>	913	551	60.4%
<b>All ages</b>	<b>6,396</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>21.9%</b>

Table 8: Limiting long-term health problem or disability by broad age band, Dromore Settlement Area. Source: Table MS-A02, Census 2021.

Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities showed that as of May 2024 in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough there were:

- 3,030 or 6.2% of under 16 eligible population and 4,490 or 13.3% of pension age eligible population claiming Disability Living Allowance.
- 6,480 or 19.1% of 66+ population claiming Attendance Allowance.
- 21,340 Personal Independent Payment claims in payment (experimental statistics).

The majority of people who completed the survey stated they had no disability.

Disability	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan
Yes - limited a little	6.64%	7.69%
Yes - limited alot	2.49%	5.77%
No	90.04%	77.56%
I prefer not to say	0.41%	7.69%
Not Answered	0.41%	1.28%

Dependants

At Census Day 2021, there were a total of 2,662 households in the Dromore settlement area which represents an increase of 223 households (9%) since the 2011 Census. In the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough there were an estimated 84,642 households, an increase of 12.1% since 2011.

Figure 5 below presents the percentage of households by household size in Dromore and in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough at Census 2011 and 2021. In 2021, Dromore had a higher percentage of one, two and three person households than the borough overall (61% compared to 57%) while households with 5 or more people accounted for approximately 7% of total households in Dromore compared almost 11% in the borough overall. In Dromore Settlement area, approximately one in every five houses have four or more persons compared to Armagh City, Banbridge and

Craigavon borough where approximately one in every four households have four or more persons.

Since 2011, the percentage of one person households in Dromore has increased while the number of two person households has fallen slightly. Surprisingly, the percentage of households with 4 or 5 people has fallen in Dromore but the percentage of households with 6 or more people has increased from 2% to 2.2% in Dromore.

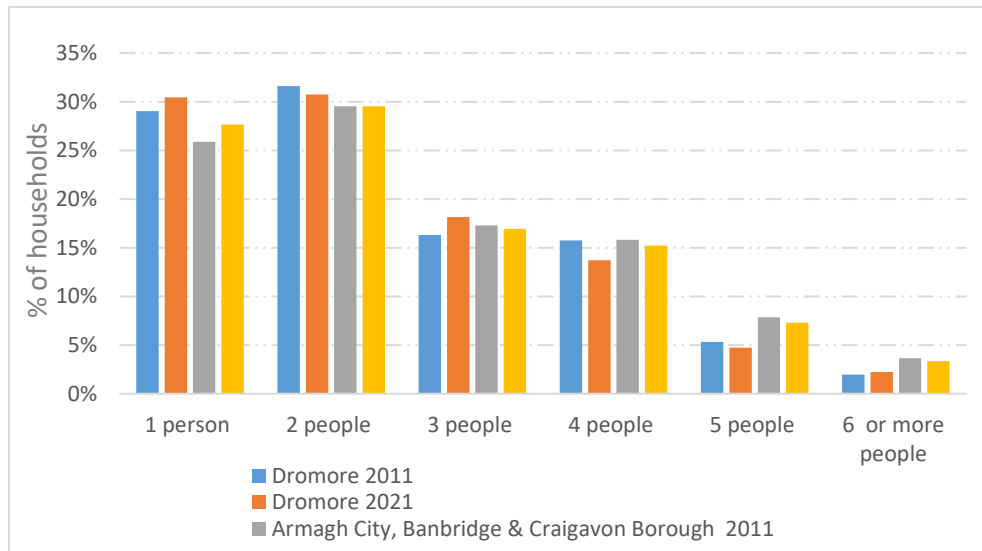


Figure 5: Household size – Dromore Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Census 2021, NISRA.

Responsibility for the care of	Survey during initial Engagement	Survey during public consultation on draft Place Plan
Child/Children	52.28%	46.79%
Dependent elderly person	4.98%	10.26%
Person with a disability	1.24%	11.54%
Other (please describe)	1.66%	0.64%
No (N/A)	38.59%	39.10%
Not Answered	1.24%	1.92%

The majority of respondents who completed the survey had the responsibility for the care of a child/children.

### 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?

<b>Section 75 category</b>	<b>Needs, experiences and priorities</b>
----------------------------	--

Religious belief	No information available
Political opinion	On many accounts during engagement sessions attendees commented that Dromore is a friendly place with strong cross community relations. However, comments made via the online survey included that Dromore could be more inclusive to all sections of the community.
Racial group	No information available
Age	Young people expressed during engagement for more activities to be delivered for them to take part in and socialise.
Marital status	No Information available
Sexual orientation	No Information available
Men and women generally	No Information available
Disability	There is some evidence from the engagement sessions that the town is not fully accessible due to the typography of the hills and narrow footpaths and suggested that pedestrianisation in areas would be welcome and paths should have a smooth surface. It was also suggested to review location of disabled spaces within Town Centre.
Dependants	No Information available

### 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		No negative impact
Political opinion		No negative impact
Racial group		No negative impact
Age	There are actions proposed within the Draft Dromore Place Plan to deliver community led programmes, events, activities and classes for all.	
Marital status		No negative impact
Sexual orientation		No negative impact
Men and women generally		No negative impact
Disability	There are actions proposed within the Draft Dromore Place Plan to improve linkages and connections to the Town Centre and improve accessibility.	
Dependants		No negative impact

#### 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		

Political opinion	Many of the proposed actions in the plan advocate for the codesign and for community involvement eg need for additional integrated and inclusive meeting spaces. Community led programmes, events and activities. This will provide opportunities for people to meet and work together.	
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

**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	The effective implementation of the Dromore Place Plan will deliver outcomes to all members of the local community, visitors and workers regardless of religious belief.	Minor
Political opinion	The effective implementation of the Dromore Place Plan will deliver outcomes to all members of the local community, visitors and workers regardless of political opinion.	Minor
Racial group	The effective implementation of the Dromore Place Plan will deliver outcomes to all members of the local community, visitors and workers regardless of racial group.	Minor

**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	Enhanced public space and shared services that are open and welcome to all in integrated shared locations.	
Political opinion	Enhanced public space and shared services that are	

	open and welcome to all in integrated shared locations.	
Racial group	Enhanced public space and shared services that are open and welcome to all in integrated shared locations.	

**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.

No impact anticipated

**Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006**

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

Yes, the Community Planning Strategic Partnership and the Place Board Sub committee involves representatives from a cross section of organisations and they will continue to inform how the outcomes and thematic actions contained within the plan can promote positive attitudes towards disabled people as they are designed eg improve linkages and connections to the Town Centre and across the area and deliver improvements to accessibility.

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

Yes, the Community Planning Strategic Partnership and the Place Board Sub committee involves representatives from a cross section of organisations and they will continue to inform how the outcomes and thematic actions contained within the plan can promote positive attitudes towards disabled people as they are designed eg accessible facilities in the Dromore Settlement Development Limit area.

**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.

It is recommended the Dromore Place Plan not be subject to an EQIA.

The Dromore Place Plan has been developed following an extensive engagement, public consultation and research exercise. This included online surveys, engagement with young people and older people, online and live engagement exercises, and engagement with Community Planning Partners and the Community and Voluntary Sector Panel.

Desktop research of the available evidence from NISRA and Statutory Partners was compiled to support development of Dromore Place Plan.

The research showed that children and young people; older people; people with a disability and carers are affected by the current urban form, layout and engagement that happens in the town. Common themes identified were:

- Skills and employment
- Accessibility and movement around area
- Transportation

These are reflected in the actions in the plan and the plan commits the partnership to ongoing dialogue with S75 groups to ensure that their needs are addressed in its implementation.

**C: MAJOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA REQUIRED**

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

N/A

**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

Community planning department will monitor the progress through population indicators dashboard. The delivery and implementation of the actions will be monitored every 6 months with each lead point of contact. Progress updates will be discussed at the Community Planning Partnership - Place Board sub committee and Council's Internal Place Working Group.

**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
Jennifer McKibben	Project Officer	21/03/2025
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Elaine Gillespie	Head of Community Planning Policy & Research	21/03/2025

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

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

## Appendix 3 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.

Dromore Place Plan

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

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Developing a                | Plan                     |
| Adopting a                  | <i>Choose an item.</i>   |
| Implementing a              | <i>Choose an item.</i>   |
| Revising a                  | <i>Choose an item.</i>   |
| Designing a Public Service  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delivering a Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

Dromore Place Plan

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

The Dromore Place Plan is the creation of a new locality/community plan for the town. The aim of the plan is to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Dromore through harnessing the place shaping powers and functions of community planning partners.

The Plan details five outcomes

1. Historic Dromore – A thriving heritage town
2. Stocked Dromore – A vibrant town stocked with new businesses, economic growth, assets and life
3. Active Dromore – An energetic town with a wealth of activity opportunities
4. Discovered Dromore – A charming town with an abundance to explore
5. Connected Dromore – A sustainable town with physical and community linkages

The plan identifies 37 actions for implementation to help deliver the above outcomes.

**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.

**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.**

As Dromore is surrounded by rural hinterland, the Dromore Place Plan advocates a sustainable urban development approach that seeks to protect the rural landscape but also to serve the people in rural areas to access vital services, facilities and activities that need to take place and continue.

The Plan will impact positively on people in rural areas who visit, shop, work in Dromore. The Dromore Place Plan offers many actions for an enhanced and improved town that caters for rural dwellers that use the town regularly. From delivering revitalisation and regeneration across the town centre, attracting new businesses, improved linkages and connectivity across the Settlement Development Limit, improved car parking to aid commuters and those traveling from the hinterland to avail of the shops and services to a 'busy bus' provision to better connect the hinterlands of Dromore with the town which could support employment opportunities.

**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.**

The proposals contained within the plan will be beneficial to both urban and rural dwellers. Due to a number of transport proposals, rural dwellers will benefit as well as urban dwellers from improved transport infrastructure that connects them to the town.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Tourism                                       | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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.**

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation with Other organisations  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Published Statistics   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Research Papers  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Surveys or Questionnaires  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other Publications   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other Methods or Information Sources<br>(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.**

- Area wide survey that gathered 241 responses, many of which came from outside the settlement of Dromore in May - June 2024
- Engagement sessions held in person and online during May – June 2024 which involved a number of rural dwellers
- Area wide public consultation survey that received 156 responses
- Public consultation sessions held in person and online from 2 December 2024 – 2 February 2025 which involved a number of rural dwellers.

Please refer to the Dromore Place Plan Chapter 4 which details the strategic analysis of policies and strategies which was carried out during the discovery phase to identify common themes and to ascertain what alignment opportunities exist across government and with wider stakeholders.

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

- Access to services
- Car parking
- Better transport connectivity
- Improved linkages including 'busy bus' action HT4

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?**

**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.**

- Improved car parking to aid all day commuters parking who avail of the transport links to Belfast /Newry
- Employment and access to jobs and opportunities in the town
- Access to services in the town and not competing with rural settlements providing essential services.

**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.**

The actions identified in the plan have been informed by thorough research and extensive engagement with the community, key stakeholders, Section 75 groups with the goal of bringing tangible and effective changes to Dromore.

This will positively support growth and change throughout the area, providing more opportunity for the built environment and strategic growth, celebrating the heritage and town centre revitalisation and regeneration. The Plan will have a positive impact for surrounding rural communities, thereby helping to sustain these areas. The Plan strongly advocates for improved connectivity across the place including extending the Riverside

walk, which would also improve accessibility and positively benefit people's health and wellbeing.

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.**

**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:  (Jennifer McKibben)

Position:  (Project Officer)

Department / Directorate:  (Community Planning)

Signature:

Date: 21/03/2025

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:  (Elaine Gillespie)

Position:  (Head of Department)

Department / Directorate:  (Community Planning Policy & Research)

Signature:

Date: 21/03/2025