

Appendix 1 Equality Screening Form

Policy Scoping

Policy Title:  Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council - Funding of Edenvilla 2G Pitch and Lighting 

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

At the 2nd April meeting of the ES Committee, Members agreed to contribute 50% funding to replace the Education Authority-owned 2G playing surface at Edenvilla, Portadown. Furthermore, as part of the preferred option, Members have agreed to fund 90% of the cost of replacing lighting columns at the site, to facilitate community use outside of school hours.

This is a new funding arrangement for this site.

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

This decision aims to ensure the ongoing availability of a 2G pitch for hockey and other sports in the Portadown area outside of school hours. Surveys have shown that the current surface is no longer fit for purpose and needs to be replaced in the very near future.

While a new pitch strategy is due to be developed in the coming months, older strategies have highlighted the need for 2G provision for hockey in Portadown and no new provision has been secured in the interim.

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 pitch at Edenvilla is owned by EA and is currently within a lease with Edenvilla Ltd. Council agreed in 2017 to contribute a third of the cost of replacing the pitch, however, Edenvilla Ltd have since indicated that they can no longer meet their financial obligations in terms of funding

a third of the replacements costs. EA have agreed to fund 50% and ES Committee agreed on 2nd April to fund the remaining 50% (plus lighting costs).

Arrangements exist at other EA-owned sites whereby EA and Council have jointly funded pitch installation/replacements and Council have funded lighting in order to make the asset available for community use in the evenings, after school hours. Examples of such arrangements include – Ferris Park, Dromore, Lurgan Junior High and Banbridge Academy.

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

No

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?	Options paper developed by C Duddy, Head of CSP
Who is responsible for implementation?	Head of CSP

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

Financial – implementation of the decision will have a financial implication. Edenvilla 2G pitch is not included within the current phase of Council's pitch replacement programme, however, other parts of the programme came in under budget, which would allow some reprofiling and reduce the need for reserves.

Main stakeholders in relation to the policy

Please list main stakeholders affected by the policy (Tick all that apply)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Staff | ☒ |
| Customers | ☒ (Edenvilla Ltd (including Portadown Hockey Club, other sports clubs) |
| Other Statutory Bodies | ☒ (EA) |
| Community or Voluntary Sector | ☒ (local groups who use the facility) |

Private sector

☐

Other

Click or tap here to enter text.

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

Corporate Plan 2023-27, Get Moving ABC, Connected: Community Plan, ABC Sports Facility Framework 2016-2026 and Craigavon Playing Pitch Strategy 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](#)

Section 75 category	Evidence
Religious belief	43.8% of residents in the borough on Census Day 2021 belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 46.7% belong to or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. A further 1.2% belonged to or had been brought up in other religions while 8.2% neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in a religion. Comment – no discrimination on grounds of religious belief. The facility is available to users of all religious beliefs.
Political opinion	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: • Democratic Unionist Party – 13 • Ulster Unionist Party – 6 • Sinn Fein – 15 • Social Democratic and Labour Party – 1 • Alliance – 4 • Independent – 1 • TUV – 1

	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. Comment – no reason to believe that there would be any discrimination on the basis of political opinion.																																										
Racial group	Results from the 2021 Census showed that 96.7% of the usually resident population of the borough were white and 3.3% were from minority ethnic groups. The main ethnic minorities were Mixed (1,652 individuals), Black African (1,132 individuals) and Chinese (683 individuals). <table><tr><td></td><td>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</td><td>%</td></tr><tr><td>White</td><td>211,429</td><td>96.69%</td></tr><tr><td>Irish Traveller</td><td>534</td><td>0.24%</td></tr><tr><td>Roma</td><td>205</td><td>0.09%</td></tr><tr><td>Indian</td><td>617</td><td>0.28%</td></tr><tr><td>Chinese</td><td>683</td><td>0.31%</td></tr><tr><td>Filipino</td><td>406</td><td>0.19%</td></tr><tr><td>Pakistani</td><td>278</td><td>0.13%</td></tr><tr><td>Arab</td><td>116</td><td>0.05%</td></tr><tr><td>Other Asian</td><td>581</td><td>0.27%</td></tr><tr><td>Black African</td><td>1,132</td><td>0.52%</td></tr><tr><td>Black Other</td><td>519</td><td>0.24%</td></tr><tr><td>Mixed</td><td>1,652</td><td>0.76%</td></tr><tr><td>Other ethnicities</td><td>506</td><td>0.23%</td></tr></table> <i>Table 2: Ethnic group of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table: MS-B01 Ethnic Group, Census 2021, NISRA.</i> Results from the 2021 Census show that 85.5% of residents in the borough were born in Northern Ireland. The borough had 8.6% of residents, or 18,836 individuals, who were born outside the United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland Results from Census 2021 show that 6.8% of residents in the borough aged 3+ years (14,376 individuals) spoke a language other than English as their main language. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough in 2021, the most prevalent main languages other than English were Polish (1.7%) and Lithuanian (1.2%). Comment – no reason to believe that there would be any discrimination on the basis of race. Facility available to hire by all races.		Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%	White	211,429	96.69%	Irish Traveller	534	0.24%	Roma	205	0.09%	Indian	617	0.28%	Chinese	683	0.31%	Filipino	406	0.19%	Pakistani	278	0.13%	Arab	116	0.05%	Other Asian	581	0.27%	Black African	1,132	0.52%	Black Other	519	0.24%	Mixed	1,652	0.76%	Other ethnicities	506	0.23%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%																																									
White	211,429	96.69%																																									
Irish Traveller	534	0.24%																																									
Roma	205	0.09%																																									
Indian	617	0.28%																																									
Chinese	683	0.31%																																									
Filipino	406	0.19%																																									
Pakistani	278	0.13%																																									
Arab	116	0.05%																																									
Other Asian	581	0.27%																																									
Black African	1,132	0.52%																																									
Black Other	519	0.24%																																									
Mixed	1,652	0.76%																																									
Other ethnicities	506	0.23%																																									
Age	The population of the borough was estimated to be 218,656 on Census Day 2021, the profile of which is shown below																																										

	<table><tr><th>Age Group</th><th>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>0 – 15 years</td><td>48,243</td><td>22.06%</td></tr><tr><td>16 – 24 years</td><td>21,774</td><td>9.96%</td></tr><tr><td>25 – 49 years</td><td>72,023</td><td>32.94%</td></tr><tr><td>50 – 64 years</td><td>41,626</td><td>19.04%</td></tr><tr><td>65 and over</td><td>34,990</td><td>16.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>218,656</td><td>100.0%</td></tr></table> Table 5: Age profile of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census Day 2021. Source: Table MS-A06 Age Structure, Census 2021 Comment - no reason to believe that there would be any discrimination on the basis of political opinion. Pitch is available to use by players and users of all ages, e.g. summer schemes, junior and senior hockey, church groups etc.	Age Group	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%	0 – 15 years	48,243	22.06%	16 – 24 years	21,774	9.96%	25 – 49 years	72,023	32.94%	50 – 64 years	41,626	19.04%	65 and over	34,990	16.0%	Total	218,656	100.0%
Age Group	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%																				
0 – 15 years	48,243	22.06%																				
16 – 24 years	21,774	9.96%																				
25 – 49 years	72,023	32.94%																				
50 – 64 years	41,626	19.04%																				
65 and over	34,990	16.0%																				
Total	218,656	100.0%																				
Marital status	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%). Comment – no reason to believe that there would be any discrimination on the basis of marital status.																					
Sexual orientation	Just 1.5% of the population aged 16 and over in the borough identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or other (LGB+) while 90.5% identified as straight or heterosexual and 8% did not provide an answer to the question. Comment – there is no reason to believe that there would be discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.																					
Men and women generally	The 2021 Census showed that in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 49.5% (108,268) of usual residents were male and 50.5% (110,388) were female. Comment - No reason to believe that there would be discrimination on the grounds of men and women generally. The pitch is used for hockey and other sports and is enjoyed by men, women, boys and girls.																					
Disability	According to the 2021 Census, more than one in five people in the borough (22% or 48,726 individuals) had a limiting long-term health problem or disability. Comment – No reason to believe that there is any discrimination on the grounds of disability. The pitch is 2G and is accessible to those living with a range of disabilities, including mobility issues.																					
Dependants	The 2021 Census showed that 32% or 27,192 households in the borough contained dependent children.																					

	Comment – No reason to believe that there is any discrimination on the grounds of dependants.
--	---

Needs, experiences and priorities

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

Section 75 category	Needs, experiences and priorities
Religious belief	N/A
Political opinion	N/A
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		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None
Age		None
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		This decision aims to ensure that Edenvilla 2G remains available for community use outside of school hours. The facility will remain available to all sections of the community.
Political opinion		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community.
Racial group		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community, regardless of race.
Age		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community, regardless of age.
Marital status		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community, regardless of marital status.
Sexual orientation		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community, regardless of sexual orientation.
Men and women generally		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community.
Disability		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the

		community, including those living with a disability.
Dependants		The 2G facility will remain open to all sections of the community, whether or not they have 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		Major ☐ Minor ☐ None ☒
Political opinion		Major ☐ Minor ☐ None ☒
Racial group		Major ☐ Minor ☐ 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 facility is available to book by all. Bookings are currently controlled by Edenvilla Ltd.
Political opinion		The facility is available to book by all. Bookings are controlled by Edenvilla Ltd.

Racial group		The facility is available to book by all. Bookings are controlled by Edenvilla Ltd.
--------------	--	---

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.

Council recognises that no one individual sits exclusively within one s75 group, e.g. older residents visiting Council-owned LNRs may have a disability. Council's parks and open spaces there to serve all sections of the community, regardless of any s75 category/categories that they may belong to.

Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006

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

Any future development of the site will be led by EA, who will ensure that all development works are DDA compliant.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please explain

There are opportunities for Edenvilla Ltd/Portadown Hockey to deliver inclusive programmes to enable those living with disabilities to participate in sport.

Screening Decision

A: NO IMPACT IDENTIFIED ON ANY CATEGORY – EQIA UNNECESSARY

Please identify reasons for this below

This decision seeks to ensure investment in a replacement 2G pitch and lighting at Edenvilla, Portadown. This investment will ensure that a 2G facility is available for community use outside of school hours. The primary user will be Edenvilla Ltd/Portadown Hockey but the facility is available for hire by other community groups and sporting organisations. There are no impacts on any other section 75 categories.

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.

N/A.

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.

Yes ☐ If yes give details *Click or tap here to enter text.*

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).

Identify how the impact of the policy is to be monitored

The asset will remain an EA asset. However, Council will continue to liaise with key stakeholders through regular meetings to ensure that the stipulations of licences and SLAs are adhered to and will work in partnership to monitor and address any complaints received regarding the management of the facility.

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
Claire Duddy	Head of Climate, Sustainability and Parks	14/04/2026
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Jonathan Hayes	Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability	13/10/2026

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

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.

Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Local – Funding of Edenvilla 2G Pitch and Lighting

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

Developing a ☐ Policy ☐ Strategy ☐ Plan/Procedure ☐ Activity

Adopting a ☐ Policy ☐ Strategy ☐ Plan/Procedure ☐ Activity

Implementing a ☐ Policy ☐ Strategy ☐ Plan/Procedure ☐ Activity

Revising a ☐ Policy ☐ Strategy ☐ Plan/Procedure ☐ Activity

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

Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Local – Funding of Edenvilla 2G Pitch and Lighting

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

This decision aims to ensure the ongoing provision of a 2G pitch (with lighting) in the Portadown area, available for community use at evenings and weekends.

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) ☒ X
- Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below) ☐
- A definition of 'rural' is not applicable ☐

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used

N/A

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'

N/A

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

N/A

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 ☒ X 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.

Click or tap here to enter text.

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.

Click or tap here to enter text.

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 | ☐ |
| Rural Tourism | ☐ |
| Rural Housing | ☐ |
| Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Education or Training in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Poverty in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Deprivation in Rural Areas | ☐ |
| Rural Crime or Community Safety | ☐ |
| Rural Development | ☐ |
| Agri-Environment | ☐ |
| Other (Please state) | |

Click or tap here to enter text.

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.

This decision relates solely to the funding of a 2G pitch and lighting at Edenvilla, Portadown, which is an urban setting. According to figures from 2021, Portadown has a population of approx. 32,000.

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 ☐X 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.

Click or tap here to enter text.

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

Click or tap here to enter text.

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?

This is a decision item relating solely to the EA-owned 2G pitch at Edenvilla, Portadown and therefore has no impact on those living within rural settings.

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.

No impacts were identified for those living in rural areas, due to this decision item relating solely to Edenvilla, Portadown.

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.

Click or tap here to enter text.

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 decision aims to ensure the ongoing provision of a 2G pitch and lighting for community use in the Portadown area and, as such, will have no negative impacts 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. x☐

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by: ☐ Claire Duddy

Position: ☐ Head of CSP

Department / Directorate: ☐ Climate Sustainability and Parks

Signature:



Date: 14/04/2026

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by: ☐ Jonathan Hayes

Position: ☐ Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability

Department / Directorate: ☐ Environmental Services and Sustainability

Signature:



Date: 13/10/2026