



Appendix 2 - Template for Information to be Compiled

Information to be compiled by Public Authorities under Section 3(1)(a) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

(To be completed and included in public authorities' own annual reports and submitted to DAERA for inclusion in the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report).

Name of Public Authority:

Reporting Period: April 20 to March 20

The following information should be compiled in respect of each policy, strategy and plan which has been developed, adopted, implemented or revised and each public service which has been designed or delivered by the public authority during the reporting period.

<i>Description of the activity undertaken by the public authority which is subject to section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016¹.</i>	<i>The rural policy area(s) which the activity relates to².</i>	<i>Describe how the public authority has had due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising the policy, strategy or plan or when designing or delivering the public service³.</i>
Furlough Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Remote Meetings Protocol	Internal Policy	This Protocol enables both Staff and Members to participate in Council meetings remotely. The policy was not influenced by rural needs
Get Moving ABC Framework	Physical Activity	The Framework's vision is to 'Get Everyone Moving' and is a Borough-wide targeted and collective approach by a range of local organisations and groups. Residents in rural areas were consulted but no specific rural needs were identified.

ICT Acceptable Use Policy	Internal Policy	The policy was not influenced by rural needs
Implement a Participatory Budgeting Pilot	Health or Social Care	<p>The Community Engagement Strategy where the PB project is an action from states:</p> <p>“We acknowledge that good community engagement is at the heart of addressing inequality. Therefore, we will strive to enable and empower the full participation of all our community. We will make extra efforts to actively engage with those who are traditionally underrepresented or face barriers to inclusion including women, children and young people, people with disabilities and rural dwellers.”</p> <p>The Community Planning Partnership includes a Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise Panel to facilitate wider community engagement and to ensure that all communities have the opportunity to make their needs known to the community planning partnership. Nine out of 38 of the organisations on the panel are rural, including TADA, the rural network for the Borough.</p> <p>Access to digital infrastructure was considered.</p> <p>The Tak£500 working group have links across the whole borough. Officers have committed to ensuring that groups constituted and non constituted groups are supported to apply for this funding. As the funding pool will be split evenly across each of the DEA's rural areas will also benefit.</p>
Leave Entitlement Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Covid- 19 Response and Recovery Plan	Cross Cutting Poverty/ Deprivation/ Rural	The plan has been influenced by research and community engagement and as 49% of the borough's population live in rural areas, rural needs have helped influence the actions within the Connected response

	Development	<p>and recovery plan in particular actions in Part A of the action plan relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address barriers to services and community support • Enhance coordination of food assistance and networks • Continue to engage with and listen to communities to ensure the partnership is responsive to needs <p>In part B of the plan there are actions that will tackle social isolation and loneliness and this will include a focus on Making and Enhancing Connections which will help create connections with groups that are socially isolated.</p> <p>The following issues were considered in relation to the needs of people in rural areas</p> <p>Access to digital infrastructure Social isolation Mental health Access to services Poverty Loneliness Employment and Jobs</p>
Severance and Redundancy Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Street Naming Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Flexible Working Hours Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Fraud and Corruption Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Gifts and Hospitality Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Tree Management Policy	Environmental Impacts	The policy was not influenced by rural needs
Commemorative Memorial Licence Application (including Cemeteries)	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Play Park, Local, Neighbourhood and District	Ability to Enjoy Healthy Lifestyle	Residents in rural areas have the right to enjoy a healthy lifestyle so it is important that they have access to play parks.

Based on the designated Settlement Development Limits (SDL) classification (a statistical delineation of settlements in Northern Ireland defined by the Planning Service), the council area comprises a combination of rural and urban areas with the population located across a range of residential classifications including rural settlement based, dispersed rural living and urban residential. Key settlements identified within the SDL include:

Armagh City, Keady, Banbridge, Magheralin, Craigavon Urban Area and Bleary, Markethill, Dollingstown, Rathfriland, Dromore, Richhill, Gilford and Waringstown.

Due to differences in population spread, in particular the largely rural, dispersed nature of settlements and the population base in Northern Ireland, Council has sought to develop its own tailored categorisation for fixed play areas with associated distance criteria which relate more closely to existing local fixed play provision, underlying demographic patterns and local geography.

[Play Park, Oxford Island](#)

Ability to Enjoy Healthy Lifestyle

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Based on the designated Settlement Development

		<p>Limits (SDL) classification (a statistical delineation of settlements in Northern Ireland defined by the Planning Service), the council area comprises a combination of rural and urban areas with the population located across a range of residential classifications including rural settlement based, dispersed rural living and urban residential. Key settlements identified within the SDL include:</p> <p>Armagh City, Keady, Banbridge, Magheralin, Craigavon Urban Area and Bleary, Markethill, Dollingstown, Rathfriland, Dromore, Richhill, Gilford and Waringstown.</p> <p>Due to differences in population spread, in particular the largely rural, dispersed nature of settlements and the population base in Northern Ireland, Council has sought to develop its own tailored categorisation for fixed play areas with associated distance criteria which relate more closely to existing local fixed play provision, underlying demographic patterns and local geography.</p>
Recognition Proposal	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified
Tandragee Public Realm	Rural Businesses, Rural Tourism	This is a Public Realm improvement scheme that is focused on Tandragee, but it has positive effects on the surrounding rural hinterland.
Urban Centres Identities Project	Urban Identities	No rural needs were identified
Waringstown Public Realm	Cross Cutting Rural	This is a Public Realm improvement scheme that is

	Businesses, Rural Tourism	focused on Waringstown, but it has positive effects on the surrounding rural hinterland.
Whistleblowing Policy	Internal Policy	No rural needs were identified

Link to Council Policies

<https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/council/policies/>

NOTES

1. This information should normally be contained in section 1B of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
2. This information should normally be contained in section 2D of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
3. The information contained in sections 3D, 4A & 5B of the RNIA Template should be considered when completing this section.