

Appendix I - Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) Template

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 AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH 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.

GOOD RELATIONS AUDIT AND STRATEGY

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

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
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.

ARMAGH CITY BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL'S GOOD RELATIONS AUDIT & STRATEGY

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

To ensure that the highest Good Relations needs in the Council area are targeted and prioritised.

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 the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

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

The GR Audit and Strategy is primarily concerned with the promotion of Good Relations between people from different religious, political and racial backgrounds (Section 75 categories). However, rural dwellers have been past participants on programmes delivered by the Good Relations Action Plan and it is therefore likely that this will continue in future. Indeed, Good Relations are conducting a GR mapping exercise that may well identify rural areas of the Borough (with socio economic needs) that should be targeted directly for support to improving quality of life issues.

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 GR Audit and Strategy is primarily concerned with the promotion of Good Relations between people from different religious, political and racial backgrounds (Section 75 categories). However, rural dwellers have been past participants on programmes delivered by the Good Relations Action Plan and it is therefore likely that this will continue in future. Indeed, Good Relations are conducting a GR mapping exercise that may well identify rural areas of the Borough that should be directly targeted (socio economic needs) for support in improving quality of life issues.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state)	<input type="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.

NA

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 the response is **NO** GO TO Section **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"/>	Published Statistics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consultation with Other Organisations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surveys or Questionnaires	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).			<input type="checkbox"/>

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

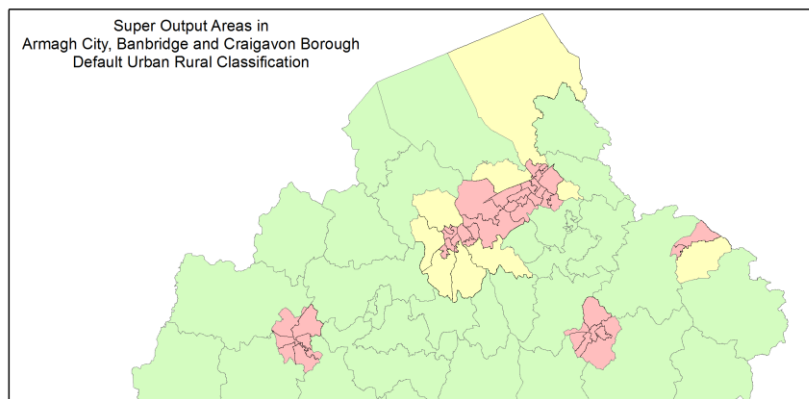
The Good Relations Audit & Strategy has been informed by extensive research carried out by Council during the development of the Community Plan and Councils PEACE IV Action Plan. Methods utilised included:

- Public meetings
- Workshops
- Consultations with other Statutory bodies/community/voluntary sector
- Research Papers
- Surveys/questionnaires
- Other Strategies
- Published statistics
- On line survey
- Co design

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

Looking at 2011 Census results just over half of the Borough's population (51%) lived in urban areas based on the NISRA default urban / rural settlement classification, while just under half (49%) lived in rural areas (compared to 63% urban and 37% rural for Northern Ireland overall using the NISRA classification).

NISRA also provides the classification at Super Output Area level (SOA), 36 out of the borough's 87 SOAs are classified as rural, with a further 9 being mixed urban/rural. The rural areas cover a large part of the borough.



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?

NA

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.

The Access to Services domain is particularly relevant to rural areas; this measures the extent to which people have poor physical and online access to key services. The borough has 9 Super Output Areas (10% of the total 87 SOAs in the Borough) in the top 100 most deprived in NI on the Access to Services domain, each of these are defined as rural on the default NISRA classification.

The Access to Services domain consists of three indicators:

- Service-weighted fastest travel time by private transport
- Service-weighted fastest travel time by public transport
- Proportion of properties with broadband speed below 10Mb/s

The borough has areas within the top 100 most deprived in NI on each of these three indicators. For example, Bannside SOA in the Borough is the second most deprived SOA in NI in terms of proportion of properties with broadband speed below 10Mb/s.

The Good Relations Audit & Strategy is closely aligned to Council's Community plan. Extensive consultation was undertaken as part of the Community planning process. This is an ongoing and inclusive process taking into account the views of local people and stakeholders within our borough.

The Southern Organisation for Action in Rural areas Programme was designed, developed and informed by three main strands including: Extensive consultation with the community, voluntary, private and public sectors of the community, Analysis of Socio Economic Data and Synergies analysis with strategies

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 the response is **NO GO TO Section 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.

As a Council we support a broader concept of peacebuilding, towards delivering against unmet local need and social objectives – the ***Common Needs Plus Model (Professor Colin Knox, 2016)***. Economic and social reconstruction is crucial to the success of the peace process. As such, we are shifting our good relations focus to incorporate the aspirations, attitudes and socio-economic circumstances of ordinary people, although the motivations of those involved in perpetuating conflict and maintaining peace must not be ignored. The success of this approach requires active community participation, to include the most marginalised, from conception through to implementation and evaluation. Such a model necessitates the collaboration of a range of agencies, communities and individuals. Therefore capacity building, needs to span community and the enabling agencies and civic institutions.

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES GO TO Section 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:	PAMELA MATTHEWS
Position/Grade:	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Division/Branch	PEOPLE DIRECTORATE
Signature:	
Date:	04/01/2019
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	
Position/Grade:	
Division/Branch:	
Signature:	
Date:	