

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Policy Screening Report

under

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, 1998

March 2018

Equality Scheme Policy Screening Report

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has developed a number of new policies. In complying with the Council's Equality Scheme Duties, these policies have been screened for any possible adverse impact that they may have under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, 1998. The nine groups are:

Age; Marital status; Women (including girls) and Men (including boys); Persons with a disability and Persons without; Persons with dependants and Persons without; Political Opinion; Racial Group; Religious belief; and Sexual Orientation.

The policies have been screened against the questions below and have been ranked 1,2 or 3

1	'screened in' for equality impact assessment, including date of EQIA
2	'screened out' with mitigation
3	'screened out' without mitigation

Screening Questions

- A What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? (minor/major/none)
- B Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?
- C To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of a different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? (minor/major/none)
- D Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of a different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

The attached schedule is being published for consultees information. Comments may be submitted in writing, by telephone, e-mail, or in person and should be forwarded to the address below.

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This document is available in alternative formats on request

Section 75 Northern Ireland Act 1998 – Policy Screening Exercise

Policies have been assessed against the four screening questions and a ranking allocated. For each of the policies detailed below, a more comprehensive ‘screening’ document is available on the Council website or on request. The report includes published screening for the period November 2017 to February 2018.

Policy/Procedure	Policy/Procedure Aims	Ranking/ Screening Decision
Public Right of Way Policy	<p>This policy and procedure has been developed to comply with the powers and duties in relation to the investigation and assertion of public rights of way placed on the Council under Article 3 of the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983. An agreed procedure will ensure that the Council exercises its duty under the Order in a consistent, open, fair and professional way.</p> <p>This policy has no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.</p>	3
Safeguarding Policy	<p>The Council is committed to working in partnership with others to safeguard children and adults at risk from all forms of abuse, neglect or exploitation.</p> <p>This policy aims to ensure that a holistic approach to safeguarding is embedded within all Council services, and that elected members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, grant-aided organisations, contractors and volunteers understand their role and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.</p> <p>This policy has been specifically developed to safeguard children and adults at risk from all forms of abuse, neglect or exploitation. The equality impact is therefore positive and intentional for children and disabled adults (as adults at risk may have disabilities) The designated safeguarding champion, safeguarding coordinator and safeguarding officers will be responsible for promoting good practice and issuing operational guidance to employees/casual workers/volunteers/elected</p>	2

	members/agency workers and contractors.	
Corporate Plan	<p>The Corporate Plan is a high level document which outlines the Council's commitments for the period 2018-2023. It reflects how we as an organisation commit to the long term outcomes identified in our Community Planning Process, as well as the work we will do to ensure we continue to provide high quality services.</p> <p>It has been developed to meet the needs of a range of stakeholders in the Borough many of whom will fall within the nine section 75 categories. The cross cutting themes of Connectivity, Equality and Sustainability which were developed as part of our Community Plan will also be integral to everything we will deliver within our Corporate Plan. There are a number of initiatives, plans, strategies and programmes that will have a positive impact on a range of section 75 categories. These include for example events and programmes organised, community and community support plans, Good Relations Strategy. However, it will be important as part of the mitigation to screen all strategies, plans, projects, services detailed in the Council's departmental business plans in order to ensure that the Council's statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity and good relations is fully considered.</p>	2