

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Policy Screening Report

under

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, 1998

April 2021

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. Copies can be found at <https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/council/policies/> The report includes published screening for the period February 2021 to March 2021.

Policy/Procedure	Policy/Procedure Aims	Ranking/ Screening Decision
Commemorative Memorial Licence Application (including Cemeteries)	<p>This amended Policy covers the licence application for the installation of commemorative memorials for individuals from the Borough in Council facilities including cemeteries.</p> <p>The Policy sets out the terms, conditions, and guidance notes to assist applicants in completing the memorial licence application process.</p> <p>Any decision made by Council on the placement of a memorial bench will be subject to and considered sensitively in accordance with the Council’s equality and good relations duties.</p>	2
Play Park, Local, Neighbourhood and District	<p>The Purpose of the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Play Strategy is to establish a strategic framework within which all decision making as it relates to the provision of fixed play and non-fixed play can take place.</p> <p>https://getactiveabc.com/homepage/play-development/</p> <p>There are three Play Area Designations in the Play Strategy 2018-2023 and the equality screening exercise relates to all three designations. This</p>	3

	<p>is a new screening based on the Play Strategy Policy developed in May 2019. This policy will particularly benefit children and young people, children and young people with disabilities and those with dependants.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation by the Play Development Team will be ongoing throughout the process of refurbishment/development of each play park</p>	
Play Park, Oxford Island	<p>The Purpose of the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Play Strategy is to establish a strategic framework within which all decision making as it relates to the provision of fixed play and non-fixed play can take place.</p> <p>https://getactiveabc.com/homepage/play-development/</p> <p>The equality screening exercise relates to the bespoke design of Oxford Island Play Park. This is a new screening based on the Play Strategy Policy developed in May 2019. This policy will particularly benefit children and young people, children and young people with disabilities and those with dependants.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation by the Play Development Team will be ongoing throughout the process of refurbishment/development of each play park.</p>	3
Recognition Proposal	<p>This is a recognition proposal that is a one off discretionary reward for staff who worked during the initial covid lockdown period. Not all staff members will receive the award.</p> <p>Those that are due to receive the award have performed a range of roles both frontline and support and are largely representative of the nine equality categories. Consideration has been given to the impact of this</p>	2

	<p>proposal on those staff who were instructed to shield during the initial lockdown period or had caring responsibilities and were unable to work. However, they continued to receive full pay in this period and were not disadvantaged.</p>	
<p>Tandragee Public Realm</p>	<p>The Tandragee Public Realm scheme will be in 2 parts and will enhance the streetscape at the junction at Mill Street and Markethill Road as well as “The Mall” on Church Street. The development of Tandragee is guided by Tandragee Development Plan 2016.</p> <p>The policy for this scheme will include high quality design, natural materials and bespoke details that reflect the town’s history, while improving the functionality and accessibility of Tandragee. The physical improvements in this scheme, will contribute to the economic, social and vitality growth of Tandragee</p> <p>Tandragee Public Realm Scheme is currently being developed and has been subject to a previous public consultation period between December 2020 and January 2021.</p> <p>After careful consideration of the feedback from this public consultation, designs have been revised and updated. The scheme went back out for an additional week of public consultation between 5th February and 12th February 2021.</p> <p>The Tandragee Public Realm project aims to improve the physical environment for all its users. Those within the ‘age’, ‘persons with a disability’ and ‘persons with dependants’ categories will particularly benefit.</p> <p>The scheme will benefit all Section 75 groups by enhancing and</p>	<p>2</p>

	regenerating the physical environment and improving the general appearance of the area with improved surfaces, directional guidance paving, enhanced access and movement throughout the designated area, leading to potential future regeneration opportunities	
Urban Centres Identities Project	<p>This project creates new identities for our six urban centres. (Armagh City, Banbridge, Craigavon, Dromore, Lurgan and Portadown. Each urban centre identity comprises of three overall parts: the title, strapline and icons/tiles. (Each icon/tile illustrates characteristics of the urban centre)</p> <p>The consultancy company gave consideration to section 75 compliance in relation to colour and typeface choice where possible in the design process and output of work. In addition working practices and design outcomes have been informed by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.</p>	3
Waringstown Public Realm	<p>The Waringstown Public Realm scheme will enhance the streetscape at the junction at Main Street, Banbridge Road and Mill Lane. The development of Waringstown is guided by Craigavon Village Plans – Waringstown, Bleary and Gibson’s Hill.</p> <p>The policy for this scheme will include high quality design, natural materials and bespoke details that reflect the town’s history, while improving the functionality and accessibility of Waringstown. The physical improvements in this scheme, will contribute to the economic, social and vitality growth of Waringstown</p> <p>Waringstown Public Realm Scheme is currently being developed and has been subject to a previous public consultation period between December 2020 and January 2021.</p> <p>After careful consideration of the feedback from this public consultation, designs have been revised and updated. The scheme went back out for an</p>	2

	<p>additional week of public consultation between 5th February and 12th February 2021.</p> <p>The Waringstown Public Realm project aims to improve the physical environment for all its users. Those within the ‘age’, ‘persons with a disability’ and ‘persons with dependants’ categories will particularly benefit.</p> <p>The scheme will benefit all Section 75 groups by enhancing and regenerating the physical environment and improving the general appearance of the area with improved surfaces, directional guidance paving, enhanced access and movement throughout the designated area, leading to potential future regeneration opportunities.</p>	
Whistleblowing Policy	<p>This policy describes the protection that individuals now have when they make certain disclosures in the public interest. Workers in NI now enjoy the protection of the Public Interest Disclosure (NI) Order 1998. The policy seeks to promote better accountability and more efficient regulatory oversight.</p> <p>This is a technical policy with 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