

Armagh City, Banbridge &
Craigavon Borough Council

Local Development Plan 2035

Draft Plan Strategy

Draft Equality Screening Report

September 2026



armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk



Armagh City
Banbridge
& Craigavon
Borough Council

Contents

Consultations Arrangements

Introduction.....	5
Equality Screening	8
Part 1. Policy scoping.....	9
Part 2. Screening questions	24
Part 3. Screening decision.....	37
Part 4. Monitoring.....	39
Part 5 - Approval and authorisation.....	40
Appendix 1 Assessment of Impact on Equality of Opportunity of Section 75 Groups	41

Consultation Arrangements

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council is undertaking public consultation on the Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy (dPS) 2035. This represents a statutory stage in the Local Development Plan process and provides an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to comment on the Council's proposed planning framework for guiding development across the Borough.

The draft Plan Strategy is published for public consultation alongside a range of supporting assessments, which are also available to view and comment upon. These include:

- Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment);
- Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment;
- Draft Equality (Section 75) Screening Report; and
- Rural Needs Impact Assessment.

Have your say

The consultation will take place over a period of 8 weeks, commencing on 13 October 2026 at 5pm and closing at 5.00 pm on 8 December 2026. Representations received after the closing date on 8 December 2026 will not be considered.

Public Engagement

During the consultation period, the Council will facilitate a series of public engagement / drop-in sessions across the Borough. These events will provide an opportunity to engage with members of the Local Development Plan Team and to view the draft Plan Strategy and its supporting documents.

Details of these events are published on the Council's website, in the dPS information leaflet, and in local newspapers in the week commencing 28 September 2026 or can be obtained by contacting the Council's Local Development Plan Team.

Availability of the Draft Equality Screening Report

A copy of this document and the draft Plan Strategy including all supporting documentation are available to view on the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council website:

www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

This document along with the draft Plan Strategy and supporting documentation are also available to view in hard copy to view during normal office hours 9am - 5pm at the following locations:

- Banbridge Civic Building, Downshire Road, Banbridge, BT32 3JY

- Craigavon Civic and Conference Centre, 66 Lakeview Road, Craigavon, BT64 1AL
- Palace Buildings, The Palace Demesne, Friary Road, Armagh, BT60 4EL

Alternative Formats

All documentation can be made available in different formats on request and alternative languages where possible, by contacting the Council's Planning Office:

By telephone: 0300 200 7830 (NI General Planning Line);
0300 0300 900 (Main Council Line)

If for any reason a particular alternative format cannot be met, other possible solutions will be explored.

How to respond

Responses to this public consultation should be submitted to the Local Development Plan Team by the following options:

Online Consultation Portal: www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Email: ldp@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Post: Planning Department
Local Development Plan Team
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
Banbridge Civic Building
Downshire Road
Banbridge
BT32 3JY

When submitting a response to the consultation, the public and stakeholders are encouraged to submit representations via the online portal.

What happens next?

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council will use this information to fulfil the Council's policy development and statutory obligations. All responses are public documents and will be made available for public inspection and as part of the Independent Examination process and will be held on a database in accordance with the provisions of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

Introduction

This draft Equality Screening Report Form has been prepared alongside the draft Plan Strategy as the next stage in the development of the Local Development Plan 2035.

As a public authority, the Council has legal responsibilities under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. This means that when carrying out its work, the Council must give due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between people in the following nine groups:

- different religious beliefs
- political opinions
- racial groups
- age
- marital status or sexual orientation
- men and women generally
- people with a disability and those without
- people with dependants and those without

The Council must also consider how its work can help promote good relations between people of different religious beliefs, political opinions and racial groups.

In addition, under the Disability Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 2006, the Council is required to consider how it can:

- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and
- encourage the participation of disabled people in public life.

In bringing forward the Local Development Plan (LDP), the Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of Section 75 groups are appropriately considered. The potential impacts on equality related issues have been assessed and subject to consultation at each stage in the preparation of the Plan Strategy.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the 2011 Act) transferred responsibility for the preparation of Local Development Plans from the Department of the Environment (DoE) (now the Department for Infrastructure (DfI)) to local councils. The Act also established a plan-led system, whereby the Local Development Plan is afforded primacy in the determination of planning applications.

The draft Plan Strategy is the first of two development plan documents, which together will comprise the Local Development Plan (LDP). This report should be read in conjunction with the draft Plan Strategy document along with all other accompanying reports and the evidence base (see associated Technical Supplements and assessments). Both the draft Equality Screening Report Form and the draft Plan Strategy will be subject to an 8 week period of formal public consultation.

The purpose of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's (the Council) Local Development Plan (LDP) is to inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers, investors and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide decisions on planning applications for development within the Borough up to 2035.

Furthermore, the LDP is intended to provide the spatial expression of the Council's Community Plan. In this regard, it seeks to support and deliver the Community Plan's vision of achieving *"a happy, healthy and connected community, a vibrant and sustainable economy, and appealing places for living, working and learning."*

Equality Screening of the Preferred Options Paper

In bringing forward the Local Development Plan (LDP), the Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of Section 75 groups are duly considered. Accordingly, an Equality Screening Assessment will be undertaken at each of the main stages of the plan preparation process to determine whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is required.

The publication of the Preferred Options Paper (POP) in March 2018 represented the first stage in the plan preparation process and was accompanied by an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA). The Council undertook consultation with over 574 individuals, groups and organisations representing the interests of Section 75 groups. The issues identified through this exercise informed subsequent assessment, reporting and consultation stages.

The EqIA concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that the preferred options, in terms of the proposed options, would give rise to adverse differential impacts within or between Section 75 groups. It was also recognised that the POP set out strategic policy approaches, rather than detailed policies, at that stage of the LDP process.

The POP sought views from the public on the Council's preferred policy approaches in respect of each identified key issue during the prescribed period of public consultation.

Equality Screening of the draft Plan Strategy

The Local Development Plan (LDP) has now reached the draft Plan Strategy stage. In accordance with the Council's statutory obligations in respect of Section 75 groups and disabled persons, this document presents the Equality Screening of the draft Plan Strategy and its associated strategic policies and proposals.

The screening has been undertaken using the approved Section 75 screening template and with due regard to the guidance issued by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland. The purpose of the screening exercise is to identify whether any of the proposed policies are likely to have an impact on equality of opportunity and to ensure that such considerations are appropriately incorporated into the policy-making process.

This report assesses the potential impact of the proposed strategic policies and associated proposals on equality of opportunity across each of the Section 75 categories.

The Council will continue to apply equality screening to its policies and proposals and, where appropriate, undertake a full Equality Impact Assessment at the Local Policies Plan stage, if required, to ensure that the potential impacts on Section 75 groups are fully considered on an ongoing basis.

Section 75 Policy Screening Form

Part 1. Policy scoping – asks public authorities to provide details about the policy, procedure, practice and/or decision being screened and what available evidence you have gathered to help make an assessment of the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.

Part 2. Screening questions – asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 categories? To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion, or racial group? Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

This includes consideration of multiple identity and good relations issues.

Part 3. Screening decision – guides the public authority to reach a screening decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment (EQIA), or to introduce measures to mitigate the likely impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

Part 4. Monitoring – provides guidance to public authorities on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.

Part 5. Approval and authorisation – verifies the public authority's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

Part 1. Policy scoping

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy, being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step-by-step basis.

Public authorities should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

Information about the policy

Name of the policy	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Local Development Plan 2035: draft Plan Strategy
Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?	New policy. The draft Plan Strategy forms the first part of the Local Development Plan, with the Local Policies Plan forming the second which together will comprise the Local Development Plan. The draft Plan Strategy has been prepared having regard to regional planning policy and guidance, including the Strategic Planning Policy Statement, Edition 2 (SPPS). The SPPS sets out the Department for Infrastructure's regional planning policies, which have informed the overall direction and content of the Plan Strategy. In addition, relevant provisions of the existing Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and <i>A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland</i> have been taken into account in the preparation of locally appropriate strategic policies. Upon adoption of the Plan Strategy, the retained PPSs and the remaining provisions of <i>A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland</i> will cease to have effect within the Borough insofar as they are superseded by the Plan Strategy. In preparing the draft Plan Strategy, regard has also been given to the extant development plans for the area, the Armagh Area Plan 2004, Banbridge Area Plan 2015, Craigavon Area Plan 2010, and the Dungannon and South Tyrone Area Plan 2010. These plans have informed the evidence base and strategic approach of the LDP. Their detailed zonings and proposals will be further considered and, where appropriate, reviewed through the preparation of the Local Policies Plan.
What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)	The Council's draft Plan Strategy seeks to deliver sustainable development within the Borough, whilst fulfilling its role as the spatial embodiment of the Council's Community Plan. The vision of the LDP is:

	<i>'Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough will be a place of choice to live, work and visit, with a vibrant and sustainable economy, healthy and connected communities and a high quality natural and historic environment.'</i> The LDP will seek to deliver the vision through a range of strategic objectives (social, economic and environmental). The LDP, - takes account of regional policy and guidance, including the SPPS and the Regional Development Strategy 2035. The LDP will provide the framework to guide future sustainable development within the Borough over the plan period, which includes suite of operational policies framed around the three pillars of sustainable development, addressing each as a theme: social, economic and environmental.
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how.	The vision of the Local Development Plan is the spatial reflection of the Community Plan's vision, which primarily focuses on land use and place-making aspects of the Community Plan. The LDP vision is: <i>'Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough will be a place of choice to live, work and visit, with a vibrant and sustainable economy, healthy and connected communities and a high quality natural and historic environment.'</i> Delivery of the strategic objectives within the LDP should bring about benefit to Section 75 category groups, particularly via such operational policies such as Specialist Residential Accommodation, Affordable Housing policies and Community and Cultural Facilities. The benefits will be further expanded throughout this screening report.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	The Local Development Plan is being prepared by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's Planning Department under the Regulatory Services, Facilities and Assets Directorate. Preparation of the LDP falls under the provisions of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (NI) 2015 ('the LDP Regulations').
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council owns the policy and it will primarily be implemented by the Planning Department I. This will be achieved through the application of the Plan's policies in the determination of planning applications and in the exercise of the Council's enforcement functions in adopting a plan-led approach to decision making. Other bodies that may occasionally implement the LDP include the Planning Appeals Commission during planning appeals and the Department for Infrastructure should any applications require departmental determination as they are Regionally Significant or via the 'call-in' process.

Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?	✓	
If yes, are they financial?	Budgetary constraints may come into effect with limited notice and have the potential to impact on the intended outcomes of the policies within the Plan Strategy. This is unknown at this stage.	
If yes, are they legislative?	As noted above the draft Plan Strategy has been prepared under the provisions of the Planning Act and the LDP Regulations. Any future changes to planning legislation or the legislation controlling the activities of service providers may have a bearing on the LDP and the intended aim/outcome of the various policies.	
If yes, are there other? Please specify:	• Planning Appeals Commission decisions • Planning decisions issued by the Department for Infrastructure • Judicial Review decisions by the Courts • Review of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS) including revised policy or introduction of new regional strategic planning policy • Statutory Consultees • Developers • Objectors • Planning Committee • Government Departments • Government Finance • Unauthorised development • Political Instability	

Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

- Staff
- Service users
- Other public sector organisations (as listed below)
- Voluntary/community/trade unions
- Other:
 - Members of the public living, working in, or visiting the Borough
 - Elected Members (MPs and MLAs)
 - Neighbouring Councils/Planning Authorities with common boundaries
 - Northern Ireland Government Departments and Agencies
 - Developers
 - Business and Economic Development Enterprises/Sectors
 - Water and Sewerage undertakers (e.g. NI Water)
 - Northern Ireland Housing Executive
 - Registered Housing Associations
 - Translink
 - Civil Aviation Authority
 - System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI)
 - Telecommunication, electricity and gas suppliers

This list should not be considered exhaustive.

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

As specifically required by the Planning (Northern Ireland) Act 2011 in preparing the draft Plan Strategy the Council has taken account of the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035, policy and guidance issued by DfI, including the Strategic Planning Policy Statement Edition 2 2025, and the Council's current Community Plan. It should be noted that the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 sets out a statutory link between the Community Plan and the LDP.

The draft Plan Strategy has also taken account of a wide-ranging list of other policies and guidance issued by DfI and other government departments. Regard has also been had to various Council plans and strategies operating at the local level. A list of these documents is provided below, however, it should be noted that this list is not exhaustive. Where relevant, additional regional or local policies and/or guidance, are referred to within the draft Plan Strategy and its associated Technical Supplements.

- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Our People, Our Place, Our Future, Corporate Plan 2023-2027
- Connected - A Community Plan for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2017-2030 (Updated 2025)
- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Agriculture Strategy – March 2022

- Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Community Planning Partnership – Our Community Engagement Strategy
- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan 2022-2025 (2022)
- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Play Strategy 2018-2026
- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Heritage Strategy June 2026
- The Armagh Place Plan (2022)
- The Banbridge Place Plan (2024)
- The Dromore Place Plan (2025)
- Central Craigavon Masterplan Report (2010)
- Programme for Government 2024-2027 ‘Our Plan: Doing What Matters Most’ (NI Executive)
- Regional Development Strategy 2035 (DfI)
- Strategic Planning Policy Statement Edition 2 (2025) (DfI)
- The Sustainable Development Strategy - Everyone’s Involved - 2010 (NI Executive)
- Suite of existing Planning Policy Statements, Supplementary Planning Guidance, Design Guides and Development Control Advice Notes (DfI)
- A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland - 1993 (DfI)
- Sustainable Water - A Long-Term Water Strategy for Northern Ireland 2015-2040 (DfI)
- Banbridge, Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 (DfI)
- Craigavon Area Plan 2010 (DfI)
- Armagh Area Plan 2004 (DfI)
- Dungannon and South Tyrone Area Plan 2010 (DfI)
- Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future - A New Approach to Regional Transportation - 2011 (DfI)
- Delivering Resource Efficiency - Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy - 2015 (DAERA)
- The EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 (May 2020)
- The Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020 (DAERA)
- Lifetime Opportunities - Government’s Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for Northern Ireland - 2006 (DfC)
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs’ (DAERA) Rural Needs Act (NI) guidance and template (March 2018)
- Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 2000 (DAERA)
- Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Character Assessment - 2015 (DAERA)
- Northern Ireland Regional Seascape Character Assessment - 2014 (DAERA)
- Exercise - Explore - Enjoy: A Strategic Plan for Greenways - 2016 (DfI)
- Northern Ireland Changing Gear: A Bicycle Strategy for Northern Ireland - 2015 (DfI)
- Craigavon Integrated Development Framework (2010)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan 2032. Part 1: Plan Strategy. September 2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan 2032. Part 2: Operational Policies. September 2023
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Local Development Plan 2030 Plan Strategy

- Mid Ulster Borough Council Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy
- Newry, Mourne and Down Borough Council Draft Plan Strategy 2035
- Monaghan Council Development Plan 2025-2031

Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

The draft Plan Strategy has been prepared with regard to the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035 and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement Edition 2 2025. The strategic priorities of the Council's Community Plan have also been taken into consideration in the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy. As work on the Plan progresses, we will seek to deliver on any community planning outcomes where there is an identified spatial land use or local planning policy solution.

The preparation of the draft Plan Strategy has been informed by a robust evidence base which has involved detailed engagement with statutory consultees and neighbouring councils. This evidence base is set out in the accompanying suite of Position Papers and Technical Supplements which can be accessed on the Council's website.

The draft Plan Strategy has been informed by representations received in response to the consultation on our Preferred Options Paper (POP).

Borough profile	
The Borough covers an area of approximately 554 square miles and adjoins the boundary of five neighbouring council areas: Mid Ulster District Council, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council (by Lough Neagh) and Monaghan County Council in the Republic of Ireland. The Borough extends from the southern shores of Lough Neagh in the north to the foothills of the Mourne in the east, the Blackwater Valley in the west and South Armagh / the Monaghan border to the south. It spans across County Armagh and parts of County Down and three main river corridors, Blackwater, Lagan and Upper Bann, traverse the Borough. It comprises a diverse mix of attractive rural and urban landscapes, including the Ecclesiastical Capital of Ireland (Armagh City), the 'Orchard County', rolling drumlin countryside and areas of peatland, as well as an abundance of heritage assets, such as Dromore Motte and Bailey. The population of the Borough at the time of the 2021 census was 218,656, rising by 18,863 (15.4%) from the 2011 census. The population of the Borough is expected to reach 242,707 by 2035.	
Religious belief evidence / information	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.

	Religion or Religion Brought Up In	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%																																										
	Catholic	95,868	43.8%																																										
	Protestant and Other Christian	102,063	46.7%																																										
	Other	2,697	1.2%																																										
	None	18,028	8.2%																																										
	Total	218,656	100.0%																																										
<i>Table 1: Religion or religion brought up in of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Religion or Religion Brought Up In – Table MS-B23, Census 2021, NISRA.</i>																																													
Political Opinion evidence / information	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.																																												
Racial Group evidence / information	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>				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%																																											

Table 2: Ethnic group of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table: MS-B01 Ethnic Group, Census 2021, NISRA.

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.

Country of Birth	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%
Northern Ireland	186,924	85.49%
England	7,003	3.20%
Scotland	1,419	0.65%
Wales	332	0.15%
Republic of Ireland	4,142	1.89%
Other EU countries	13,490	6.17%
Other non-EU countries	555	0.25%
Africa	1,114	0.51%
Middle East and Asia	2,520	1.15%
North America, Central America and Caribbean	622	0.28%
South America	246	0.11%
Antarctica, Oceania and Other	289	0.13%

Table 3: Country of birth of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-A16 Country of Birth, Census 2021, NISRA.

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%).

Main Language	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	%
English	196,026	93.17%
Polish	3,551	1.69%
Lithuanian	2,611	1.24%
Irish	429	0.20%
Romanian	768	0.37%
Portuguese	1,777	0.84%
Arabic	234	0.11%
Bulgarian	1,469	0.70%
Chinese (not otherwise specified)	183	0.09%
Slovak	375	0.18%
Hungarian	357	0.17%
Spanish	116	0.06%
Latvian	468	0.22%
Russian	322	0.15%
Tetun	269	0.13%

	Other languages	1,447	0.69%
	Total (Aged 3+)	210,402	100%
	<i>Table 4: Main language of residents aged 3+ in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-B12 Main Language, Census 2021, NISRA.</i>		
Age evidence / information	The population of the borough was estimated to be 218,656 on Census Day 2021, the profile of which is shown below.		
	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%
	<i>Table 5: Age profile of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census Day 2021. Source: Table MS-A06 Age Structure, Census 2021</i>		
Marital Status evidence / information	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%).		
		Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	
		Number	%
	All usual residents aged 16 and over	170,411	100.0%
	Single (never married or never registered civil partnership)	60,075	35.3%
	Married	83,523	49.0%
	In a civil partnership	307	0.2%
	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership)	5,833	3.4%
	Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	10,253	6.0%
	Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership	10,420	6.1%
	<i>Table 6: Marital and civil partnership status of residents aged 16+ in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Marital and Civil Partnership Status – Table MS-A30, Census 2021, NISRA.</i>		
Sexual Orientation evidence / information	The question on sexual orientation was new for the 2021 Census and was asked of all people aged 16 and over. However, while completing the census is a legal obligation, there was no statutory penalty for those people who failed to provide an answer to the question on sexual orientation.		
		Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	
		Number	%

	All usual residents aged 16 and over	170,413	100.0%																								
	Straight or heterosexual	154,259	90.5%																								
	Lesbian, gay, bisexual or other (LGB+)	2,497	1.5%																								
	Gay or lesbian	1,378	0.8%																								
	Bisexual	901	0.5%																								
	Other sexual orientation	218	0.1%																								
	No sexual orientation stated	13,657	8.0%																								
	Prefer not to say	8,290	4.9%																								
	Not stated	5,367	3.1%																								
<i>Table 7: Sexual Orientation of residents aged 16 and over in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland, 2021. Source: Table MS-C01, Census 2021.</i> The results from the question on sexual orientation are presented in Table 7. 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.																											
Men & Women generally evidence / information	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.																										
Disability evidence / information	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. Census 2021 results are disaggregated by broad age bands and the results show the prevalence of a limiting long-term health problem or disability is related to age¹. <table> <tr> <th></th><th>Population</th><th>With a limiting long term health problem or disability</th><th>Percentage</th></tr> <tr> <td>0-14</td><td>45,420</td><td>2,759</td><td>6.1%</td></tr> <tr> <td>15-39</td><td>67,700</td><td>7,367</td><td>10.9%</td></tr> <tr> <td>40-64</td><td>70,547</td><td>18,715</td><td>26.5%</td></tr> <tr> <td>65+</td><td>34,990</td><td>19,885</td><td>56.8%</td></tr> <tr> <td>All ages</td><td>218,657</td><td>48,726</td><td>22.3%</td></tr> </table> <i>Table 8: Limiting long-term health problem or disability by age band, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-D02, Census 2021.</i> As presented in Table 8, almost 57% of the population aged 65+ in the borough had a limiting long-term health problem or disability compared to 6% of those aged between 0-14. Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities showed that as of May 2024 there were: • 3,030 or 6.2% of under 16 eligible population and 4,490 or 13.3% of pension age eligible population claiming Disability Living Allowance. • 6,480 or 19.1% of 66+ population claiming Attendance Allowance. • 21,340 Personal Independent Payment claims in payment (experimental statistics).				Population	With a limiting long term health problem or disability	Percentage	0-14	45,420	2,759	6.1%	15-39	67,700	7,367	10.9%	40-64	70,547	18,715	26.5%	65+	34,990	19,885	56.8%	All ages	218,657	48,726	22.3%
	Population	With a limiting long term health problem or disability	Percentage																								
0-14	45,420	2,759	6.1%																								
15-39	67,700	7,367	10.9%																								
40-64	70,547	18,715	26.5%																								
65+	34,990	19,885	56.8%																								
All ages	218,657	48,726	22.3%																								

¹ [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin - Health \(nisra.gov.uk\)](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/census2021/main-statistics-for-northern-ireland-statistical-bulletin-health)

Dependants evidence / information	The 2021 Census showed that 32% or 27,192 households in the borough contained dependent children. Results from the 2021 Census also show that 12% of the borough's population aged 5 years old and over (or 24,741 individuals) provided unpaid care. Of those who provided unpaid support: • 46% provided 1 – 19 hours per week • 24% provided 20 – 49 hours per week • 30% provided 50+ hours per week. Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities show that at November 2022 there were 8,120 claimants, or 4.8% of 16 and over population, claiming Carer's Allowance in the borough.
--	--

Needs, experiences and priorities

The needs, experiences and priorities of Section 75 groups have been considered throughout the development of the LDP. The list below outlines in general terms what the needs, priorities and experiences of each Section 75 grouping that have been identified in regard to the LDP.

- Access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods
- Safe, shared public spaces
- Access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities
- Access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities
- Vibrant business and retail offerings
- Prosperous employment opportunities
- Access to education, training and personal development
- Access to public transport and active travel networks

Religious belief	Most residents in the Borough are Protestant or from other Christian backgrounds. Catholics make up a slightly smaller proportion. Residents with other religions or no religious affiliation make up the minority. In light of religious belief, the needs and priorities indicated above are relevant irrespective of religious belief. Priorities and needs for this group in particular are access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, safe, shared public spaces, access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities.
Political Opinion	Despite the largest single political party on the Council being associated with the nationalist community, overall party representation reflects a slight majority drawn from unionist-designated parties. In light of political opinion, the needs and priorities indicated above are relevant irrespective of political opinion. Priorities and needs for this group in particular are access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, safe, shared public spaces, access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities.

Racial Group	Results from the 2021 Census showed that the majority of the population were white and 3.3% of the population were from minority ethnic groups. This figure may have changed, with the population of ethnic minority groups likely increasing over time. In light of racial group, the needs and priorities indicated above are relevant irrespective of racial group. Priorities and needs for this group in particular are access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, safe, shared public spaces, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities, access to education, training and personal development and access to public transport and active travel networks to aid mobility, improve cohesion and reduce potential for community marginalisation.
Age	The largest age group within the Borough currently is the 25-49 years making up 32.94% of the population, whilst the smallest group is between 16-24 years at 9.96%. The Borough is developing an older population. For the older population, access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, safe, shared public spaces, access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities, access to community facilities. For younger age groups, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities, vibrant business and retail offerings, prosperous employment opportunities and access to education, training and personal development will be of key importance. Access to public transport and active travel networks will be a priority for all age groups for mobility.
Marital Status	Just under half of the Borough's population are married or in a civil partnership, with the remainder either single, separated, divorced or widowed. While all priorities are applicable, housing may be of particular importance to meet individual requirements.
Sexual Orientation	The majority of the Borough identifies as being straight or heterosexual, however a large number (8%) did not state their sexual orientation, hence there is likely a greater diversity than what is specified. Of particular importance to members of the LGB+ community, safe, shared public spaces and access to community facilities may be of particular importance with potential for community marginalisation.
Men & Women generally	The Borough has an almost 50/50 male/female split. Vibrant business and retail offerings, prosperous employment opportunities and access to education, training and personal development are of importance to all members of the groups, with safe shared spaces perhaps having a greater importance for the female population for the perception of safety.
Disability	22% of individuals in the Borough live with a limiting long-term health problem or disability. Of particular importance to this grouping would be access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities and access to public transport and active travel networks.
Dependants	Just under one third of the Borough's households contained dependent children. Of particular importance to this grouping would be access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods, safe, shared public

	spaces, access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities and access to education, training and personal development.
--	--

Part 2. Screening questions

The information set out in Part 1 of the Screening is used to inform the assessment of the likely impact of the draft Plan Strategy on equality of opportunity and good relations across each of the Section 75 categories.

In determining whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is required, the Council will consider the responses to the four questions set out below and assign a level of impact for each category, namely **none**, **major** or **minor**.

If the public authority's conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then the public authority may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, a public authority should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

If the public authority's conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the public authority's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories and/or good relations categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

- measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
- the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;

- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

Taking into account the evidence presented above, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations for those affected by this policy, in any way, for each of the equality and good relations categories, by applying the screening questions given overleaf and indicate the level of impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

Screening Questions

1. 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

Section 75 Grouping	Consideration of Impact	Level of Impact
Religious belief	The main policy that may affect members of this section 75 group is the following: The spatial implications of the Spatial Growth Strategy and associated strategies, particularly SGS 3: Strategic Housing Allocation. The Spatial Growth Strategy (SGS 3) directs most growth towards the main settlements of Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon and to a lesser extent, small towns in line with the settlement hierarchy. Population of the Hubs and towns²: Tier 1 – Main settlements (Hubs) • Armagh City: 16,438 • Banbridge Town: 17,248 • Craigavon Urban Area (incl. Lurgan & Portadown): 72,721 Tier 2 – Small towns • Dromore: 6,492 • Gilford: 1,957 • Keady: 3,327 • Markethill: 1,906 • Rathfriland: 2,489 • Tandragee: 3,543 The impact here is considered to be ‘minor’, as the proposed Spatial Growth Strategy is not unlawfully discriminating. On a wider scale, the Spatial Growth Strategy reflects the Borough as a whole – 46.7% of the Borough’s population came from a Protestant and Other Christian background (2021 Census). This is above the Northern Ireland average of 43.5%. When considering the Council’s population beyond settlement development limits, comprising 22.5% of the total, small settlements and villages as a rural catchment focus point have an important role to play	Minor positive

² NISRA, Census 2021

	in sustaining a sense of place, providing education and local services. The focus within the draft Plan Strategy aligns with the regional direction of the RDS and is considered to benefit the Borough as a whole as it aims to consolidate housing provision, economic development and services available. Despite approximately 46.7% of the population coming from a Protestant or other Christian belief and 43.8% coming from a Catholic belief within the Borough, the SGS is not considered to be unlawfully discriminating against any religious grouping. The importance of the lower levels of the settlement hierarchy and the countryside is not however overlooked within the SGS. 22.5% of the Borough's population lives in the countryside, beyond settlement development limits. The Countryside Strategy seeks to strengthen rural communities within the Borough whilst protecting it from inappropriate development. This does not create an imbalance of resource distribution to one or another religious belief. No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. The overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to this category as a whole.	
Political Opinion	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to this category as a whole, as the plan aims to enhance shared space and create quality places.	Minor Positive
Racial Group	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to this category as a whole. Policies in relation to housing and economic development will provide new opportunities for all groups. Mixed tenure housing developments (including affordable housing Policy HOU 6 and HOU18) will also benefit this Section 75 group. Operational Policy HOU 10 Travellers Accommodation sets the requirements for suitable Traveller specific accommodation within settlements and is the only policy to target a specific racial group.	Minor Positive

Age	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to all age groups. Policies such as Policy HOU 9 – Specialist Residential Accommodation will be of particular benefit to older people, with housing designed to improve their quality of life. Appendix 1 outlines the policies that will benefit various ages, with all groups benefitting in general, such as the Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation policies and the Economic Policies, and the more vulnerable age groups benefiting from specific policy interventions. SP 2 Positive Design and Place-Making seeks to adhere to the principles of good design and positive place-making which directs design to create safe and inclusive places for people, ensuring spaces are easy to navigate, physically accessible and appealing to all age groups, where people feel safe and welcome.	Minor Positive
Marital Status	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim of the draft Plan Strategy and strategic approach will be of benefit to people of different marital status. Appendix 1 indicates that a number of policies and approaches included within the draft Plan Strategy (including housing policies) have the potential to have positive impacts for this group.	Minor Positive
Sexual Orientation	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to those within this category, regardless of sexual orientation. As outlined in Appendix 1, the draft Plan Strategy has the potential to have positive impacts for members of the LGBT community.	Minor Positive
Men & Women generally	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is the aim of the Plan to benefit both men and women generally.	None
Disability	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will generally benefit those living with and without disability. Appendix 1 outlines a number of policies that will benefit those with and without disability. Targeted policies such as HOU 5 – Housing mix and HOU 9 – Specialist Residential Accommodation will be of specific benefit to those who may have disabilities and	Minor Positive

	TRAN 1 – Accessible Environments to ensure new developments can be easily accessed by all especially those who live with disabilities. SP 2 Positive Design and Place-Making seeks to adhere to the principles of good design and positive place-making which directs design to create safe and inclusive places for people, ensuring spaces are easy to navigate, physically accessible and appealing to all age groups, where people feel safe and welcome.	
Dependants	No adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified at this stage. It is anticipated that the overall aim and strategic approach of the draft Plan Strategy will generally benefit both those with and without dependents. Appendix 1 identifies a number of policies that would benefit those with dependants such as transport policies, telecommunication utilities and other infrastructure development policies, housing policies enabling a mixture of housing types and tenures as well as open space, sport and outdoor recreation policies generating positive impacts for those with dependents.	Minor Positive

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?

Section 75 Grouping	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
Religious belief		Most residents in the Borough are Protestant or from other Christian backgrounds. Catholics make up a slightly smaller proportion, and a larger minority belong to other religions or have no religious affiliation It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
Political Opinion		It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
Racial Group	It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all. Proposed Policy HOU 10 – Travellers Accommodation – notes that the travelling community has unique accommodation needs that may not be met through conventional residential schemes. Policy HOU 10 directly promotes the equality of this minority racial group as it sets out the criteria to enable the development of need specific travellers accommodation. Furthermore, Policies HOU 5 – Residential Mix, HOU 6 – Affordable Housing in Settlements	

	and HOU 8 Houses in Multiple Occupation can have indirect benefit to the promotion of other minority racial groups by creating the opportunity of access to safe, affordable housing within settlements to meet various requirements.	
Age	NISRA Mid 2018 based population projections (published 30 April 2020) show an increase in the percentage of those aged 65+ from 15.0% in 2015 to 20.7% in 2035. It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all. Policy HOU 9 introduces policy provision for Specialist Residential Accommodation, Specialist Residential accommodation is accommodation that is designed and designated for occupation by people with specific needs or in particular circumstances whose requirements cannot be adequately met through general market housing, normally because they require specialised accommodation-based solutions, extra housing support and/or an element of care in addition to a home. It allows individuals to access accommodation that is more suited to their needs or circumstances, including older people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people.	
Marital Status		It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
Sexual Orientation		It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better

		promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
Men & Women generally		It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
Disability	22% of individuals in the Borough's have a limiting long-term health problem or disability³. It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all. Policies HOU 5 – Residential Mix and HOU 9 Specialist Residential Accommodation Policy HOU 9 introduces policy provision for Specialist Residential Accommodation, Specialist residential accommodation is accommodation that is designed and designated for occupation by people with specific needs or in particular circumstances whose requirements cannot be adequately met through general market housing, normally because they require specialised accommodation-based solutions, extra housing support and/or an element of care in addition to a home. It allows individuals to access accommodation that is more suited to their needs or circumstances, including older people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people.	

³ NISRA, Census 2021

Dependants		It is the aspiration of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, no opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity are apparent at this stage. However, any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.
-------------------	--	--

3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? **Minor/major/none**

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief	The draft Plan Strategy is expected to have a positive effect on promoting good relations between individuals of differing religious beliefs, political opinions and racial groups. In particular, its strategic social objectives aim to support the creation and enhancement of shared spaces, it also recognises the importance of providing high-quality, inclusive spaces that are accessible to and valued by all sections of the community. This commitment is reflected in the Design and Placemaking policies, alongside a range of other policies within the draft Plan Strategy. Through Policy CCF 1: Community and Cultural Facilities, the aim is to facilitate valued neighbourhood services. Other policies also support essential infrastructure, including public open space and greenways, which play an important role in promoting social interaction and community cohesion. It is also anticipated that policies relating to town centres and retail, economic development, open space, housing, and tourism will contribute positively to good relations by: encouraging mixed and balanced communities through inclusive housing provision;	Minor Positive at this stage

	• supporting vibrant and accessible town centres that are welcoming to all sections of society; • promoting shared economic opportunities that benefit diverse communities; and • enhancing public spaces and visitor destinations that are open, inclusive, and attractive to a wide range of users. Collectively, these policies help to reduce physical and social barriers between communities and support the creation of shared places, which is a key factor in fostering good relations. A more detailed assessment of impacts on good relations will be undertaken at the Local Policies Plan (LPP) stage, when land will be zoned or designated for uses such as housing, economic development and various types of open space. Furthermore, the draft Plan Strategy will undergo a statutory public consultation process. Any Section 75 issues identified during consultation or at later stages of the LDP process will be considered in a proportionate manner.	
Political opinion	As above	
Racial group	As above	

4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		It is the aim of the draft Plan Strategy to improve the quality of life for all, promoting good relations between those of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group. The proposals and policies of the draft Plan Strategy: access to good quality housing in safe neighbourhoods; safe, shared public spaces; access to healthcare and health and wellbeing facilities; access to community facilities, sport recreation and play facilities; vibrant business and retail offerings; prosperous employment opportunities; access to education, training and personal development; and access to public transport and active travel networks - assist in enhancing prospects for promoting good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation or further down the line will be considered in a proportionate way.
Political opinion		As above
Racial group		As above

Additional Considerations

Multiple Identities

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, there are potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (For example, disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

The draft Plan Strategy has been developed so to capture the needs of the people within our Borough, bringing about mutual benefit and promote an enhanced quality of life. The LDP also acknowledges that there will be frequent occurrence where Section 75 groupings may overlap. In such cases where overlaps occur, no negative differential impacts have been identified at this stage. However, as the draft Plan Strategy will be subject to consultation process any further issues raised in relation to Section 75 groups during the consultation process will be taken into account.

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

None identified at this stage. However, as the draft Plan Strategy will be subject to a public consultation process any further issues raised in relation to Section 75 groups during the consultation process will be taken into account.

Disability

The Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006 introduced new duties requiring all public authorities in carrying out their function relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need to:

- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and
- Encourage participation of disabled people in public life.

Does the policy promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and encourage participation of disabled people in public life?

The draft Plan Strategy aims to focus major growth and opportunities for development within the three main settlements/hubs, whilst providing for sustainable growth in smaller settlements and in the countryside. By focusing housing and economic growth in areas where there is the greatest access to services and facilities as well as better public transport links it is considered that this will encourage and help facilitate and help facilitate positive attitudes towards disabled people.

The draft Plan Strategy seeks to improve connectivity and accessibility as well as improving the health and wellbeing of all citizens within the Borough. In particular, Policy TRAN 1 – Accessible Environments, requires that account must be taken of the specific needs of people with disabilities and others whose mobility is impaired in the design of new development proposals. This also includes the movement patterns surrounding new development.

In addition to TRAN 1, a number of other policies have been created with specific consideration with those living with disabilities. This includes HOU 9 – Specialist Residential Accommodation, enabling those with specific requirements to enjoy a home life unhindered by generic facilities.

Other policies that promote positive attitudes towards disabled people are listed in Appendix A and include the open space, outdoor recreation and sport policies under the Open Space Strategy (SGS 9). They enable access to safe and accessible open spaces and networks of green spaces bringing about physical and mental health benefits.

It is anticipated that the draft Plan Strategy will promote positive attitudes towards disabled people as account is taken of the needs of people with disabilities through provision of accessible environments. While no impacts have been identified at this stage the draft Plan Strategy will be subject to a public consultation process any specific issues raised in relation to Section 75 groups during the consultation process will be taken into account.

Part 3. Screening decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should (please underline one):

1. Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)
2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures/alternative policies)
3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time
4. Be subject to an EQIA

If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:

At this stage, no significant adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified on Section 75 groups. It is anticipated that the Draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to residents in the Borough, including Section 75 groups, as it seeks to improve the quality of life for all, as set out in the LDP vision. At this stage, it is noted that a number of the policies within the draft Plan Strategy will be of benefit to a number of the Section 75 groups.

This is a draft Screening report, and the draft Plan Strategy will be subject to public consultation. Any issues raised through this process will be considered prior to the publication of the final Plan Strategy.

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced.

No mitigation is considered necessary at this stage. Any issues raised during the consultation process will be considered prior to the publication of the final Plan Strategy.

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy? Yes/No. If no, please explain why.

N/A

If 3. Or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

N/A

Mitigation

When the public authority concludes that the likely impact is 'minor' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, the public authority may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?

If so, **give the reason(s)** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

Reason(s): At this stage the draft Plan Strategy presents overall positive impacts for equality of opportunity and good relations. It is acknowledged that there may be potential for 'minor' impacts arising within the religious belief and political opinion groupings as a result of the Spatial Growth Strategy/Settlement Hierarchy. However, taking account of all the evidence, the Council does not consider mitigation to be required at this stage.

Timetabling and prioritising

Factors to be considered in timetabling and prioritising policies for equality impact assessment.

If the policy has been '**screened in**' for equality impact assessment, then 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.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	N/A
Social need	N/A
Effect on people's daily lives	N/A
Relevance to a public authority's functions	N/A

Note: 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 public authority in timetabling. Details of the Public Authority's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the quarterly Screening Report.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?

No

If yes, please provide details.

Part 4. Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help the public authority identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the public authority to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

The draft Plan Strategy will be subject to consultation with the public and will include specific consultation with a variety of Section 75 groups.

Any Section 75 Category issues raised during consultation will be considered prior to finalising the Plan Strategy. The LDP will also be subject to further equality screening at Local Policies Plan stage.

Monitoring and review of the LDP is an integral part of the plan making process. The draft Plan Strategy includes a Monitoring and Review Framework which highlights that a five-year review of the LDP will be carried out subsequent to adoption to ensure the policies and proposals are achieving their objectives. There will also be further scope for any impacts on Section 75 groups to be considered through this review.

Part 5 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by: **Helen Stoops**

Position/Job Title: **Principal Planning Officer**

Date: **September 2026**

Approved by: **Robbie McNaugher**

Position/Job Title: **Head of Planning**

Date: **September 2026**

Appendix 1 Assessment of Impact on Equality of Opportunity of Section 75 Groups

Please note policies will be applied uniformly across all S75 categories.

Topic	Detailed Policies	Purpose of Policy	Comments on likely impact on equality of opportunity
Part 1			
Strategic Policies	SP1: Furthering Sustainable Development & Climate Change Resilience SP2: Design & Placemaking	Policy SP1 supports the creation of sustainable development that will help to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Policy SP 2 sets out a requirement for all new development to contribute to the creation of successful and sustainable places by adhering to the principle of good design and positive place-making.	This policy has the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by addressing current needs while safeguarding the ability of the Borough to meet its future needs. The SP2 Design and Placemaking policy is likely to have a predominantly positive impact on equality of opportunity, as it promotes inclusive, safe, and accessible environments for all users. Its emphasis on good quality design, connectivity and place-based approaches, supports the creation of spaces that can be used and enjoyed by diverse communities. No adverse impacts on any Section 75 Group.

Spatial Strategy	Growth	SGS1: Spatial Growth Strategy	The Spatial Growth Strategy provides a framework for realising the vision of sustainable development for the Borough. SGS 2 - SGS 9 broadly set out where growth in housing, industrial, commercial, leisure and infrastructure development will be located in the Borough throughout the plan period.	SGS 1 identifies broad locations for growth within the Borough, including housing, employment and commercial development, there is limited potential for a minor impact on persons of different religious belief and/or political opinion, having regard to the spatial distribution of those groups across the Borough. No adverse impacts on any Section 75 Group.
		SGS2: Settlement Hierarchy		SGS 2 This policy may have a minor impact on groups of religious belief/political opinion due to the spatial distribution of such groups within the Borough. No adverse impacts on any Section 75 Group.
		SGS3: Strategic Housing Allocation / Housing Strategy		SGS 3 aligns with the Spatial Growth Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy. It is anticipated that the broad location of housing land will cater for all Section 75 groups. Housing will be allocated across

			the settlement tiers and countryside in broad alignment with the Spatial Growth Strategy. It is considered that the Housing Strategy is likely to have a positive effect generally as it seeks to provide housing to meet the needs of all in the most accessible locations and where the majority of our population are located. This will be of particular benefit to different age and racial groups and those living with disabilities and dependents. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
	SGS 4: Management of Housing Supply		SGS 4 seeks to manage the supply of housing over the Plan period. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.

	SGS5: Strategic Economic Development Lands Allocation		SGS 5 allocates an appropriate amount of land to meet economic development needs within the Borough. Allocation of employment land will be focused on those areas that are well located in terms of connectivity. This policy has the potential to benefit all members of the community but may improve accessibility for members of Section 75 groups - racial group, age, disability, dependency. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
	SGS 6: Retail Strategy		SGS 6 brings forward a hierarchy of centres which provides a framework to allow a sequential test to be applied to planning applications relating to main town centre uses, ensuring that they are directed to the most appropriate locations. It is anticipated that by protecting and sustaining the vitality and viability of the town centres that there will be benefits for the community as a whole. A well-functioning town centre can increase opportunities for social interaction. The approach of the Retail Strategy ensures that retail and other town centre uses will be more accessible for everyone, including the elderly and

			people living with a disability. Local and district centres play an important role in meeting day-to-day needs by providing accessible retail and services within communities, helping to support social inclusion, active travel and reduce the need for longer distance travel. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
	SGS7: Tourism Strategy		SGS 7 seeks to manage the provision of sustainable tourism in appropriate locations whilst taking account of the historic and natural environment. The approach to tourism development will have positive impacts generally. Tourism assets and facilities are often safe and shared social meeting spaces. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.

	SGS8: Transport Strategy		SGS 8 promotes sustainable transport and land use which supports a modal shift away from the private car (to walking, cycling, public transport). This approach will benefit all members of the community, and may be of particular benefit to the elderly, disabled persons and those with dependents. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
	SGS9: Open Space Strategy		SGS 9 seeks the protection of existing open space, and provision of new, quality open space which plays a vital role in promoting healthy living and tackling inequality. In addition, the need for adequate private and public amenity space is a prime consideration in all residential development and contributes to mental and physical well-being. It aims to give effect to objectives set out in several Council Plans and Strategies. The quantum and distribution of open space and recreation facilities have the potential to result in differing levels of access for identified 30 groups i.e. religious belief, political opinion, age,

			disability and dependency. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
	Countryside Strategy: SGS10: Sustainable Development in the Countryside & SGS11: Strategic Landscape Policy Areas SGS12: Heritage	The overarching purpose of the Countryside Strategy is to support a range of types of development in the countryside by requiring any development in the countryside to contribute towards the aim of sustainable development. SGS 11 & SGS 12 provides a framework for safeguarding and improving the Borough's heritage assets and resources	These strategies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community. It is anticipated that these strategies, taken as a whole, will benefit the community generally through the commitment to sustainable development and through their protection of the Borough's most sensitive landscapes, natural heritage and historic fabric. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
Part 2			

General Policies and Design and Placemaking	GP1: Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change GP2: Infrastructure Requirements for Development GP3: Public Safety and Human Health GP4: Amenity Design and Placemaking Policies DES1: Design Quality DES2: Rural Design and Character in the Countryside DES3: Trees and Hedgerows DES4: Shopfront Design DES5: Advertisements	The General Policies are cross-cutting and are intended to support and complement the Strategic Policies and Spatial Growth Strategies. They address a range of issues relating to climate change, the infrastructure required to facilitate development, public safety and human health and amenity.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community, in particular for those living with disabilities, younger and older residents as well as those with dependants by reason of the provisions in relation to improved access, public safety and health and amenity. The General Policies (GP1–GP4) and Design and Placemaking Policies (DES1–DES5) are largely spatial, environmental and design-focused in nature. As such, they are considered to have a primarily neutral impact on equality of opportunity, with some potential minor positive impacts for certain Section 75 groups. These policies apply consistently to all developments (with the exception of minor proposals as detailed in the draft PS) and all members of society, regardless of religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or dependants.
--	--	--	--

			They do not introduce differential treatment between groups and are primarily concerned with: ○ climate resilience (GP1), ○ infrastructure provision (GP2), ○ safety and health (GP3), ○ protection of amenity (GP4), ○ and design quality and environmental considerations (DES1 – DES5). Therefore, no adverse impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified. While not explicitly targeted at specific groups, the policies may contribute positively in the following ways: GP3: Public Safety and Human Health Supports safer environments, which can particularly benefit older people, children and persons with disabilities, who may be more vulnerable to unsafe or poor-quality environments.
--	--	--	---

			GP2: Infrastructure Requirements for Development Helps ensure adequate infrastructure (e.g. transport, utilities), which promotes fair access to services for all groups, including those in rural or disadvantaged areas. DES1: Quality Design, DES 2 Rural Design and Character in the Countryside and DES 4 Shopfronts Promote high-quality, inclusive environments that can improve accessibility and usability for a broad range of users, including people with disabilities. Contribute to well-designed, attractive, and legible places, which can enhance overall quality of life and ensure environments are welcoming to all sections of the community. GP1: Climate Change Supports long-term environmental sustainability, benefiting all groups and helping to protect vulnerable populations from climate related risks.
--	--	--	---

			No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
Operational Policies			
Housing	HOU1: Protection of Zoned Housing Land HOU2: Protected Housing Areas in City and Town Centres HOU3: Design Concept Statements and Comprehensive Planning HOU4: Quality in New Residential Development HOU5: Residential Mix	Overall, these policies support the delivery of good-quality housing, which is essential to health, wellbeing and the overall quality of life of all residents of the Borough. Well-designed housing and residential development can also make a significant contribution to creating inclusive, resilient and balanced communities across the Borough, while helping to meet the full range of society's housing needs.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community, in particular for those living with disabilities, younger and older residents as well as those with dependants by reason of the provisions in relation to improved access and layout, affordable housing, travellers accommodation and residential mix.

	HOU6: Affordable Housing in Settlements HOU7: Conversion or Change of Use of existing buildings to flats or apartments HOU8: HMOs HOU9: Specialised Housing HOU10: Travellers Accommodation HOU11: Householder Development HOU12: New Dwellings in Existing Clusters HOU13: Replacement Dwellings HOU14: Infill and Ribbon Development HOU15: Dwellings on Farms HOU16: Dwellings for Non-Agricultural Business Enterprises HOU17: Personal and Domestic Circumstances HOU18: Social and Affordable Housing in the Countryside HOU19: Residential Caravans & Mobile Homes		Housing policies which respond particularly well to Section 75 groups and which address population trends such as, an ageing population, smaller household sizes and affordable housing demand include HOU 5 Residential Mix, HOU 6 Affordable Housing in Settlements, HOU 9 Specialist Residential Accommodation, HOU 10 Travellers Accommodation and HOU 11 Householder Development. Countryside housing policies are designed to ensure that development aligns with the spatial growth strategy while meeting the needs of rural communities. No adverse impacts are anticipated in the countryside on religious, racial or political groups. The policies respond positively to Section 75 groups by supporting a wide range of needs and providing housing opportunities that help maintain rural community connections and promote social cohesion. In particular, Policy HOU 17 facilitates housing in response to personal and domestic circumstances, while Policy HOU 18, relates to affordable housing in the countryside. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
--	---	--	---

Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation	SGS 9 Open Space Strategy OSR1: Protection and Provision of Open Space OSR2: Public Open Space in new residential development OSR3: Outdoor Recreation in the Countryside OSR4: Intensive Sports Facilities OSR5: Noise Generating Sports and Outdoor Recreational Activities OSR6: The development of Facilities ancillary to Water Sports OSR7: Floodlighting of Sports and Outdoor Recreational Facilities OSR8: Green and Blue Infrastructure	The strategic and open space policies recognise that open space, sport and outdoor recreation positively contribute to the health and wellbeing of all residents within the Borough. It is acknowledged that open space encourages active travel for all, healthier lifestyles, as well as assisting in children's development. The open space policies seek to ensure that places to play, relax, exercise and socialise are encouraged and protected.	These policies have the potential to have a positive and beneficial impact on all sections of the community. By protecting and making provision for open space the policies are expected to deliver both physical and mental health benefits, particularly for young people and dependants. Within residential areas ensuring safe and accessible open spaces will support the opportunity for older people, dependants and those with dependants in maintaining active lifestyles. Carefully designed and suitably located indoor and outdoor leisure facilities in addition to larger, intensive sports facilities will benefit all elements of community by way of accessibility. The provision and protection of thoughtfully designed and well-connected open spaces, including greenways, will improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities, particularly those with mobility challenges. Overall, all forms of open space are recognised as making a significant contribution to improved mental wellbeing. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
---	--	--	---

Community and Cultural	CCU1: Community & Cultural Facilities	Policy CCF 1 provides support for the development of community or cultural facilities within settlements and the development of community facilities within the countryside. The policy also provides protection for existing community and cultural facilities.	This policy has the potential to have a positive and beneficial impact on all sections of the community. The policy will help in providing places for communities to gather and places for social integration. The policy also supports the celebration of different cultures by supporting the provision of cultural facilities. Community and cultural facilities are required to be accessible by a variety of transport options which includes public transport and active travel modes, thereby encouraging their use from all sections. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
------------------------	---------------------------------------	--	---

Economic Development	ECN1: Economic Development in the Countryside ECN2: Expansion of Established Economic Development Use in the Countryside ECN3: Redevelopment of an Established Economic Development Use in the Countryside ECN4: New Large Scale Economic Development in the Countryside ECN5: New Small Scale Economic Development Projects ECN6: Farm Diversification ECN7: Agricultural and Forestry Development ECN8: Economic Development in Settlements ECN9: Protection of Zoned Lands and Economic Development Uses ECN10: Development incompatible with Economic Development Uses	These policies seek to develop a competitive and robust local economy that will bring significant community benefits such as increased employment, higher wages, improved community cohesion and a sense of pride in the Borough.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community. They provide a framework to support sustainable and inclusive economic growth by promoting employment opportunities in suitable locations across both urban and rural areas. This includes development within the industrial, business, agriculture, retail, and tourism sectors. By encouraging economic development throughout the Borough, the policies enhance both access to employment and the diversity of job opportunities available, ensuring they meet the needs of all members of the community. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
----------------------	--	--	---

Retailing and Town Centre	SGS 6 Retail Strategy RTC1: Retailing and Other Main Town Centre Uses RTC2: District Centre RTC3: Local Centres RTC4: Villages and Small Settlements RTC5: Retailing in the Countryside RTC6: Roadside Service Facilities	The purpose of the strategy and subsequent policies are to support the vitality and viability of the Borough's city and town centres. This includes encouraging development at an appropriate scale in order to enhance the attractiveness of city and town centres. promote and support a town centre first approach towards the location of retailing and other main town centre uses across the Borough	Maintaining and enhancing the vitality and viability of town centres is expected to bring wide ranging benefits for the entire community. This approach supports these areas in functioning at their full potential by meeting the needs of residents and visitors while strengthening the local economy. Town centres are recognised as important shared and welcoming spaces within our settlements. By safeguarding and improving their role within the retail hierarchy, there is an opportunity to foster positive interaction and inclusivity among people of different religious beliefs political views, and racial backgrounds. Directing retail towards larger centres helps to minimise travel requirements by locating these activities in highly accessible areas with stronger public transport links. This approach improves overall accessibility, making town centre services easier to reach for all members of the community, particularly older people, individuals with disabilities, and those with dependants. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
---------------------------	---	--	---

Tourism	SGS 7 Tourism Strategy TOU1: Tourism Development in Settlements TOU2: Tourist Amenities in the Countryside TOU3: Hotels, Guest Houses and Tourist Hostels in the Countryside TOU4: Large Scale Tourism Development in the Countryside - Exceptional Circumstances TOU5: Self-Catering Accommodation in the Countryside TOU6: New and Extended Holiday Parks in the Countryside TOU7: Safeguarding Tourism Assets	The Tourism Strategy and subsequent policies aim to promote sustainable tourism development in main settlements/hubs, small towns, and settlements where it enhances economic growth, conservation and regeneration. Appropriate tourism development must sustain rural communities and strengthen the local economy. Tourism assets will be protected from inappropriate development to preserve their long-term value.	The policy approach to tourism development is expected to deliver broadly positive outcomes. By safeguarding local landscapes and key tourism assets. These policies also support environmental sustainability while also generating economic benefits and enhancing both physical and mental wellbeing. Tourism facilities and attractions often serve as safe, shared spaces for social interaction. By supporting and facilitating their appropriate development, protection and enhancement will therefore contribute positively to all sections of the community. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
---------	--	---	---

Minerals Development	MIN1: Minerals Development MIN2: Areas of Constraint on Minerals Development MIN3: Minerals Safeguarding MIN4: High Value Minerals MIN5: Hydrocarbon Development MIN6: Peat Extraction MIN7: Restoration and Aftercare of Mineral Sites MIN8: Development at risk associated with past underground mineral extraction	The Minerals policies will support the responsible and sustainable exploitation of minerals with the Borough. They seek to balance the need for minerals development against the need to safeguard the environment, landscape and local communities.	Mineral resources can only be extracted where they are naturally located, and as such, their spatial distribution may have varying impacts across communities, including those defined by religious or political opinion. However, the location of these resources lies beyond the influence of planning policy. The purpose of these policies is therefore to ensure that mineral development is carried out in a sustainable manner, minimising adverse effects on the environment and on local communities. Overall, the sustainable exploitation of mineral resources offers potential benefits for all sections of the community. It plays a key role in supporting the economy by sustaining a diverse range of employment opportunities, ensuring the continued supply of essential construction materials, and meeting ongoing resource demands. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
----------------------	---	---	--

Telecommunication, Utilities and Other Infrastructure	TUI1: Telecommunications Development TUI2: Infrastructure, Utilities and Overhead Lines	Policies TUI1-2 have been developed with the understanding that telecommunications and utilities infrastructure are not only crucial for maintaining our quality of life, but they are essential for supporting sustainable economic growth. It is therefore important that investment in high-quality infrastructure, including telecommunications, transport, energy and water, which play a vital role in the social and economic well-being of the Borough, is supported. Access to high-speed and reliable digital services supports well-being and quality of life by enabling us to connect, communicate and participate in an increasingly digitally reliant society. Infrastructure, utilities and overhead lines are essential for meeting our everyday needs and supporting the sustainable growth of the Borough and its economy.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by improving connectivity of members of the community who may be isolated or marginalised such as , elderly people and dependents who are unable to drive. The delivery of utilities and the provision of power lines is a requirement for daily living and ensuring this type of development is delivered appropriately will bring about significant public benefit. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
--	--	---	---

Transport	TRAN1: Accessible Environments TRAN2: Access to Public Roads TRAN3: Access to Protected Routes TRAN4: Safeguarding New Transport Schemes TRAN5: Protection of Disused Transport Routes TRAN6: Transport Assessment TRAN7: Parking and Servicing Arrangements TRAN8: Active Travel TRAN9: Provision of car parks	Policies TRAN1-TRAN9 in general terms integrate land use and transport planning to reduce reliance on the private car by promoting active travel and public transport, directing development to accessible locations, improving connectivity between key settlements and safeguarding existing and disused transport corridors for future use.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by improving t connectivity across the Borough and reducing community marginalisation. Improved links should support employment opportunities by enabling movement of people and goods, in turn improving overall quality of life. They will also safeguard the road network by discouraging unsafe accesses that introduce unnecessary risk to road users while safeguarding future transport networks with the protection of disused transport routes and new transport schemes. In addition this will create the potential for new, active travel routes encouraging a move from private vehicle use and improving health and well being. The creation of accessible environments will be of particular benefit to disabled and elderly people, while creating the conditions for an increase in public transport will benefit those who may not be able to drive such as younger and elderly age groups and disabled people. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
-----------	--	---	--

Historic Environment	HE1: The Preservation of Archaeological Remains of Regional Importance and their Settings HE2: The Protection of Archaeological Remains of Local Importance and their Settings HE3: Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation HE4: Archaeological Mitigation HE5: Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest HE6: Listed Buildings – Change of Use and Extension or Alteration of a Listed Building HE7: Demolition of a Listed Building HE8: Development Affecting the Setting of a Listed Building HE9: New Development in a Conservation Area HE10: Demolition in a Conservation Area HE11: Demolition in Areas of Townscape or Village Character HE12: New Development in Areas of Townscape or Village Character	Policies HE1-14 seek to preserve, enhance and optimise the use of the historic environment to support regeneration, tourism, economic and community benefit, that will contribute to the ongoing preservation, conservation and enhancement of these assets.	The historic environment policies aim to protect and conserve the historic environment both historic monuments and historic buildings. Given the location of designated sites, such as Conservation Areas, Areas of Townscape Character, Listed Buildings, Areas of Significant Archaeological Interest, the associated policies will be relevant to certain geographical areas. The protection of all of the Borough's Historic Environment will benefit everyone in the Borough. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
----------------------	---	---	---

	HE13: Enabling Development HE14: Conversion and Re-Use of Non-Designated Heritage Assets		
--	--	--	--

Natural Heritage	NH1: European and Ramsar Sites - International NH2: Species Protected by Law NH3: Sites of Nature Conservation Importance – National NH4: Sites of Nature Conservation Importance – Local NH5: Habitats, Species or Features of Natural Heritage Importance NH6: Local Landscape Policy Areas NH7: Landscape Wedges (Urban & Rural) NH8: Area(s) of Outstanding Natural Beauty NH9: Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCIs)	Policies NH1-NH9 provide the operational policy link to the Heritage Strategy insofar as its reference to the natural environment and seeks to strengthen ecological networks, restore habitats, and safeguard biodiversity while ensuring that development proposals respect environmental designation.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by safeguarding natural heritage in the Borough of which a connection with the natural environment and health and wellbeing can improve overall quality of life for all groups. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
------------------	---	--	--

Flood Risk	FRD1: Development in Fluvial (River) Flood Plains FRD2: Protection of Flood Defence and Drainage Infrastructure FRD3: Development and Surface Water (Pluvial) Flood Risk Outside Flood Plains FRD4: Artificial Modification of Watercourses FRD5: Development in proximity to Controllers Reservoirs	Policies FRD1-5 safeguard new and existing development from the impacts of flooding, directing development away from areas of known flooding or at an increased risk to future flooding while ensuring any development involving artificially modifying watercourses do not increase flood risk further down the watercourse.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by ensuring all groups are safe from the impacts of flooding, particularly for the less mobile groups who may be at greater risk to the impacts of flooding events. Groups of particular consideration in this case would be elderly people and/or those with physical impairments. Guiding development away from flooding or reducing the impacts of downstream flooding will improve community safety from any future flooding events. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	RLED1: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development (see GEN 1 for PPS 18 RE2 replacement)	Policy RLED1 supports the development of renewable and low carbon energy development to enable a transition to a net zero carbon economy, creating a mixture of energy sources and safeguarding against inappropriate energy development.	This policy has the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by the generation of clean energy, improving environmental quality, bringing particular benefit to vulnerable groups through the delivery of secure energy provision. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
Environmental Protection	EP1: Environmental Pollution EP2: Land Contamination	Policies EP1 and EP 2 will seek to manage the environment in a sustainable manner, which includes protecting it from the actual or potential effects of pollution.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by identifying the potential risk, and significance, of pollution from new development, and requiring the incorporation of mitigation (as appropriate). No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.

Waste Management and Contaminated Land	WMT1: Environmental Impact of a Waste Management Facility WMT2: Waste Collection and Treatment Facilities WMT3: Waste Disposal WMT4: Land Improvement WMT5: Development in the vicinity of waste management facilities	The waste management policies WMT1-5 fall under the environmental theme of the plan and support the sustainable management of waste and the move towards resource efficiency, steer waste management development to appropriate locations and mitigate and prevent harmful impacts of waste management.	These policies have the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by ensuring the infrastructure is available for waste management, safeguarding vulnerable groups such as elderly or younger age groups from disease, improving environmental quality and creating new economic opportunities from the waste cycle. The safe, responsible disposal of waste has wide ranging positives for all sections of the community and having contained management facilities within the Borough for the storage and further transfer of waste will encourage greater ease of movement of waste, reducing the potential for build ups and the creation of unsanitary environments within housing communities, town and village centres and the countryside. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
Development Contributions	DC1: Developer Contributions	DC 1 Developer Contributions supports new development by ensuring that the cost of additional required infrastructure or upgrades to existing infrastructure are covered by the developer.	This policy has the potential to deliver benefits across all sections of the community by enabling the delivery of important community infrastructure and facilities, ensuring the delivery of safe and high quality and accessible homes, improved mobility and access to health

			and wellbeing. No adverse impact on any Section 75 Group.
--	--	--	--

INTERESTED IN DEVELOPMENT

in the Armagh City,
Banbridge and
Craigavon Borough

Please contact

ABC Planning Department - Local Development Plan Team
at Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

☎ 0300 0300 900

✉ ldp@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

📘 Find us on Facebook and Twitter