



## Equality Impact Screening Report of Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy

February 2019



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

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## 1.0 Overview

- 1.1 The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the 2011 Act) transferred the responsibility for the preparation of Local Development Plans (LDPs) from the Department of Environment (DoE) (now the Department for Infrastructure (DfI)) to local councils and established a plan-led system which gives priority to LDPs in the determination of planning applications.
- 1.2 The LDP for Mid Ulster will guide the future use of the land throughout the council area and inform developers, members of the general public, communities, government, public bodies, representative organisations and other interests of the policy framework.
- 1.3 There are a number of steps in the process of developing a LDP:
  1. Publishing a Preferred Options Paper (POP) (which was published in 2016)
  2. Preparation of the LDP Plan Strategy (PS)
  3. Preparation of the LDP Local Policies Plan (LPP)
- 1.4 Mid Ulster District Council (the Council) prepared a Preferred Options Paper (POP) and published it in November 2016. The POP outlined a vision for the future development of the area and was prepared in order to inform interested parties and individuals on key planning matters which may have a direct impact on the area and set out possible options for development as well as addressing the council's preferred options to address these matters.
- 1.5 These preferred options were developed to promote debate on issues of strategic significance which are likely to influence the shape of future development within Mid Ulster. The POP process provided the council with the opportunity to consult with the public and stakeholders and encouraged a wide-ranging, yet focused, debate which stimulated feedback from a wide variety of interests in a more meaningful way at the early stage of the LDP preparation.
- 1.6 The comments received from the public and stakeholders in relation to the POP were taken into account in formulating the LDP Draft Plan Strategy. In addition, the POP was subject to an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) progress report which was also published in November 2016. Comments received have been taken into account in preparing this Equality Screening document.
- 1.7 Since the initial evidence gathering stage of the Plan making process, we have been conscious of the need to consider any potential impacts of the new Local Development Plan on equality. For example, Position Paper 1 identified potential impacts on groups which could be caused as a result of policy formulation for certain types of development such as retailing, open space, transport etc. Due to the fact that this approach which has been part of our plan making process since the outset, we have constantly been aware that ill formulated policy could have adverse impacts on equality.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 LDPs inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions within a specified area.

### Legislative Context

- 2.2 Part 2 of the 2011 Act provides for the preparation of a LDP by Mid Ulster Council for its district, which will (when adopted) replace the current PPS's. The current Planning Policy Statements, the Cookstown Area Plan 2010, Dungannon and South Tyrone Plan 2010 and the Magherafelt Plan 2015 provide the statutory planning context for the Mid Ulster Area at present. The Plan Strategy will, upon adoption, replace the existing PPS's. The three current Area Plans will remain in place until the adoption of the Local Policies Plan.

- 2.3 The LDP for Mid Ulster will comprise of 2 documents:

- The Plan Strategy (PS); and
- The Local Policies Plan (LPP).

- 2.4 The LDP will fulfil the following functions:

- Provide a framework to facilitate economic growth and support the social needs of the district in line with regional policies and provide for the delivery of sustainable development;
- provide a plan-led framework for reasonable and consistent decision-making by the public, private and community sectors and those affected by development proposals throughout Mid Ulster;
- facilitate sustainable growth to encourage development where it can be of benefit to the well-being of the community;
- allocate sufficient land to meet society's needs;
- provide any opportunity for stakeholders, including the public to have a say about where and how development should take place across the district;
- Deliver the spatial aspects of the council's community plan.

### Role of all parties involved in the Local Development Plan Process

- 2.5 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) facilitates public participation and engagement in formulating the LDP. The SCI and a Timetable were agreed in 2016.
- 2.6 **The Council:** A council must prepare a LDP for its area in consultation with consultation bodies and the public. Mid Ulster Council therefore has a responsibility for the local planning in its area.
- 2.7 **The Department for Infrastructure (DfI):** Under the LDP process, DfI has an oversight and scrutiny role. Mid Ulster District Council has an obligation to submit



the LDP to the DfI in advance of an independent examination (see below). DfI directs the adoption of LDPs and also has general powers to secure the delivery of LDPs and ensure they are up to date.

- 2.8 Planning Appeals Commission (PAC):** The 2011 Act states that an independent examination must be held on all LDP documentation and this is carried out by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC), or another person appointed by the DfI. The purpose of the independent examination is to confirm that the plan is sound and it satisfies the requirements of the 2011 Act. The PAC reports its recommendations back to the DfI. Following consideration of the PAC report, DfI directs the councils to adopt, modify or withdraw the LDP.
- 2.9 Consultation Bodies:** Consultation bodies are set out in Regulation 2 of the Local Development Plan Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and these bodies include government departments and agencies and adjoining councils. These consultees play a vital role in providing input at various stages of the plan process including the draft Plan Strategy and the independent examination as they can provide detailed and expert information to inform the LDP.
- 2.10 Local Communities:** Public participation is essential, particularly at the early stages of the LDP preparation, for identifying local need, issues and views in the plan process from the outset. The local community therefore play a vital role in the plan preparation process and they have the opportunity to make representations. Mid Ulster District Council's SCI sets out the key stages for public and community engagement for the LDP.
- 2.11** The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 introduced a statutory link between the community plan and a LDP. The LDP must take account of the community plan which is 'Our Community Plan - A 10 year plan for Mid Ulster' in this case. In many ways, the LDP will be a spatial reflection of the community plan and the two should work in conjunction towards the same vision for a council area and its communities, setting long term social, economic and environmental objectives for the area.
- 2.12** The draft PS represents the second step in the preparation of the Mid Ulster LDP 2030, and it provides the basis for consulting with the public stakeholders on a series of draft policies for dealing with key issues within the plan area. Consultation at each stage allows the Council to test the soundness of each of its topic-based policies – which requires the development plan document to be tested in terms of content, conformity and the process by which it is produced, at independent examination.
- 2.13** Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires all public bodies in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need for equal opportunities between:
- Persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;

- Men and women generally;
  - Persons with disabilities and persons without; and
  - Persons with dependants and persons without.
- 2.14 In addition, without prejudice to the above obligation, public authorities should also have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial groups
- 2.15 As part of the LDP process, Mid Ulster District Council intends to undertake this Equality Screening Report to ensure the equality obligations are met.
- 2.16 The purpose of this Equality Screening Report is to –
- Identify any differential impacts which the draft Plan Strategy or the policies contained within it are likely to have on equality of opportunity for any Section 75 groups
  - To consider whether these potential impacts will have a discernible impact on any of the section 75 groups and consequently, whether or not a full EQIA is required
  - Provide an outlined analysis of the data collected and the research conducted on current major inequalities experienced by people in the Section 75 groups in relation to the key commitments under the LDP;
  - To shape equality assessment going forward into the third phase of the LDP process – the Local Policies Plan (LPP).

### **Previous Consultation with Section 75 Groups**

- 2.17 In accordance with our Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) we engaged with organisations representing section 75 groups both before and after the launch of the POP. We also facilitated a range of meetings with such organisations. Whilst we did not receive any written comments from these groups we did receive a verbal representation from the Simon Community in June 2016. Issues were raised in relation to homelessness in Northern Ireland and how these figures are presented. The use of emergency accommodation was also discussed and the need for proper service provision. The importance of partnership relationships in addressing the issues of homelessness. The views of Disability Forum and the Carers Support Group were taken on board having been put forward at meetings in January 2017. At these meetings the Disability Forum stressed the need to ensure better accessibility for people with mobility issues and also raised concern that there were not many single storey dwellings in existence in Cookstown. The Carers Support Group stressed their support for the carers policy in the POP as well as stating that they would like to see a health and wellbeing centre built in Dungannon. These views have been taken on board in the formulation of the draft Plan Strategy and have helped shape the creation of the document in its current form.

### 3.0 Definition of the Aims of the Policy

#### LDP VISION AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 This section sets out the vision and the objectives of the LDP. To begin, the context of the Mid Ulster Community Plan is set out below.

3.2 The Mid Ulster Community Plan holds a bold and ambitious vision as follows:

*“Mid Ulster...a welcoming place where our people are content, healthy and safe; educated and skilled; where our economy is thriving; our environment and heritage are sustained and where our public services excel.”*

3.3 Like the Our Community Plan, the draft plan strategy vision sets out an ambitious spatial vision for the LDP and can be summarised as follows:

- Make Mid Ulster a desirable place to work, live and visit
- Focus growth on the three main hub towns which will act as a cluster and will be supported by Maghera and Coalisland
- Retain the role of Mid Ulster as key industrial centre with a strong engineering and agri-food base
- The rural area remains connected via good roads infrastructure and good telecommunications and broadband infrastructure
- We will experience better connections between the three towns as well as improved connections to Connaught, Donegal, Belfast and Derry
- Adopt a town centre first approach to retail
- Maximise recycling and improve air quality
- Protect our unique landscapes with the mountains and peatlands remaining bare and free from development, conjuring links to the past which is also displayed in a rich archaeological heritage and earth science value.
- We will remain a low carbon economy and an important producer of energy
- Residents will have increased access to open space and will longer healthier lives
- We will ensure a range of housing to meet the needs of everyone and ensure a real sense of community.
- We will continue to provide varied and plentiful employment opportunities.

#### Draft Plan Strategy Aims and Objectives

3.4 To help deliver this vision by 2030, there is a series of strategic aims and related objectives which have been identified in the draft PS. These are set out below.

3.5 The draft PS strategic aims and objectives generally align with the Mid Ulster Community Plan and are as follows:

- **Accommodating People and Creating Places** – Promoting development that enhances the health and well-being of communities, neighbourhoods and places.

- **Creating jobs and creating prosperity** – facilitating the creation of jobs and promoting diversity in the range of jobs offered, supporting and accommodating innovation for small, medium and large firms and encouraging efficiencies and promote the use of renewable energy.
  - **Enhancing the environment and Improving Infrastructure** – A protected, enhance and attractive natural setting, reinforcing uniqueness and accessibility to all who live, work and enjoy our district, as well as improving connectivity and supporting the efficient movement of people, goods, energy and info to create a district with the capacity to adapt to environmental challenges.
- 3.6 The Council aims to manage growth based on sustainable patterns of development balanced across the district, with settlement limits defined for all settlements to provide compact urban forms and to protect the setting of individual settlements. We will focus growth within the 3 main hubs of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt and strengthen their roles as the main administrative, trade, employment and residential centres within the district.
- 3.7 We aim to consolidate the role of the local towns of Coalisland and Maghera as service centres for their hinterlands providing appropriate development opportunities for housing, employment and leisure activities, in keeping with the scale and character of these settlements and we will maintain the role of the villages as local service centres providing opportunity for housing, employment and leisure activities in keeping with the scale and character of individual settlements.
- 3.8 There will be particular focus on providing opportunities within small settlements appropriate to their size and scale, allowing for single houses and small groups of houses while also recognising the need to accommodate development within the countryside that supports the vitality and viability of rural communities without compromising the landscape or environmental quality whilst safe guarding our natural and built heritage.
- 3.9 Within Mid Ulster, particularly within the lower slopes of the Sperrins, we have areas which have suffered from depopulation over long periods. These communities are important custodians of this significant landscape therefore the Council aims to support rural regeneration in remoter areas through the designation of Dispersed Rural Communities (DRC).
- 3.10 We recognise the need for access to excellent public transport, especially for those who do not have access to a private car. We aim to encourage improvement to both public and private transportation provision including railway lines and upgrading of the road network. The council will facilitate improvements to the A29 which acts as the transportation spine and link between Mid Ulster's hubs and other trunk roads crossing the district.

- 3.11 In implementing this strategy, the RDS recognises the importance of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt both as market towns and in providing specialist shopping such as that at the Linen Green. It also recognises their strategic advantage in relation to being located in Northern Ireland with good links to the north-western corridor, the central and the south-western corridors.

## 4.0 Consideration of Available Data and Research

- 4.1 The draft PS is likely to have both a direct and indirect positive impact on all of the section 75 groups by contributing to the economic, social and environmental regeneration and wellbeing of the Mid Ulster district. Mid Ulster is seen as an industrial hub outside of Belfast and the cluster towns of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt are seen as the economic drivers for the district.
- 4.2 A more competitive economy in Mid Ulster will bring the potential for increased prosperity to all residents and potential for more sustainable employment. We firmly believe that the future LDP will have the potential for positive impacts for section 75 groups.
- 4.3 This Equality Screening Report aims to ensure that, in identifying and taking forward future planning policy within the draft PS, the Council will give due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity by addressing inequalities within section 75 groups. It is therefore important to identify clearly the key inequalities which the future LDP has the potential to address.
- 4.4 Information and available evidence (qualitative and quantitative) gathered to inform the policy under each of the Section 75 groups as identified within the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The evidence is laid out in the tables and the map below;

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information		
Religious belief	63.77% of the population were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.46% belong or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. Other religions comprised 690 (0.5%) and None 3,153 (2.28%) of the population (Source: 2011 Census).		
	Religion or Religion brought up in	No.	%
	Catholic	88,375	63.77
	Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)	46,372	33.46
	Other religions	690	0.5
	None	3,153	2.28



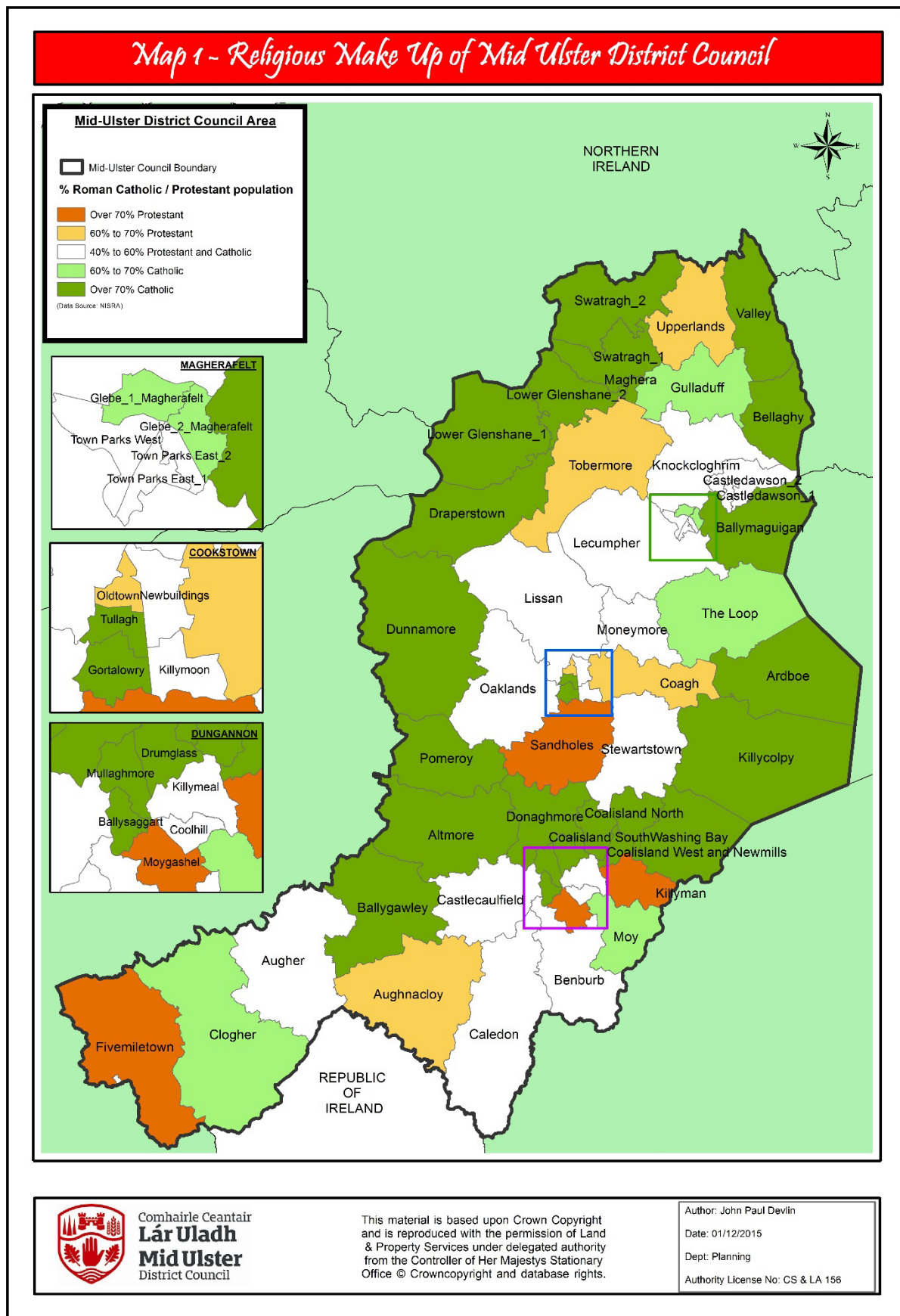
	<table><tr><td><b>Total</b></td><td><b>138,590</b></td><td><b>100</b></td></tr></table> <p>In addition to these figures, a spatial representation of the religious makeup of different parts of the District can be seen in the context of the two main religious groups (Protestant and Catholic) underneath this table in Map 1.</p>	<b>Total</b>	<b>138,590</b>	<b>100</b>																																	
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Political opinion	<p>Political party representation can be used as an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within Mid Ulster council area. The most recent local government/ council election in 2014 the percentage 1<sup>st</sup> preference vote share for each of the political party/ independents is detailed bellowed along with representation (seats) on Council (Source: NISRA):</p> <table><tr><th>Party</th><th>Votes</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Council Seats</th></tr><tr><td>SF</td><td>22,587</td><td>41.0%</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>DUP</td><td>9,723</td><td>17.6%</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>UUP</td><td>9,573</td><td>17.4%</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>SDLP</td><td>7,600</td><td>13.8%</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Independent</td><td>2,689</td><td>4.9%</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>TUV</td><td>2,380</td><td>4.3%</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Alliance</td><td>250</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>UKIP</td><td>195</td><td>0.4%</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Party	Votes	Percentage	Council Seats	SF	22,587	41.0%	18	DUP	9,723	17.6%	8	UUP	9,573	17.4%	7	SDLP	7,600	13.8%	6	Independent	2,689	4.9%	1	TUV	2,380	4.3%	0	Alliance	250	0.6%	0	UKIP	195	0.4%	0
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Racial group	<p>According to the 2011 Census the overwhelming majority of the population 136,485 (98.48%) were classified as ‘white’. Within this total will be migrant communities, such as Polish, Lithuanian and so forth. Statistics indicate that the number of people in Mid Ulster Local Government District (LGD) born outside Northern Ireland is:</p> <table><tr><th>Place of Birth</th><th>No.</th></tr><tr><td>Great Britain</td><td>4,053</td></tr><tr><td>Republic of Ireland</td><td>2,250</td></tr><tr><td>EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)</td><td>6,795</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>2,280</td></tr></table> <p>The minority ethnic language profile within the area can serve as a possible indicator of the Black &amp; Minority Ethnic (BME) community profile within the district. The composition of language groups in Mid Ulster LGD area is also noted from the 2011 census by NISRA as:</p> <table><tr><th>Main Languages of residents in Mid Ulster Council area</th><th>No.</th></tr><tr><td>English</td><td>125,715</td></tr><tr><td>Polish</td><td>2,008</td></tr><tr><td>Lithuanian</td><td>2,039</td></tr><tr><td>Portuguese</td><td>903</td></tr><tr><td>Irish (Gaelic)</td><td>404</td></tr><tr><td>Slovak</td><td>477</td></tr><tr><td>Russian</td><td>297</td></tr><tr><td>Latvia</td><td>261</td></tr><tr><td>Hungarian</td><td>117</td></tr><tr><td>Chinese</td><td>64</td></tr><tr><td>Tagalog/Filipino</td><td>38</td></tr></table>	Place of Birth	No.	Great Britain	4,053	Republic of Ireland	2,250	EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)	6,795	Other	2,280	Main Languages of residents in Mid Ulster Council area	No.	English	125,715	Polish	2,008	Lithuanian	2,039	Portuguese	903	Irish (Gaelic)	404	Slovak	477	Russian	297	Latvia	261	Hungarian	117	Chinese	64	Tagalog/Filipino	38		
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Age	The age profile of Mid Ulster Local Government District area as at 2015 (Source, NISRA)																																									
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Sexual orientation	<p>No specific statistics are available from the 2011 government census for this Category and there are therefore no official statistics available in relation to persons of different sexual orientation. However, the Integrated Household Survey would include between 3% and 4% would be either gay, lesbian and/or bisexual. However, due to the nature of 'disclosure' in this area, umbrella organisations often state that the figure may be closer to 10%.</p> <table><tr><th>Region</th><th>Heterosexual / Straight</th><th>Gay/ Lesbian</th><th>Bisexual</th><th>Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual</th><th>Other</th><th>Don't know /refuse</th><th>No response</th></tr><tr><td>England</td><td>92.54%</td><td>1.10%</td><td>0.51%</td><td>1.61%</td><td>0.33%</td><td>4.07%</td><td>1.45%</td></tr><tr><td>Wales</td><td>93.93%</td><td>1.04%</td><td>0.48%</td><td>1.52%</td><td>0.45%</td><td>2.99%</td><td>1.11%</td></tr><tr><td>Scotland</td><td>94.65%</td><td>0.82%</td><td>0.33%</td><td>1.14%</td><td>0.26%</td><td>2.59%</td><td>1.37%</td></tr><tr><td><b>N Ireland</b></td><td><b>93.00%</b></td><td><b>0.64%</b></td><td><b>0.96%</b></td><td><b>1.60%</b></td><td><b>0.26%</b></td><td><b>3.98%</b></td><td><b>1.17%</b></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>92.80%</td><td>1.06%</td><td>0.51%</td><td>1.57%</td><td>0.32%</td><td>3.89%</td><td>1.42%</td></tr></table> <p>Research also conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5%-7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT).</p>	Region	Heterosexual / Straight	Gay/ Lesbian	Bisexual	Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual	Other	Don't know /refuse	No response	England	92.54%	1.10%	0.51%	1.61%	0.33%	4.07%	1.45%	Wales	93.93%	1.04%	0.48%	1.52%	0.45%	2.99%	1.11%	Scotland	94.65%	0.82%	0.33%	1.14%	0.26%	2.59%	1.37%	<b>N Ireland</b>	<b>93.00%</b>	<b>0.64%</b>	<b>0.96%</b>	<b>1.60%</b>	<b>0.26%</b>	<b>3.98%</b>	<b>1.17%</b>	Total	92.80%	1.06%	0.51%	1.57%	0.32%	3.89%	1.42%
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Men & women generally	<p>The gender profile of Mid Ulster LGD is detailed as;</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>69,362</td><td>50.05</td><td>887,323</td><td>49.00</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>69,228</td><td>49.95</td><td>923,540</td><td>51.00</td></tr></table>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00	Female	69,228	49.95	923,540	51.00																												
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Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00																																													
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Disability	<p>According to the 2011 NISRA census statistics 19.39% of people had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities whilst 80.43% of people within the district stated their general health was either good or very good</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Disability / long term health</td><td>26,870</td><td>19.39</td><td>374,646</td><td>20.69</td></tr><tr><td>No disability / long term health problem</td><td>111,720</td><td>80.61</td><td>1,436,217</td><td>79.31</td></tr></table> <p>In Northern Ireland the profile of persons with a disability has been reported by Disability Action as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population have a disability</li><li>• 1 in 7 people have some form of hearing loss</li><li>• 5,000 persons use sign language - British Sign Language and/or Irish Sign Language</li></ul>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Disability / long term health	26,870	19.39	374,646	20.69	No disability / long term health problem	111,720	80.61	1,436,217	79.31																												
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are 57,000 blind persons or persons with significant impairment</li><li>• 52,000 persons with learning difficulties</li></ul>																									
Dependants	<p>Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and/ or a dependent older person. The below table provides a summary with respect Mid Ulster LGD.</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Households with dependent children</td><td>18,626</td><td>38.99</td><td>238,094</td><td>33.86</td></tr><tr><td>Lone parent households with dependents</td><td>3,485</td><td>7.30</td><td>63,921</td><td>9.09</td></tr><tr><td>People providing unpaid care</td><td>12,821</td><td>10.69</td><td>231,980</td><td>11.82</td></tr></table> <p>Of the households in Mid Ulster Local Government District with dependent children, they can be summarised as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7,407 families in households have 1 dependent child</li><li>• 6,394 families in households with two dependent children</li><li>• 5,014 families in households with three dependent children</li></ul> <p>There are 37,306 dependent children within families.</p>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Households with dependent children	18,626	38.99	238,094	33.86	Lone parent households with dependents	3,485	7.30	63,921	9.09	People providing unpaid care	12,821	10.69	231,980	11.82
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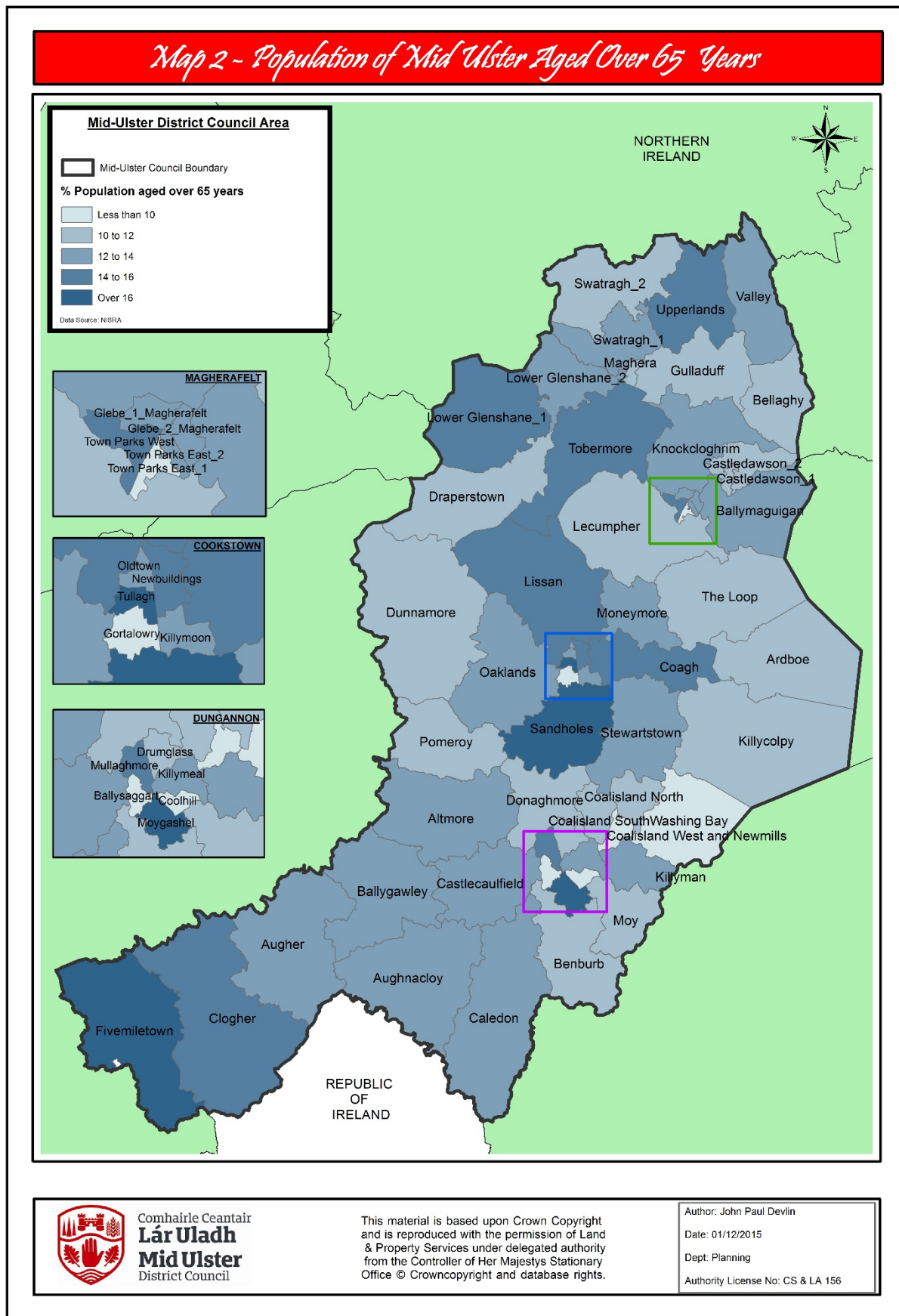
## MAP 1 – RELIGIOUS MAKE UP OF MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL



SOURCE – POSITION PAPER 1 – POPULATION GROWTH, D.O.E SEPTEMBER 2014

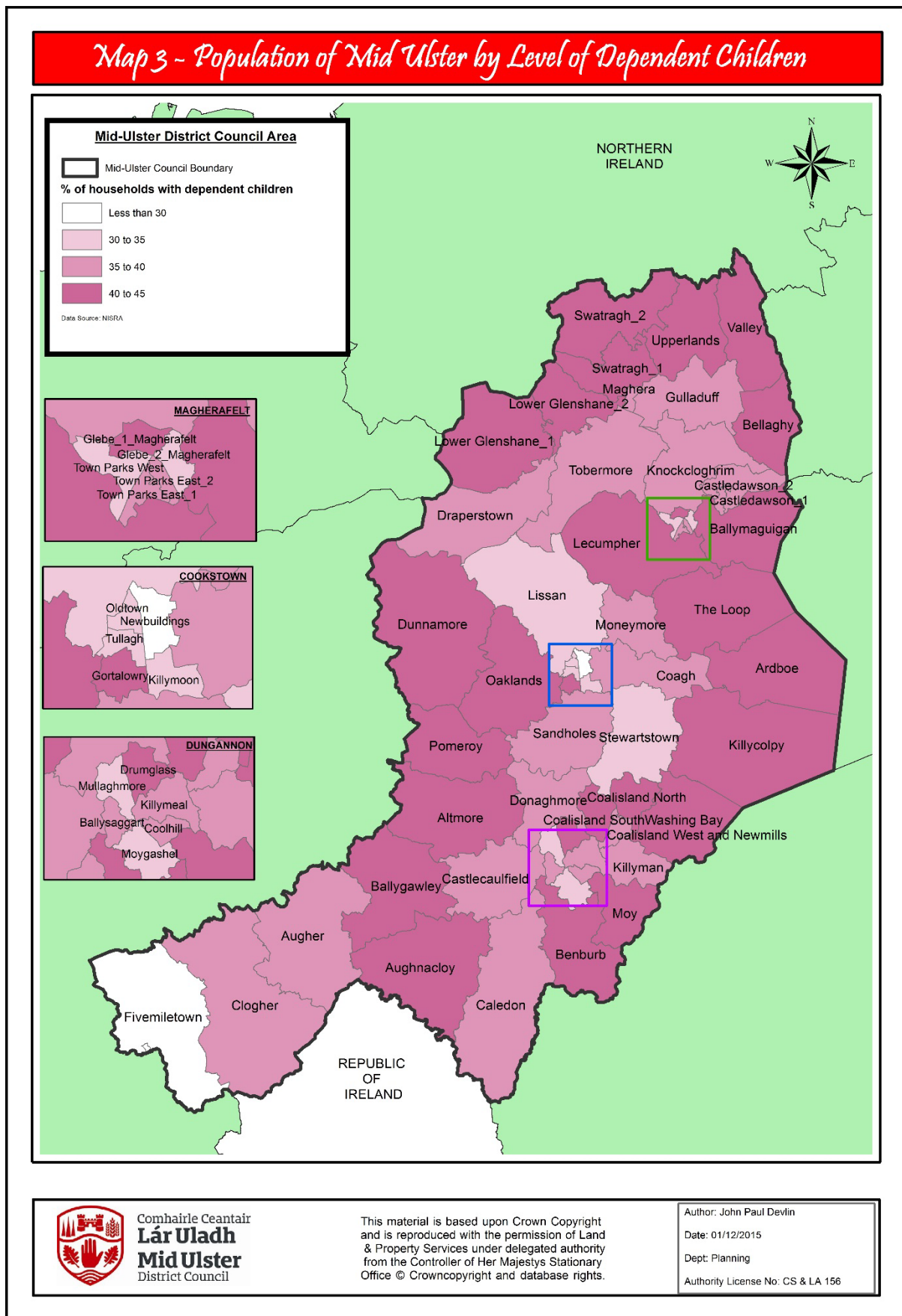


## MAP 2 – POPULATION OF MID ULSTER AGED OVER 65 YEARS OLD



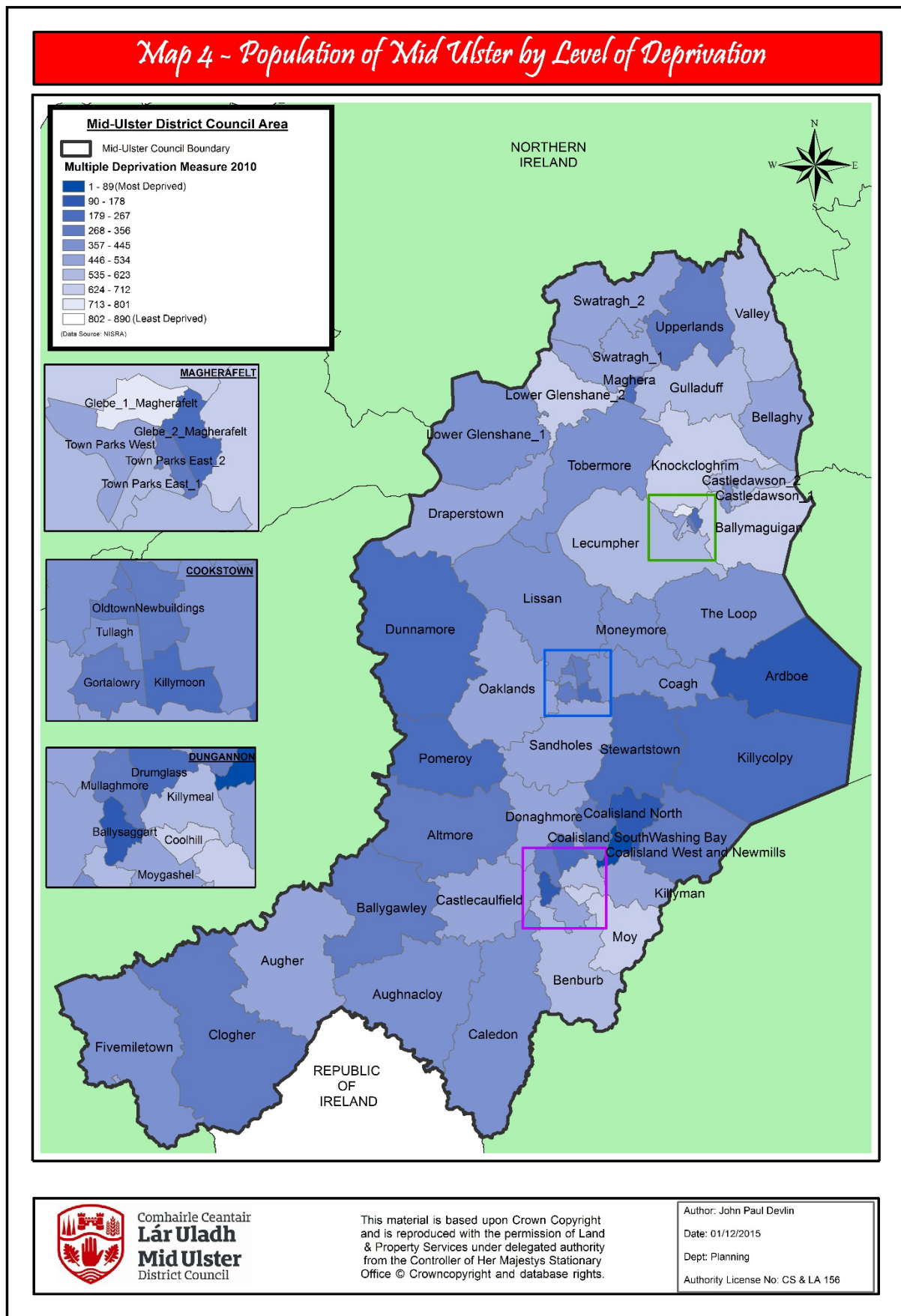
SOURCE – POSITION PAPER 1 – POPULATION GROWTH, D.O.E SEPTEMBER 2014

## MAP 3 – POPULATION OF MID ULSTER BY LEVEL OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN



SOURCE – POSITION PAPER 1 – POPULATION GROWTH, D.O.E SEPTEMBER 2014

## MAP 4 – POPULATION OF MID ULSTER BY LEVEL OF DERPIVATION



SOURCE – POSITION PAPER 1 – POPULATION GROWTH, D.O.E SEPTEMBER 2014

## 5.0 Assessment of Potential Differential Impacts

- 5.1 Given the fact that the objectives of the Plan Strategy are generally very positive and include aspirations such as economic growth, job creation, increased housing, environmental protection and sustaining communities, it is anticipated that the negative impacts arising from such positive objectives will be limited. In order to test this level of impact, the Council has carried out an equality screening process. When the level of impact has been fully assessed, any major negative impacts which are identified (if any) will require the initiation of a full Equality Impact Assessment.
- 5.2 The following tables set out the results of the screening process for each policy in the Strategy as well as each Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) around which the draft Strategy is built. The tables are set out to show which policies will and will not have a potential impact on equality.



= Policy will potentially have a differential impact upon equality of opportunity for a particular Section 75 group. This policy may be positive or negative



= Policy will not have any impact on equality of opportunity

### POTENTIAL DIFFERENTIAL IMPACTS

POLICY GROUP	RELIGIOUS GROUP	POLITICAL OPINION	RACIAL GROUP	AGE	MARITAL STATUS	SEXUAL ORIENTATION	GENDER	DISABILITY	DEPENDANTS
Spatial Planning Framework	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing			✓						
Economic Devt.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Flooding	✓	✓							
General Principles								✓	
Health, Education and Community Uses	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓
Historic Env.	✓	✓							
Housing in Settlements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓



POLICY GROUP	RELIGIOUS GROUP	POLITICAL OPINION	RACIAL GROUP	AGE	MARITAL STATUS	SEXUAL ORIENTATION	GENDER	DISABILITY	DEPENDANTS
Housing in the Countryside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Minerals	✓	✓							
Open Space, Recreation and Leisure				✓				✓	✓
Renewable Energy	✓	✓							
Retailing, Offices and Town Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
Telecoms, O/H Cables and High Structures	✓	✓		✓				✓	
Tourism	✓	✓							
Transport				✓				✓	✓

POLICY GROUP	RELIGIOUS GROUP	POLITICAL OPINION	RACIAL GROUP	AGE	MARITAL STATUS	SEXUAL ORIENTATION	GENDER	DISABILITY	DEPENDANTS
Urban Design				✓				✓	✓
Waste	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓
Natural Heritage	✓	✓							

## ASSESEMNT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
SPATIAL FRAMEWORK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPF 1</li> <li>• SPF 2</li> <li>• SPF 3</li> <li>• SPF 4</li> <li>• SPF 5</li> <li>• SPF 6</li> <li>• SPF 7</li> <li>• SPF 8</li> <li>• SPF 9</li> <li>• SPF 10</li> </ul>	<p>The Council are satisfied that by ensuring that growth is managed on sustainable patterns across Mid Ulster, there will be no significant negative impacts on any of the Section 75 groups.</p> <p>Given the predominantly one sided nature of the two local towns in terms of religious make up, there may be potential for an adverse impact on equality of opportunity for other religious and political opinion groups caused by SPF 3. However, the SPF aims to consolidate the role of these towns with growth taking place proportionate to their size and function. They are not the focus for growth and therefore, the Council is satisfied that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this SPF.</p> <p>With regard to the SPF's which seek to support growth in the rural areas, there is the potential for this to impact adversely on ethnic minorities because they are underrepresented in the countryside. However, a key focus of the Strategic Framework is to encourage growth in the hub towns, where these groups are predominantly located and therefore, the Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this SPF.</p> <p>SPF 10 seeks to protect our most vulnerable landscapes from inappropriate development. Data from NISRA shows that the areas to be protected (especially the High Sperrins and the Loughshore) are predominantly Catholic areas and therefore, the strict controls placed on development in these areas may well unduly impact upon one religious group and the same will be applicable for political opinion. However, it is likely that residents in this area will be in favour of such policies and in any case, will not wish to see inappropriate development in this landscape so this would counter the potential negative impact.</p> <p><b>Overall, the Council are satisfied that there will be no discernible adverse impact on any Section 75 groups as a result of the Spatial Framework.</b></p>

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND THE FISHING INDUSTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFR 1</li> <li>• AFR 2</li> </ul>	<p>This policy allows people who hold active and established farms to diversify and start up a new business in the countryside to be run in conjunction with the original holding. This is an opportunity which will in all likelihood, not be available to the racial and ethnic minorities in the District, given the very small chance of them having an established farm or forestry holding. However, the draft Strategy seeks to encourage growth in the hub towns, where these groups are predominantly located and therefore, there is no evidence of an adverse impact on equality of opportunity.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECON 1</li> <li>• ECON 2</li> <li>• ECON 3</li> <li>• ECON 4</li> </ul>	<p>By enabling jobs in towns (ECON 1), there is potential for negative impact on equality of opportunity for religious groups and political opinion if the population of the towns are weighted in favour of one religious grouping and by association, one political opinion. However, there is no evidence to suggest that one religious group is any less likely to live in a town in Mid Ulster as opposed to elsewhere. In terms of religious make up for example, the three hub towns are reflective of wider trends across the district of Mid Ulster.</p> <p>ECON 2 looks at economic development in the countryside and allows for a number of opportunities including for people who wish to obtain a new building as part of a farm diversification scheme. This is an opportunity which will in all likelihood, not be available to the racial and ethnic minorities in the District, given the very small chance of them having a farm holding.</p> <p>However, the likelihood or not of these groups to hold a farm holding is not something which the draft Strategy can address as it is based in historical trends and as has been mentioned before, the draft Strategy seeks to encourage growth in the hub towns, where these groups are predominantly located and therefore, there is no evidence of an adverse impact on equality of opportunity.</p> <p>The rest of the policies will ensure jobs are located and protected in accessible areas which will reduce dependency on the car; something which can be dependent on age and will make employment more accessible for people with mobility issues as well as people who have are unmarried and are single parents (predominantly women) with dependents and therefore may rely on other services which are also located in the hub areas.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
FLOODING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FLD 1</li> <li>• FLD 2</li> <li>• FLD 3</li> <li>• FLD 4</li> <li>• FLD 5</li> </ul>	<p>Flooding policy restricts development within floodplains. This has potential to impact on religious groups and associated political opinion if one group is predominantly found to be living in areas which are designated as flood plains. However, there is no evidence to suggest that any one religious belief and by association, political opinion, are more represented within flood plains than any other district to a level over and above that which would be reflective of the whole district.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
GENERAL PRINCIPLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GP 1</li> </ul>	<p>This policy will have a positive impact on people living with a disability. GP 1 will seek to provide ease of access and ensuring that the needs of those with mobility issues are taken into account.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this policy.</b></p>
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY USES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COY 1</li> </ul>	<p>This policy will seek to enable the creation of community facilities within settlements. This will make these facilities more accessible and this will have positive impacts upon people of all ages and those with disabilities as well as those with dependants. There is potential for a negative impact on equality of opportunity for religious groups and associated political opinion in that it may be claimed one group is more represented in certain settlements and therefore this will be to the detriment of other groups.</p> <p>However, there is nothing in this policy to suggest that certain settlements will be given more favourable treatment than other settlements and therefore the policy will apply to all settlements equally.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this policy.</b></p>



POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HE 1</li> <li>• HE 2</li> <li>• HE 3</li> <li>• HE 4</li> <li>• HE 5</li> <li>• HE 6</li> <li>• HE 7</li> <li>• HE 8</li> <li>• HE 9</li> <li>• HE 10</li> <li>• HE 11</li> <li>• HE 12</li> <li>• HE 13</li> <li>• HE 14</li> </ul>	<p>This group of policies seek to protect our links to the past such as archaeological remains, buildings, conservation and gardens / parks or from development which would compromise them. This in itself will not have any adverse impact on Section 75 groups. HE 1 states that large scale development within ASAI's for example will not be permitted. There is the potential for a negative impact on religious groups and by association, political opinion as a result of this policy because the ASAI's might be located in areas dominated by one religious grouping.</p> <p>However, this may be counteracted by the fact that largescale development in these areas might not be welcomed by residents who are often protective of the heritage value of their local area and therefore, the potential negative impacts may be counterbalanced. In any case, the locations of the ASAI's in Mid Ulster are spread out across the religious makeup of Mid Ulster in a way that is reflective of the wider district, rendering this potential argument as a moot point.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies</b></p>
HOUSING IN SETTLEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HOU 1</li> <li>• HOU 2</li> <li>• HOU 3</li> <li>• HOU 4</li> <li>• TH 1</li> </ul>	<p>These policies seek to protect housing land in settlements and to facilitate the creation of quality residential environments. There is a potential for this to have an impact on religious groups and therefore on political opinion because housing land could be located in an area which is predominantly inhabited by one religious grouping. However, this is not the case in any of the three main hub towns in Mid Ulster where the housing zonings are located therefore, there is no evidence to support the claim that these policies will have an adverse impact on religious groups or political opinion.</p> <p>The policies will have positive effects on ethnic minorities by facilitating new residential development on housing land which is located predominantly in the hub towns where these communities tend to be more commonly located.</p> <p>With specific reference to the travelling community, these policies will have positive effects on their community by providing policy which enables traveller accommodation to be developed where there is an identified need according to the local housing authority. This may give rise to a potential adverse impact on other racial groups who it could be argued are not being afforded the same opportunity to access specific housing accommodation as the travelling community.</p>

		<p>However this is countered by the fact that there is no evidence of any other racial or ethnic group expressing a desire to live in this kind of accommodation.</p> <p>The policies will also have positive effects on elderly people, single people / single parent families and those with disabilities by virtue of the fact that residential developments will be located closer to main services and be linked to transport and community services. Larger developments will be required to provide a mix of house types to suit all types of families and be affordable to people on lower incomes.</p> <p>There is also flexibility built into the policy to allow provision of social / affordable housing on phase 2 land where there is an identified need and this will also have positive effects on the most vulnerable groups including racial groups, single parent families and elderly people. The benefits that will be felt by single parent families will also translate into positive impacts for women who are far more likely to be the parent in single parent families than their male counterparts, as well as for people are unmarried.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
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POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
HOUSING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CT 1</li> <li>• CT 2</li> <li>• CT 3</li> <li>• CT 4</li> <li>• CT 5</li> </ul>	<p>Rural housing policies seek to enable rural dwellers to continue to live in the rural area in order to sustain and support our vibrant rural communities. This has the potential to adversely impact equality of opportunity for racial groups and ethnic minorities who traditionally have not lived in the rural area and are therefore less likely to be capable of availing of the opportunities afforded by these policies. However, this potential impact is countered by the fact that growth will be facilitated in the main hubs, where these communities are more commonly located.</p> <p>The location of the three proposed Dispersed Rural Communities are predominantly in areas which a large majority catholic population and therefore there is potential for this policy to also have an adverse impact on other religious groups and by association, other political opinions. It is envisaged however, that the level of housing growth in these areas will be minimal and will be relative to the remote nature of the areas meaning that the adverse impact (if it is accepted that one exists) will be extremely minimal and could certainly not be described as discernible impact.</p> <p>The proposed introduction of a policy for people involved in fishing will benefit an area which is predominantly catholic in makeup and this may lead to claims of disadvantage being caused to religious groups other than Catholics. However, given the strict criteria imposed by this policy it is not envisaged that many residents will be able to benefit from this policy other than those currently involved in commercial fishing. This therefore will not have a major impact on any religious groups.</p> <p>The policies will also enable dwellings to be built in the countryside in order to allow someone who is providing or availing of care, to live close to the carer or person being cared for. This will have obvious benefits for people who are elderly, disabled or have other dependants in need of care. By virtue of this fact, this policy aspect may have positive impacts on people who are not married and who are women by virtue of enabling carers who are supporting single parent families to live close to the family. Single parent families are predominantly women.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies</b></p>
MINERALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MIN 1</li> <li>• MIN 2</li> <li>• MIN 3</li> </ul>	<p>By seeking to restrict mineral development in areas (ACMD's) where there is significant visual, scientific or historical value, there is potential for an adverse impact upon religious groups and associated political opinion, if the ACMD's are in areas which are inhabited by</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MIN 4</li> <li>• MIN 5</li> <li>• MIN 6</li> </ul>	<p>one religious group and which will therefore deny equality of opportunity to that group. However, the evidence shows that the proposed ACMD's in Mid Ulster are located in areas which are fairly mixed and are not unbalanced against one religious group to a degree which would not be reflective of the makeup of the district as a whole.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND LEISURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OS 1</li> <li>• OS 2</li> <li>• OS 3</li> <li>• OS 4</li> </ul>	<p>These policies seek to protect existing areas of open space, protect river corridors and facilitate proposals for indoor and outdoor sport. This will have positive effects for people of all ages; elderly people can avail of safe public spaces to exercise and socialise whilst younger people can play active sport at indoor and outdoor locations.</p> <p>There will also be benefits for people with disabilities who can use areas of open space to improve physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>There is no evidence to suggest that areas which are made up of one or other religious groups are currently disadvantaged in terms of recreation facilities or open space, so there is no reason to suspect that this will occur with a policy similar to the existing policy in terms of providing for these facilities.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
RENEWABLE ENERGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RNW 1</li> </ul>	<p>This policy seeks to enable renewable energy development where this can be done without harm to visual amenity, neighbouring amenity or health and safety. It prohibits wind turbine development in an SCA and development over 15m within an AOCWTHS and also advises of an appropriate separation distance for single turbines. The SCA'S / AOCWTHS's are mostly located in mixed areas in terms of religious makeup although the one in the High Sperrin's is located in a predominantly Catholic area. It would not be a valid claim therefore to say that AOCWTH's impose a discernibly adverse impact on any one religious group.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this policy.</b></p>

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
RETAILING, OFFICES AND TOWN CENTRES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RE 1</li> <li>• RE 2</li> <li>• RE 3</li> <li>• RE 4</li> <li>• RE 5</li> <li>• RE 6</li> <li>• RE 7</li> </ul>	<p>By concentrating retail and other town centre uses in town centres, they will be more accessible for everyone including those without a car who are dependent on public transport; such as elderly people and people with living with a disability. This will also benefit ethnic minorities and racial groups who tend to live more commonly in towns and in particular within the main hub towns, where town centres are designated.</p> <p>A town centre first approach is intended to benefit those living in the rural hinterlands as well as the inhabitants of the town itself so it thought that the benefits will apply to all citizens, not just the inhabitants of the settlements in question. Therefore, there will be no adverse impact on religious groups or associated political opinions as a result of this town centre first approach.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this group of policies.</b></p>
Telecoms, Overhead Cables and High Structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TOHS 1</li> </ul>	<p>Telecoms policy will aim to facilitate infrastructure which will increase connectivity and reduce isolation of the most remote and isolated parts of the district. This will have benefits for people who live in these areas and who may be elderly or have a disability and therefore may feel even more cut off and isolated.</p> <p>The policy also seeks to protect sensitive areas from telecommunications development over 15m in height in sensitive areas, designated as AOCWTHS and in all circumstances where they are proposed within an SCA. The areas designated for SCA / AOCWTHS are located generally in mixed areas in terms of religious makeup. Having said this, the largest SCA / AOCWTHS is located in the High Sperrins in a predominantly Catholic area. However, it is felt that the policy allows sufficient flexibility to enable development where it is needed for agriculture or to address a “not spot” and this means there will be no discernible adverse impact.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this policy.</b></p>

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
TOURISM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TOU 1</li> <li>• TOU 2</li> <li>• TOU 3</li> <li>• TOU 4</li> </ul>	<p>TOU 2 aims to facilitate major tourist accommodation outside of SCA's or TCZ's. In so doing it is operating a presumption against such development in the 3 SCA's and 2 TCZ's. 3 of these 5 designations are located in predominantly catholic areas and therefore there may be potential for this policy to impact negatively in terms of equality on this religious group. However, it felt that this potential adverse impact is lessened by the fact that these 5 designations are not exclusively located in areas dominated by one religious group and also because 2 of the areas in question, namely the SCA's at the Loughshore and the High Sperrins are practically inhabited. Therefore it is not felt that this is enough to constitute a discernible adverse impact.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as result of this group of policies.</b></p>
TRANSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TRAN 1</li> <li>• TRAN 2</li> <li>• TRAN 3</li> <li>• TRAN 4</li> </ul>	<p>Transport policies will seek to ensure that our main arterial routes and car parking facilities in town centres remain protected and that proposed road improvement schemes are not compromised by development. This will help to ensure that the main hubs are accessible for people whether they have access to a public car or are dependent on public transport. This will have a positive impact on all residents, particularly the elderly who may be more reliant on public transport as well as those with mobility problems who find access to town centres difficult. It will also be beneficial to those who have dependants in that access to the main hubs for these groups is also easier under these policies.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as result of this group of policies.</b></p>
URBAN DESIGN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UD 1</li> </ul>	<p>Urban design policy seeks to ensure that the public realm supports access for all including those with mobility issues or those without access to a car; the latter being something which can correlate to age. Therefore, this policy will have positive impact on elderly people and people living with disabilities. It will also have positive benefits for people who act as dependants and provide care for these groups as accessibility in civic spaces should be improved as a consequence of this policy.</p> <p>This policy ensures a high quality of design in our urban areas and ensures that the character and built form of the urban areas are respected, thus creating distinctive places where people want to work and live.</p> <p><b>The Council is therefore satisfied that this policy will not create a negative impact for any of the section 75 groups.</b></p>

POLICY GROUP	POLICIES	COMMENT ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS
WASTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WM 1</li> <li>• WM 2</li> <li>• WM 3</li> <li>• WM 4</li> </ul>	<p>The location of waste management facilities will be sited in a way that makes them accessible to local neighbourhoods and settlements and this will have positive impacts on elderly people who may have more limited access to private transport as well as to people who are dependent on others for help in getting out and about and accessing services.</p> <p>Waste facilities will be located all across the district where the relative criteria are met and therefore, will be available to all religious groups and all political opinions.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as result of this group of policies.</b></p>
NATURAL HERITAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCA 1</li> <li>• NH 1</li> <li>• NH 2</li> <li>• NH 3</li> <li>• NH 4</li> <li>• NH 5</li> <li>• NH 6</li> </ul>	<p>Data from NISRA shows that the areas to be protected by SCA designations (especially the High Sperrins and the Loughshore) are predominantly Catholic areas and therefore, the strict controls placed on development in these areas may well unduly affect one religious group. The same applies for political opinion. There is no evidence that any other section 75 groups will be affected. However, this potential impact is lessened by the fact that the SCA designations are located in areas which are largely uninhabited and where the residents in the surrounding area are likely to be in favour of protecting the unique characteristics of the areas in question, which have led to the designations being imposed. It would not be accurate therefore to say that this will constitute a discernible negative impact.</p> <p><b>The Council are of the opinion that there will not be any adverse impact on equality of opportunity as a result of this policy.</b></p>



## **6.0 Summary of Screening Report Findings**

- 6.1 The Equality Screening as set out in this report has shown that there will be no discernible adverse impacts upon any of the Section 75 groups as a result of the policies included within the draft Plan Strategy. Given that the draft Strategy aims to encourage growth, improve connectivity, grow and consolidate the roles of settlements and support rural communities, it is not surprising that none of the policies, which seek to implement these positive goals, have been found to have potentially widespread negative impact upon Section 75 groups.
- 6.2 The draft Strategy does introduce some policies and designations which are restrictive in nature and which limit certain types of development in order to protect certain environmental assets. Such policies or designations have the potential to impact negatively on religious groups or certain sections of political opinion because they relate to specific parts of the District, which are predominantly, made up of one religious denomination. Examples of such policies / designations are Special Countryside Areas, Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development, Tourism Conservation Zones and Areas of Constraint on Wind Turbines and High Structures.
- 6.3 However, when these potential impacts are given due consideration, it is evident that such zones are not located exclusively in areas which are inhabited solely by one political group and in many cases, particularly with regards to Special Countryside Area designations, they areas are virtually uninhabited. It is also worthy of consideration to note that the residents of these sensitive areas are often very proud of their areas and therefore are very likely to be opposed to widespread development in the area and as a result, may often be supportive of such designations being imposed.
- 6.4 A further way in which the screening report has identified potential negative impacts of the draft Strategy is through the proposed planning policies for the rural area, which afford additional opportunities for development such as new housing and new business start-ups. Because the countryside is not traditionally home to racial or ethnic minorities, the argument may be made that these groups will have less access to the opportunities afforded by these policies and this may constitute a negative impact on their equality of opportunity.
- 6.5 However, as has been argued earlier in the report, racial groups and ethnic minorities are most likely to live in the main hub towns, which have been identified as growth areas in the draft Strategy, in line with regional policy. Therefore, it would be difficult to say that these groups will be negatively impacted by the draft Strategy.
- 6.6 The Council is of the opinion therefore that there will be no discernible negative impacts on any of the Section 75 Groups as a result of this draft Plan Strategy.

## **7.0 Monitoring**

- 7.1 This Equality Screening Report has shown that the draft Plan Strategy will not result in any significant adverse impacts on equality of opportunity; in fact, there will be some minor positive impacts. Consequently, there are no equality impacts, which require monitoring.
- 7.2 However, monitoring will take place in relation to the objectives of the Strategy and how they are met. This will take place in accordance with the contents of the monitoring table as set out below. Additionally we will continue to examine how growth has occurred in relation to the spatial distribution of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Populations across the District.
- 7.3 The table below shows how the draft Plan Strategy and the achievement of its objectives are going to be monitored.

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Measures
<b>Accommodating People and Creating Places</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt as economic and transportation hubs and as the main service centres for shops, leisure activities, public administrative and community services including health and education. These are the most populated places and the town centres are the most accessible locations for people to travel to including those without a car.</li> <li>• To protect and consolidate the role of local towns and villages so that they act as local centres for shops and community services meeting the daily needs of their rural hinterlands.</li> <li>• To provide for vital and vibrant rural communities whilst protecting the countryside in which they live by accommodating sustainable growth within the countryside proportionate to the extent of existing rural communities.</li> <li>• To provide for <b>11,000</b> new homes by 2030 in a range of housing capable of</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New residential development will have provided quality residential environments will have been provided comprising a mix of house types and tenures in our towns and villages and other settlements.</li> <li>2. At least 30-60% of housing will have been provided in our main towns.</li> <li>3. Growth will have been focused in our main towns.</li> <li>4. Sustainable opportunities will have been provided for homes in the countryside to meet the needs of the rural population at a level of not more than 40% of households in the district.</li> <li>5. New major retail development will have occurred in our town centres.</li> <li>6. Our town centres will have become more vibrant and viable</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Housing Growth Indicators and subsequent revisions.</li> <li>2. The extent of housing land available in our main towns and other settlements.</li> <li>3. Population levels across mid ulster</li> <li>4. The pipeline for further housing development as defined by unimplemented permissions and housing zonings.</li> <li>5. The capacity of our town centres to accommodate growth (defined by retail capacity study).</li> <li>6. The retail offer and vacancy rates in our town centres.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The extent of housing permissions in our main towns and across our other settlements.</li> <li>2. The take up of zoned housing land.</li> <li>3. The number of social/affordable houses delivered in settlements and in the countryside.</li> <li>4. The take-up of land for health, education and community uses.</li> <li>5. The take-up of town centre opportunity sites and land available for mixed use development.</li> <li>6. Vacancy rates and range of uses in our town centres and extent of non-retail related uses in our Primary Retail Cores.</li> </ol>

<p>meeting the needs of families, the elderly and disabled, and single people, at locations accessible to community services, leisure and recreational facilities, for those people with and without a car.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recognise the needs of both growing families and carers of the elderly and disabled by accommodating development which allows people to remain within their own communities and does not lead to significant harm to neighbours or the built and natural environment.</li> <li>• To facilitate the development of new community facilities at locations accessible to the communities they serve, through a variety of modes of transportation in accordance with the community plan.</li> <li>• To accommodate cultural differences in our communities whilst promoting “shared spaces” to bring people together with equality of opportunity.</li> </ul>	<p>places for shops and businesses to trade.</p> <p>7. We will have better health, education and community facilities.</p>		<p>7. The provision of new health, education and community uses in the district.</p> <p>8. Any additional needs identified by service providers.</p> <p>9. The number of housing permissions in the countryside by policy justification and the number of registered farms and total number of commercial fishing licences.</p>
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Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Measures
<p><b>Creating jobs and promoting prosperity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate the creation of at least <b>8,500</b> new jobs by 2030 at a variety of locations where they are accessible to all members of the community, including those without a private car.</li> <li>• To promote diversity in the range of jobs on offer recognising the importance of employment in the primary sector (agriculture forestry and mining), secondary sector (industry and manufacturing) and tertiary sector (administration, commerce, retailing, leisure and tourism).</li> <li>• To recognise and accommodate entrepreneurship, innovation for large, medium and small firms by attracting new firms and accommodating expanding businesses.</li> <li>• To recognise the importance of self-employment and home working, particularly in rural locations.</li> <li>• To encourage energy efficiencies and promote use of renewable energy.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There will be reduced unemployment and increased economic activity in mid ulster.</li> <li>2. Agriculture, forestry and fishing will remain an important sector.</li> <li>3. Mineral extraction will continue to provide sufficient materials for the construction industry and related quarry products sector.</li> <li>4. There will be sufficient land for economic development in our three main towns.</li> <li>5. There will be sufficient land for economic development in our other settlements.</li> <li>6. Economic development will have occurred in a sustainable manner and more people will have been facilitated to work from home or in small to medium enterprises.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regional indicators and targets for economic growth.</li> <li>2. The extent of economic development land available in our main towns and other settlements.</li> <li>3. Employment figures for the district.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Employment figures for the district.</li> <li>2. The availability of economic development land in our three main towns as established by annual monitoring.</li> <li>3. The number of permissions for economic development in our three main towns and other settlements (floor space permitted) and anticipated number of jobs which may result.</li> <li>4. The number of permissions for economic development in the countryside?</li> <li>5. Self-employment levels in the district.</li> </ol>

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	Measures
<b>Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce contributions and vulnerability to climate change and to reduce flood risk and the adverse consequences of flooding.</li> <li>• To protect and enhance the natural and built environment as wise custodians of our landscape and to achieve biodiversity, quality design, enhanced leisure and economic opportunity and promote health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• To accommodate investment in power, water and sewerage infrastructure, and waste management particularly in the interests of public health.</li> <li>• To improve connectivity between and within settlements and their rural hinterland through accommodating investment in transportation to improve travel times, alleviate congestion and improve safety for both commercial and private vehicles as well as more sustainable modes of transport including buses, walking and cycling.</li> <li>• To improve connectivity through telecommunications which both meets</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There will be reduced need to travel by private transport.</li> <li>2. The special character of our Sperrins AONB will have been retained.</li> <li>3. The distinctive ridge line of Clogher Valley will have been retained.</li> <li>4. The open vistas, bog and grasslands of the high Sperrins and Slieve Beagh and the lough shores will have been kept free from harmful development.</li> <li>5. We will have created more greenways and cycle ways whilst safeguarding our canals and main river banks for future use.</li> <li>6. We will have protected, maintained and enhanced our natural and built heritage for the appreciation of our residents and visitors.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Landscape Assessment across Mid Ulster and future review.</li> <li>2. The pressure for housing across Mid Ulster (pressure analysis).</li> <li>3. Travel to Work Survey Northern Ireland.</li> <li>4. Pressure analysis of renewable energy development.</li> <li>5. The availability of broad band and extent of telecommunication not spots.</li> <li>6. The total amount of energy from renewable sources (NIE Survey).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The number of permissions for high structures and wind turbines in our Area of Constraint on Wind Turbines and High Structures.</li> <li>2. The number and type of permissions granted within our Special Countryside Areas.</li> <li>3. The number of permissions granted for mineral development within our Areas of Constraint on Mineral Development.</li> <li>4. The progress made in implementing and providing by-passes and major road improvements.</li> <li>5. The provision of new cycle ways and greenways.</li> <li>6. The number of permissions granted for major renewable energy development.</li> <li>7. The amount of waste going to landfill.</li> </ol>

<p>the needs of business and private households whilst reducing the need to travel.</p>	<p>7. You will be able to travel safer and more quickly between our main towns, within the district and across Northern Ireland.</p> <p>8. There will be more people walking, cycling and using public transport.</p> <p>9. Everyone will have improved telecommunications and broadband connectivity.</p> <p>10. A greater amount of our power will have been from renewable sources.</p> <p>11. Less waste will go to landfill.</p> <p>12. As result of the provision of by-passes and improvements to the A29 and A5 there will be greater free movement along our main transport routes.</p>		
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## **ANNEX 1 – MID ULSTER EQUALITY SCREENING TEMPLATE**



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

### **Equality & Good Relations Screening Report**

#### **Introduction**

Mid Ulster District Council has a statutory duty to screen its policies, procedures, practices/decisions. This Policy Screening Form and Report assists Council Departments to consider the likely equality and good relations impacts of the aforementioned, if any, placed upon our ratepayers, citizens, service users, staff and visitors to the district.

#### **Section 1 – Policy scoping**

This asks the Policy Author to provide details on 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. Reference to policy within this document refers to either of the aforementioned (policy, procedure, practice, and/ or decision).

#### **Section 2 – Screening questions**

This asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Details of the groups consulted and the level of assessment of the likely impact. This includes consideration of multiple identity and issues.

### **Section 3 –Screening decision**

This guides the Council to reach a screening decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment (EQIA), or introduce measures to mitigate the likely impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity.

### **Section 4 – Monitoring**

This provides guidance to the Council on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.

### **Section 5 – Approval and authorisation**

This verifies the Council's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy

## Section 1 Policy Scoping & Information

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration which sets the context and confirms the aims and objectives for the policy being screened. Scoping the policy helps to identify constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy author to work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

<b>1. Policy Name</b>
Mid Ulster Local Development Plan – Plan Strategy.
<b>2. Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?</b>
<p>To fulfil our legislative duty in the context of The Planning (NI) Act 2011, Mid Ulster District Council has prepared a Local Development Plan document, the Plan Strategy (hereinafter referred to as the Plan Strategy) for the period 2015-2030. The Plan Strategy is prepared taking account of regional strategic policy and guidance.</p> <p>On adoption, for development proposed in Mid Ulster District, this Plan Strategy supersedes the policy contained within the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PPS 2: Natural Heritage</li><li>• PPS 3: Access, Movement and Parking</li><li>• PPS 3 (Clarification): Access, Movement and Parking</li><li>• PPS 4: Planning and Economic Development</li><li>• PPS 4: Clarification of PED 7</li><li>• PPS 6: Planning, Archaeology and the Built Heritage</li><li>• PPS 6 (Addendum): Areas of Townscape Character</li><li>• PPS 7: Quality Residential Environments</li><li>• PPS 7: (Addendum): Residential Extensions and Alterations</li><li>• PPS 7: (Addendum): Safeguarding the Character of Established Residential Areas</li><li>• PPS 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation</li><li>• PPS 10: Telecommunications</li><li>• PPS 11: Planning and Waste Management</li><li>• PPS 12: Housing in Settlements</li><li>• PPS 12: Policy HS 3 (Amended) 'Travellers Accommodation'</li><li>• PPS 13: Transportation and Land Use</li><li>• PPS 15 Revised: Planning and Flood Risk</li><li>• PPS 16: Tourism</li><li>• PPS 17: Control of Outdoor Advertisements</li><li>• PPS 18: Renewable Energy</li><li>• PPS 21: Sustainable Development in the Countryside</li><li>• PPS 23: Enabling Development</li><li>• Relevant provisions of 'A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland'</li></ul>

Applications for retail development will also be assessed against the policy provisions included within the Strategy, having previously been assessed against the provisions of the SPSS.

### 3. What is it trying to achieve? (aims/outcomes)

The purpose of the Mid Ulster Council Local Development Plan, comprising the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan, is to inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will implement the strategic objectives of the Regional Development Strategy and guide development decisions within Mid Ulster District Council up to 2030. This Plan Strategy is the first stage of a two stage Local Development Plan for the district. The Local Development Plan will also consist of the Local Policies Plan (LPP), which is the second stage of the plan making process.

The Plan Strategy;

- Sets out the strategic objectives of Mid Ulster District Council in relation to accommodating growth in the form of new homes and economic development activities to improve the quality of life and meet the needs of our growing population, whilst also protecting the environment.
- Informs the general public, statutory authorities and developers of the policy framework against which all proposals will be assessed in order to gain planning permission.
- Provides certainty for developers by indicating what sort of development will be acceptable in Mid Ulster and what will (and will not) conform with the Plan.
- Provides information on monitoring of the objectives of the plan to ensure that they are being achieved.

### 4. Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?

Yes	✓
No	

Our Plan aims to provide policy framework and land use proposals that will implement the strategic objectives of the Regional Development Strategy and guide development decisions within Mid Ulster District Council up to 2030.

It is intended to benefit all citizens in Mid Ulster and impact equally on all Section 75 groups. The Plan aims to implement objectives, which are broadly positive for all in society e.g. economic growth, adequate housing provision, environmental protection and the promotion of health and wellbeing.

### 6. Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Mid Ulster District Council's Planning Department

### 7. Who owns and who implements the policy?

The policy is owned and shall be implemented by Mid Ulster Council.

## Implementation factors

		Yes	No
Are there any factors that could contribute to / detract from intended aim/ outcome of the policy?			✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, are they financial?</li> <li>If yes, are they legislative?</li> </ul>		N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, Please specify</li> </ul>	<b>Financial:</b> N/A  <b>Legislative:</b> N/A		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other, Please specify</li> </ul>	N/A		

## Stakeholders

The internal and external (actual or potential) that the policy will be impacted upon

	Yes	No
Staff	✓	
Service Users	✓	
Other public sector organisations	✓	
Voluntary/community/ trade unions	✓	
Other, please specify		

## Others policies with a bearing on this policy

Policies	Owners
Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011	Dept. for Infrastructure (DfI)
The draft Northern Ireland Programme for Government	NI Executive
Principles of Sustainable Development - Everyone's Involved - Sustainable Development Strategy, May 2010	NI Executive
The Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035 - Building a Better Future	Df
Regional Transportation Strategy - Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future (ESTF) - A New Approach to Regional Transportation (June 2011)	DfI
The Strategic Planning Policy Statement - Planning for Sustainable Development	DfI
Existing Planning Policy Statements (PPS's)	DfI
A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland	DfI
Planning in Republic of Ireland - National Planning Framework 2040	Dept. of Housing, Planning and Local Government, ROI
Sustainable Water - a Long Term Water Strategy for NI	NI Water
Neighbouring Councils - Section 3(5) of the 2011 Planning Act requires that we must consult with our neighbours. This council has led the way in establishing a three cross boundary forums with the aims of ensuring that our respective local development plans do not conflict with the other but also to ensure open dialogue and good practice so that we do not operate in isolation in the new plan making system.	
Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan – A Ten year Plan for Mid Ulster.	Mid Ulster District Council
<b>SUPPORTING ASSESSMENTS AND APPRAISALS</b>	
Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environment Assessment	
Equality of Opportunity - Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998	
Rural Impact Assessment - Rural Proofing	
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	

## Available evidence

Information and available evidence (qualitative and quantitative) gathered to inform the policy under each of the section 75 groups as identified within the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information																																				
Religious belief	<p>63.77% of the population were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.46% belong or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. Other religions comprised 690 (0.5%) and None 3,153 (2.28%) of the population (Source: 2011 Census).</p> <table><tr><th>Religion or Religion brought up in</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Catholic</td><td>88,375</td><td>63.77</td></tr><tr><td>Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)</td><td>46,372</td><td>33.46</td></tr><tr><td>Other religions</td><td>690</td><td>0.5</td></tr><tr><td>None</td><td>3,153</td><td>2.28</td></tr><tr><td><b>Total</b></td><td><b>138,590</b></td><td><b>100</b></td></tr></table> <p>In addition to these figures, a spatial representation of the religious makeup of different parts of the District can be seen in the context of the two main religious groups (Protestant and Catholic) underneath this table in Map 1.</p>	Religion or Religion brought up in	No.	%	Catholic	88,375	63.77	Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)	46,372	33.46	Other religions	690	0.5	None	3,153	2.28	<b>Total</b>	<b>138,590</b>	<b>100</b>																		
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Political opinion	<p>Political party representation can be used as an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within Mid Ulster council area. The most recent local government/ council election in 2014 the percentage 1<sup>st</sup> preference vote share for each of the political party/ independents is detailed bellowed along with representation (seats) on Council (Source: NISRA):</p> <table><tr><th>Party</th><th>Votes</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Council Seats</th></tr><tr><td>SF</td><td>22,587</td><td>41.0%</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>DUP</td><td>9,723</td><td>17.6%</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>UUP</td><td>9,573</td><td>17.4%</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>SDLP</td><td>7,600</td><td>13.8%</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Independent</td><td>2,689</td><td>4.9%</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>TUV</td><td>2,380</td><td>4.3%</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Alliance</td><td>250</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>UKIP</td><td>195</td><td>0.4%</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Party	Votes	Percentage	Council Seats	SF	22,587	41.0%	18	DUP	9,723	17.6%	8	UUP	9,573	17.4%	7	SDLP	7,600	13.8%	6	Independent	2,689	4.9%	1	TUV	2,380	4.3%	0	Alliance	250	0.6%	0	UKIP	195	0.4%	0
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Racial group	<p>According to the 2011 Census the overwhelming majority of the population 136,485 (98.48%) were classified as 'white'. Within this total will be migrant communities, such as Polish, Lithuanian and so forth. Statistics indicate that the number of people in Mid Ulster Local Government District (LGD) born outside Northern Ireland is:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Place of Birth</th><th>No.</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Great Britain</td><td>4,053</td></tr> <tr> <td>Republic of Ireland</td><td>2,250</td></tr> <tr> <td>EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)</td><td>6,795</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other</td><td>2,280</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The minority ethnic language profile within the area can serve as a possible indicator of the Black &amp; Minority Ethnic (BME) community profile within the district. The composition of language groups in Mid Ulster LGD area is also noted from the 2011 census by NISRA as:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Main Languages of residents in Mid Ulster Council area</th><th>No.</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>English</td><td>125,715</td></tr> <tr> <td>Polish</td><td>2,008</td></tr> <tr> <td>Lithuanian</td><td>2,039</td></tr> <tr> <td>Portuguese</td><td>903</td></tr> <tr> <td>Irish (Gaelic)</td><td>404</td></tr> <tr> <td>Slovak</td><td>477</td></tr> <tr> <td>Russian</td><td>297</td></tr> <tr> <td>Latvia</td><td>261</td></tr> <tr> <td>Hungarian</td><td>117</td></tr> <tr> <td>Chinese</td><td>64</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tagalog/Filipino</td><td>38</td></tr> <tr> <td>Malaysian</td><td>33</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other</td><td>922</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Place of Birth	No.	Great Britain	4,053	Republic of Ireland	2,250	EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)	6,795	Other	2,280	Main Languages of residents in Mid Ulster Council area	No.	English	125,715	Polish	2,008	Lithuanian	2,039	Portuguese	903	Irish (Gaelic)	404	Slovak	477	Russian	297	Latvia	261	Hungarian	117	Chinese	64	Tagalog/Filipino	38	Malaysian	33	Other	922
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Age	The age profile of Mid Ulster Local Government District area as at 2015 (Source, NISRA)				
		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland	
	Total Population	144,002		1,851,621	
	0-15 years	33,123		385,200	
	16-39 years	47,646		583,116	
	40-64 years	43,621		591,481	
	65+ years	19,612		291,824	
	Population Change % (2005-2015)	15.3%		7.2%	
Marital status	The below table sets out the martial status profile for Mid Ulster District Council area as extracted from results of the 2011 Census				
		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland	
		No.	%	N	%
	Single (never married or never registered a same sex civil partnership) (Aged 16+)	38,353	35.97	517,393	36.14
	Married (Aged 16+)	54,192	50.82	680,831	47.56
	In a registered same sex civil partnership (Aged 16+)	62	0.06	1,243	0.09
	Separated (but is still legally married or still legally in a same sex civil partnership) (Aged 16+)	3,369	3.16	56,911	3.98
	Divorced or formerly in a same sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved (Aged 16+)	4,139	3.88	78,074	5.45
	Widowed or surviving partner from a same sex civil partnership (Aged 16+)	6,523	6.12	97,088	6.78

Sexual orientation	<p>No specific statistics are available from the 2011 government census for this Category and there are therefore no official statistics available in relation to persons of different sexual orientation. However, the Integrated Household Survey would include between 3% and 4% would be either gay, lesbian and/or bisexual. However, due to the nature of ‘disclosure’ in this area, umbrella organisations often state that the figure may be closer to 10%.</p> <table><tr><th>Region</th><th>Heterosexual/ Straight</th><th>Gay/ Lesbian</th><th>Bisexual</th><th>Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual</th><th>Other</th><th>Don't know /refuse</th><th>No response</th></tr><tr><td>England</td><td>92.54%</td><td>1.10%</td><td>0.51%</td><td>1.61%</td><td>0.33%</td><td>4.07%</td><td>1.45%</td></tr><tr><td>Wales</td><td>93.93%</td><td>1.04%</td><td>0.48%</td><td>1.52%</td><td>0.45%</td><td>2.99%</td><td>1.11%</td></tr><tr><td>Scotland</td><td>94.65%</td><td>0.82%</td><td>0.33%</td><td>1.14%</td><td>0.26%</td><td>2.59%</td><td>1.37%</td></tr><tr><td><b>N Ireland</b></td><td><b>93.00%</b></td><td><b>0.64%</b></td><td><b>0.96%</b></td><td><b>1.60%</b></td><td><b>0.26%</b></td><td><b>3.98%</b></td><td><b>1.17%</b></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>92.80%</td><td>1.06%</td><td>0.51%</td><td>1.57%</td><td>0.32%</td><td>3.89%</td><td>1.42%</td></tr></table> <p>Research also conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5%-7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or ‘trans’ (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT).</p>	Region	Heterosexual/ Straight	Gay/ Lesbian	Bisexual	Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual	Other	Don't know /refuse	No response	England	92.54%	1.10%	0.51%	1.61%	0.33%	4.07%	1.45%	Wales	93.93%	1.04%	0.48%	1.52%	0.45%	2.99%	1.11%	Scotland	94.65%	0.82%	0.33%	1.14%	0.26%	2.59%	1.37%	<b>N Ireland</b>	<b>93.00%</b>	<b>0.64%</b>	<b>0.96%</b>	<b>1.60%</b>	<b>0.26%</b>	<b>3.98%</b>	<b>1.17%</b>	Total	92.80%	1.06%	0.51%	1.57%	0.32%	3.89%	1.42%
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Men & women generally	<p>The gender profile of Mid Ulster LGD is detailed as;</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>69,362</td><td>50.05</td><td>887,323</td><td>49.00</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>69,228</td><td>49.95</td><td>923,540</td><td>51.00</td></tr></table>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00	Female	69,228	49.95	923,540	51.00																												
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Disability	<p>According to the 2011 NISRA census statistics 19.39% of people had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities whilst 80.43% of people within the district stated their general health was either good or very good</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th></th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr></table>		Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland				%	No.	%																																						
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	Disability / long term health	26,870	19.39	374,646	20.69																									
	No disability / long term health problem	111,720	80.61	1,436,217	79.31																									
	<p>In Northern Ireland the profile of persons with a disability has been reported by Disability Action as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population have a disability</li><li>• 1 in 7 people have some form of hearing loss</li><li>• 5,000 persons use sign language - British Sign Language and/or Irish Sign Language</li><li>• There are 57,000 blind persons or persons with significant impairment</li><li>• 52,000 persons with learning difficulties</li></ul>																													
Dependants	<p>Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and/ or a dependent older person. The below table provides a summary with respect Mid Ulster LGD.</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Mid Ulster</th><th colspan="2">Northern Ireland</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>No.</th><th>%</th><th>No.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Households with dependent children</td><td>18,626</td><td>38.99</td><td>238,094</td><td>33.86</td></tr><tr><td>Lone parent households with dependents</td><td>3,485</td><td>7.30</td><td>63,921</td><td>9.09</td></tr><tr><td>People providing unpaid care</td><td>12,821</td><td>10.69</td><td>231,980</td><td>11.82</td></tr></table> <p>Of the households in Mid Ulster Local Government District with dependent children, they can be summarised as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7,407 families in households have 1 dependent child</li><li>• 6,394 families in households with two dependent children</li><li>• 5,014 families in households with three dependent children</li></ul> <p>There are 37,306 dependent children within families.</p>						Mid Ulster		Northern Ireland			No.	%	No.	%	Households with dependent children	18,626	38.99	238,094	33.86	Lone parent households with dependents	3,485	7.30	63,921	9.09	People providing unpaid care	12,821	10.69	231,980	11.82
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## Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief Political opinion Racial group Disability Age Marital status Sexual orientation Men and women generally Dependants	<p><u><i>It is felt that the needs / experiences below will apply to all section 75 groups.</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to employment, education and training facilities</li> <li>• Access to housing</li> <li>• Access to healthcare</li> <li>• Access to business, retail and leisure facilities</li> <li>• Feeling of safety and security in public environment</li> <li>• Access to public transport</li> <li>• Access to care / community facilities</li> <li>• Access to play facilities / recreation and open space for all children</li> <li>• Access to health / community educational facilities.</li> </ul>

## Section 2 – Screening Questions

In making a decision as to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), the Council should consider its answers to the questions 1- 3 detailed below.

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

If the Council's conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the Council's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality 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.

#### **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 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.

### In favour of none

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

<b>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)</b>		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief	See main document, "Equality Screening Report"	Minor Positive
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		



**2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within Section 75 equality categories? (Yes/ No)**

Section 75 category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide reasons
Religious belief		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the continued LDP process.
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

**3. Are there opportunities without prejudice, to the equality of opportunity duty, to better promote good relations between Section 75 equality categories, through tackling prejudice and/ or promoting understanding? (Yes/ No)**

	No	✓
	Yes	
If yes, please detail the opportunities below:		

If yes is concluded to Question 3, then the policy will be referred to the Council's Good Relations Working Group for consideration. The Group will consider the potential opportunities and assess if and how the overall impact of a decision/policy can better promote good relations.

### Additional Considerations - Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? ( <i>For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people</i> ).
None identified. However, the LDP 2030 will be subject to another extensive consultation process. Any further impacts (on any section 75 groups) identified as part of this consultation will be taken into consideration.
Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.
None identified. However, the LDP 2030 will be subject to another extensive consultation process. Any further impacts (on any section 75 groups) identified as part of this consultation will be taken into consideration

### Section 3 – Screening Decision

In light of answers provided to the questions within Section 3 select one of the following with regards the policy:

		Select One
1	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - <i>with no mitigating measures required</i>	✓
2	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - <i>mitigating measures/ alternative policies introduced</i>	
3	Shall be subject to an EQIA	

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

The main document (Equality Impact Screening Report) has considered the potential differential impacts of all policy areas included within the draft Plan Strategy and the associated designations, where applicable. This consideration has shown that while the draft Strategy will not have any adverse impacts on equality of opportunity for any section 75 group.

Given that the draft Strategy aims to encourage growth, improve connectivity, grow and consolidate the roles of settlements and support rural communities, it is not surprising that there are some minor positive impacts for some groups from some policy areas such as Health, Education, Community Uses, Rural and Urban housing policies, Economic Policies and Open Space and recreation.

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

n/a

If 3 above (i.e. shall be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons.

n/a

## Mitigation

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

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

If so, give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy:

No negative impacts have been identified – see main Equality Screening Report

## Timetabling and prioritising

If the policy has been screened in for equality impact assessment, please answer the below to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

- **On a scale of 1-3 (1 being lowest priority and 3 being highest), assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.**

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity	n/a
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a Council's functions	

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 Council in timetabling. Details of the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the Screening Reports.

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

Yes	
No	

## Section 5 – Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the Council to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development. Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

Further Equality screening will take place in relation to the LDP during the preparation of the Local Policies Plan document following the adoption of the draft Plan Strategy. The draft Plan Strategy includes a monitoring section and will be subject to a review every 5 years.

## Section 6 – Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Colin McKeown	PLANNING OFFICER	22/1/19
Approved by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Dr. Chris Boomer	PLANNING MANAGER	22/1/19

**Note:** A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy; made easily accessible on the council website as soon as possible following completion and be available on request.

