



Appendix 2 - Template for Information to be Compiled

Information to be compiled by Public Authorities under Section 3(1)(a) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

(To be completed and included in public authorities' own annual reports and submitted to DAERA for inclusion in the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report).

Name of Public Authority:

Reporting Period: April 20 to March 20

The following information should be compiled in respect of each policy, strategy and plan which has been developed, adopted, implemented or revised and each public service which has been designed or delivered by the public authority during the reporting period.

<i>Description of the activity undertaken by the public authority which is subject to section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016¹.</i>	<i>The rural policy area(s) which the activity relates to².</i>	<i>Describe how the public authority has had due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising the policy, strategy or plan or when designing or delivering the public service³.</i>
Travel & Subsistence Policy	Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	Mid Ulster District Council has considered the needs of staff particularly those living in rural areas via the consideration of travel distances. Staff in very rural areas will have further to travel but as there are main Council buildings in the 3 largest centres of population. No one should have an unreasonable distance to travel. Technology e.g. conference calling etc should be encouraged by managers to keep travel to a minimum.
Recognition of Staff Leaving/Retiring Policy	Jobs or Employment in	The policy does not impact differently on staff living in rural areas.

	Rural Areas	
Managing Bereavement in the Workplace Policy	Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	The policy does not impact differently on staff living in rural areas.
Dignity at Work Policy	Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	This policy aims to prevent harassment and bullying in the workplace, provide guidance to resolve any problems should it occur and prevent recurrence. This policy does not impact differently on staff living in rural areas.
Management of Overtime Policy	Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	This policy provides guidance to all managers & staff regardless of whether they live in a rural area or not, the policy provides a standard approach across Council in relation to the management of overtime.
Health and Safety Policy	Other	This policy will impact on all staff, service users and members of the public across the district, regardless of whether they reside in a rural or urban area. There is no differential impact anticipated.
Draft Waste Collection Policy	Other	This policy ensures that residents who live in rural areas will receive the same service as urban dwellers i.e. a collection every two weeks of residual waste, recyclable waste and organic waste (on alternating weeks). However, households which are located on/up private laneways i.e. which are not adopted (and are primarily located in rural areas) are required to bring their wheeled bins to the end of the laneway for collection. This may disproportionately affect rural householders who may be more likely not to have neighbors to assist with bringing their bins to the point of collection. Households in some rural areas may also be more likely to consist of larger families and therefore generate additional waste. Households in rural areas are also more likely to be inconvenienced

		<p>by missed collections as a result of adverse weather conditions. Also, some households in rural areas have their refuse collected by One Armed Vehicles (OAVs) which requires the householder to present the bin with the handles facing away from the road (which is the opposite position to householders in urban areas). The outcome of a Northern Ireland wide Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Review completed by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) in 2018 included a high-level spatial analysis of the distribution/provision of all sites across the country using a methodology based on drive times for residents to their nearest site. An “optimised” model was subsequently produced which suggested that the residents of Mid Ulster would still be adequately served with three less sites (identified as Ballymacombs, Coalisland and Clogher) operating across the district i.e. nine instead of twelve Recycling Centres.</p>
<p>Social Enterprise Programme</p>	<p>Rural Development</p>	<p>A key issue for many rural dwellers is that of access to services, health and wellbeing and their associated need for appropriate infrastructure in both urban and rural settings, those living in rural areas often experience these more acutely due to their geographical isolation, lower population density and the dispersed nature of many rural settlements across Mid Ulster. This is further compounded by the limited availability of public transport infrastructure and the blackspots of poor broadband provision in Mid Ulster’s rural areas. As such the Contractor will be required to promote the Programme via a range of channels and media. The Programme also takes</p>

		cognisance of the issue of social isolation within the District and how this can be manifested in vulnerable groups particularly those living in rural areas. It has put in place measures to mitigate these issues to ensure that anyone requesting support from the Programme has the opportunity to access it, regardless of location, ability to travel or access to good broadband connectivity. The Contractor will be required to provide support to all requesting it, by meeting them at the group's base or an alternative suitable location, in addition, application forms will be provided in both hard and soft copy, to ensure that those who do not have good broadband or IT capacity can access Programme information and submit Applications without issues.
Performance Improvement Policy	Other	This policy ensures that rural needs consideration becomes mainstreamed in performance improvement processes across all aspects of service delivery.
Fleet Safety Policy	Other	This policy is an internal council policy; however, it does however take into consideration the geographical makeup of the areas covered by some fleet staff and the associated implications

NOTES

1. This information should normally be contained in section 1B of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
2. This information should normally be contained in section 2D of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
3. The information contained in sections 3D, 4A & 5B of the RNIA Template should be considered when completing this section.