

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.

Appendix A Screening Process

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.

1. Policy Name		-
Seamus Heaney HomePlace Trails Experience		
2. Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?		***************************************
New project		
3. What is it trying to achieve? (aims/outcomes)	***************************************	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
The Seamus Heaney HomePlace Trails Experience is a network of that are located in and around Mid Ulster. Each of the sites can be with specific poems written by Seamus Heaney. The purpose of the enhance each of these sites using interpretation through the poetry them. Interpretation will raise awareness of these key sites, highligh literary significance of the sites in the life story of Seamus Heaney. Heaney HomePlace will act as the hub for visiting the sites, driving from the centre.	linked continued that continued the Seamus	losely k is to nnects
Aims and Objectives: 1. Promote the landscape of Northern Ireland as a place of inspirate and literary excellence exemplified by Seamus Heaney 2. Expand on the success of Seamus Heaney HomePlace by extending experience to Seamus Heaney's poetry connected to key sites 3. Engage a wide variety of out-of-state and overseas audiences, on them with Seamus Heaney's poetry and the landscape 4. Promote and celebrate the artistic, ecological, natural and environthemes of Seamus Heaney's poetry 5. Create an engaging, enjoyable, unique and meaningful visitor expline with Northern Ireland and Mid Ulster District Council's tourism services.	onnectin	visito
4. Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	Yes	X
	No	*Continuous and
If so, please explain	-	The same of the sa

The development of the Cooper II

The development of the Seamus Heaney HomePlace Trails Experience is aimed at generating tourism. Consequently the project will impact more directly on business entities rather than individuals. However, it is intended that the ultimate

	*DOUGH
outcome of the project will contribute to higher levels of visitor numbers to the area therefore benefitting the whole area.	
6. Who initiated or wrote the policy?	
Mid Ulster District Council – Business & Communities	
7. Who owns and who implements the policy?	
Mid Ulster District Council	

Implementation factors

			Yes	No
Are inte	there any factors whice nded aim/ outcome of	h could contribute to/ detract from the policy?	Ye	es
•	If yes, are they financia	1!?	Х	
•	If yes, are they legislati	ve?	X	
If yes, Please specify		Financial: Securing funding to del	iver the pro	oject.
		Legislative: Securing Planning Pe the project.	rmission to	o delive
• (Other, Please specify			

Stakeholders

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

	Yes	No
Staff	X	
Service Users	X	
Other public sector organisations	X	
Voluntary/community/ trade unions		х
Other, please specify	N/A	

Others policies with a bearing on this policy

Policies	Owners
Our Community Plan Mid Ulster Tourism Strategy Mid Ulster Arts & Culture Strategy	Mid Ulster District Council

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.

category	Details of evidence/information				
Religious belief	63.77% of the popula or were brought up in religion. Other religio population (Source: 2	a Protestant and ons comprised 69	Other Christian (i	ncluding	Christian
	Religion or Religio	on brought up ir	1	lo.	%
	Catholic		88	375	63.77
	Protestant and Othe Christian related)	er Christian (inclu	uding	372	33.46
	Other religions	***************************************	WHILE TO SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SE	90	0.5
	None	006.84c.000.8.46.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.	The state of the s	153	2.28
	Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The second secon	,590	100
	opinion of people with	entation can be us nin Mid Ulster cou	incil area. The mos	st recent	local gove
		nin Mid Ulster cou 14 the percentage Indents is detailed	incil area. The mos e 1st preference vo	st recent te share	local gove
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indeper Council (Source: NISI	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes	incil area. The mos e 1st preference vo	st recent te share ith repre	local gove
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indeper Council (Source: NISI Party SF	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587	Percentage 41.0%	st recent te share ith repre	t local gove for each of esentation ancil Seats
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indepersion of council (Source: NISI Party SF DUP	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587 9,723	Percentage 41.0% 17.6%	st recent te share ith repre	t local gove e for each of esentation mcil Seats 18
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indepersion Council (Source: NISI Party SF DUP UUP	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587 9,723 9,573	Percentage 41.0% 17.4%	st recent te share ith repre	t local gove for each of esentation ancil Seats 18 8 7
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indepersion Council (Source: NISI Party SF DUP UUP SDLP	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587 9,723 9,573 7,600	Percentage 41.0% 17.6% 13.8%	st recent te share ith repre	t local gove e for each of esentation of mcil Seats 18 8 7 6
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Political opinion	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indepersion of political party/ indepersion of political party/ indepersion of party Party SF DUP UUP SDLP Independent	nin Mid Ulster count the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587 9,723 9,573 7,600 2,689	Percentage 41.0% 17.6% 17.4% 13.8% 4.9%	st recent te share ith repre	t local gove for each of esentation in incil Seats 18 8 7 6
	opinion of people with council election in 20 political party/ indepersion in 20 political party/ indepersion in 20 political party/ indepersion in 20 political party/ indepension in 20 political party/ SF DUP UUP SDLP planted independent TUV Alliance	votes 22,587 9,723 9,573 7,600 2,689 2,380 250 195 Census the ove ied as 'white'. Within and so forth	Percentage 41.0% 17.6% 17.4% 13.8% 4.9% 4.3% 0.6% 0.4% whelming majority ithin this total will but a statistics indicate	country of the period of the p	t local gove e for each of esentation of mcil Seats 18 8 7 6 1 1 0 0 0

Other 2,280

The minority ethnic language profile within the area can serve as a possible indicator of the Black & 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:

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

Age

The age profile of Mid Ulster Local Government District area as at 2015 (Source, NISRA)

	Mid Uister	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

STATES AND THE CONTRACTION OF THE PROPERTY OF	Mid Ulster		Northe	rn Ireland
	No.	%	No	%
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

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%.

Region	Heterosexual / Straight	Gay/ Lesbian	Bisexual	Gay/ Lesblan/ 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%
N Ireland	93.00%	0.64%	0.96%	1.60%	0.26%	3.98%	1.17%
Total	92.80%	1.06%	0.51%	1.57%	0.32%	3.89%	1.42%

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).

Men &
women
generally

The gender profile of Mid Ulster LGD is detailed as;

	Mid	Mid Ulster		Ireland
ė.	No.	%	No.	%
Male	69,362	50.05	887,323	49.00
Female	69,228	49.95	923,540	51.00

Disability

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

	Mi	d 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

In Northern Ireland the profile of persons with a disability has been reported by Disability Action as;

- More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population have a disability
- 1 in 7 people have some form of hearing loss
- 5,000 persons use sign language British Sign Language and/or Irish Sign Language
- · There are 57,000 blind persons or persons with significant impairment
- 52,000 persons with learning difficulties

Dependants

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.

	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

Of the households in Mid Ulster Local Government District with dependent children, they can be summarised as;

- 7,407 families in households have 1 dependent child
- 6,394 families in households with two dependent children
- 5,014 families in households with three dependent children

There are 37,306 dependent children within families.

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	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their religious beliefs.
Political opinion	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their political opinion.
Racial group	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their racial group. However, details of the project can be made translated upon request for interested parties for whom English is not their first language.
Age	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their age.
	Children and Young People 23% of the population of the district are under 16, the number of young people aged under 16 is projected to increase by over 3,000 by the year 2037. This demonstrates that the area has a high level of young people with a projected increased within the programme period. Job opportunies for young people in rural areas were identified during the consultation process as lacking.
	Women
	49.95 of the population of Mid Ulster are women. Rural women are restricted by family responsibilities, mainly due to the physical tie of the farm businesses and are vulnerable to the location of off-farm employment opportunities. This demonstrates that local based employment opportunites in rural areas are required and rural women should be encouraged to develop opportunites for rural enterprise.
	Older People

	The over 60 population of Mid Ulster is expected to rise to 45,208 by 2037 (26.1% of the population). This is an increase of 80%. The number of people aged 85 and over in Mid Ulster is projected to increase by 250% to over 6,500 by 2037. Opportunites for improved service delivery focusing on those most vulnerable must be provided.
Marital status	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their marital status.
Sexual orientation	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their
Men and women generally	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective if they are men or women.
Disability	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Dependants	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.

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 <u>none</u> 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 <u>major</u> 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 <u>minor</u> 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:
- 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;
- 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.

Screening questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories (minor/ major/ none)

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Political opinion	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Racial group	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Age	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Marital status	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Sexual orientation	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None

Men and women generally	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Disability	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None
Dependants	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category. It is not considered have any impact relevant to the equality of opportunity of this group.	None

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within Section 75 equality categories? (Yes/ No)		
Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Political opinion		This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Racial group		This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.

Age	This project is intended to g benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Marital status	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Sexual orientation	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Men and women generally	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Disability	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Dependants	This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.

 Are there opportunities without prejudice, to the equalidaty, to better promote good relations between Section 7 categories, through tackling prejudice and/ or promoting (Yes/ No) 	5 equality	
	No	X

	Yes	
If yes, please detail the opportunities below:		
		reserve Management

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? (For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).
This project is intended to benefit of everyone irrespective of their status within this section 75 category.
Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.
N/A

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 - with no mitigating measures required	x
2	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - mitigating measures/ alternative policies introduced	
3	Shall be subject to an EQIA	

This project is intended to benefit of everyone. As the expected outcome of the project is a positive impact contributing to the overall equality of opportunity, an equality impact assessment is not required.

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.

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

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

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:

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	
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:

The project is in the early stages and is currently applying for funding to implement the various schemes. As funding becomes available the project will be monitored to ensure it does not negatively impact on equality.

Section 6 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Davina McCartney	Regeneration Manager	16.01.19
Approved by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Adrian McCreesh	Parland Director	24.08.20

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.



