

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

Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Guidance for Applicants

2. Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

New policy for Mid Ulster District Council

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

The aim of this new guidance is to ensure that the Council's Environmental Health Service implement its pavement café licensing regime in a manner that is fair and equitable to all sectors of the community who may be affected by such applications being granted.

This will be achieved by the following:

- Providing applicants with the appropriate advice and guidance on the application process and legal requirements;
- Providing applicants with the appropriate advice and guidance on the suitability criteria for a pavement café licence, which includes but is not restricted to:
 - o advice on the size and layout,
 - o boundaries,
 - o type of furniture,
 - o Environmental implications and other requirements
 - o Safety and control
 - Consumption of alcohol
 - o Management of above

And

 By consistency of approach from officers who are processing applications for pavement café licences and the enforcement of same.

4. Are there any Section 75 categories which might be	Yes	
expected to benefit from the intended policy?	No	Х

6. Who initiated or wrote the policy?

The 'Health and Safety, Public Safety & Licensing' section of the Environmental Health Service.

7. Who owns and who implements the policy?

Mid Ulster District Council's Environmental Health Service.

Implementation factors

	ACCUMANTAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY.	Yes	No
	ors which could contribute to/ detract from come of the policy?		
If yes, are they			Х
If yes, are they	legislative?	Х	
If yes, Please specify	 Legislative: Any future potential amendments to the P (NI) 2014 which may be made by the NI A example, in light of the Covid-19 situation communities desire to kick start the hospit increasing the number of outdoor seating and drink may be consumed in response Difficulties in undertaking appropriate stat due to time constraints and pressures on resources which outside the control of course 	Assembly. For and the butality industrians whe areas whe to public defectory constructions of their agents.	For usiness try by re food esire.
Other, Please specify			

Stakeholders

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

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

Others policies with a bearing on this policy

Policies	Owners
MUDC Enforcement Policy	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure

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	63.77% of the population were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.46% or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian religion. Other religions comprised 690 (0.5%) and None 3,153 (2.28%) of the population (Source: 2011 Census).					
	Religion or Religio	n brought up in		No.		%
	Catholic			88,37		63.77
	Protestant and Other Christian related)	er Christian (inclu	ding	46,37		33.46
	Other religions			690		0.5
	None			3,15		2.28
	Total			138,5		100
	Political party represe opinion of people with council election in 201 political party/ indeper	in Mid Ulster could the percentage ordents is detailed	ncil area. The 1 st preferer	ne most r	ecent lo share fo	ocal gove or each o
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	opinion of people with council election in 201 political party/ indeper Council (Source: NISF	in Mid Ulster could the percentage and ents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587	ncil area. The 1 st preferer bellowed al	ne most race vote ong with	recent lo share fo represo	ocal gove or each o entation cil Seats
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opinion Racial	opinion of people with council election in 201 political party/ indeper Council (Source: NISF Party SF DUP UUP SDLP Independent TUV Alliance UKIP According to the 2011 (98.48%) were classifi such as Polish, Lithua in Mid Ulster Local Go	in Mid Ulster could the percentage indents is detailed RA): Votes 22,587 9,723 9,573 7,600 2,689 2,380 250 195 Census the over ited as 'white'. With an and so forth	Percen 41.0 17.6 17.4 13.8 4.9 4.3 0.6 0.4 whelming mathin this tota	tage % % % % % % % % % % % % % % % % % % %	cecent loss hare for represent loss for the pomigrant that the Northern Nor	cil Seats 18 8 7 6 1 0 0 pulation commun

EU Countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia,	6,795	
Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia)		
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 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	Mid Ulster		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
n 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/ 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%
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
	No. %		No.	%
Male	72,958	50.2	887,323	49.00
Female	72,431	49.8	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

	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

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	None in relation to this policy.
Political opinion	None in relation to this policy.
Racial group	None in relation to this policy.
Age	 There is likely to be a minor impact on older people from the implementation of the pavement café licensing regime across the District, particularly those with mobility or visual impairment. Barriers / adequate screening should prevent pavement café customers from obstructing the pavement, which sometimes makes elderly and / or younger people feel uncomfortable when trying to pass. In most cases the transfer of food and / or drink to the outside area will be advised to be through the use of table service for those older people and others who find it difficult to carry cups, trays etc.
Marital status	None in relation to this policy.
Sexual orientation	None in relation to this policy.
Men and women generally	None in relation to this policy.
Disability	There is likely to be a minor impact on those members of the community who have a disability, particularly those with mobility issues or visual impairment.

about his filt of an election is caude the is	 Well-designed screening will aid the visually impaired to navigate safely around the pavement café areas. However, it is acknowledged that poorly designed barriers could be a trip hazard for the visually impaired and others. 	
	 Specifying a minimum width for public access will ensure that wheelchair users (and those with prams) can negotiate the pavements safely. 	
	 Specifying that tables and chairs should be sufficiently spaces to enable wheelchair / highchair / pram access will ensure that the sitting out areas can be used by all. 	
	 Licence holders will be required to remove tables, chairs and other associated structures from the public area after trading hours 	
Dependants	There is likely to be a minor impact on those members of the community with dependants. Those likely to be affected are those with young children in prams and those who have dependants that suffer from a physiological impairment.	
nearth photos in the description and although the	 Specifying a minimum width for public access will ensure that those with prams can negotiate the pavements safely. Specifying that tables and chairs should be sufficiently spaces to enable wheelchair / highchair / pram access 	
ा संस्था को असीचे का ने क्रिक्त क सहय कर्ती अंग्रेडिक	will ensure that the sitting out areas can be used by all.	

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:
- 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;
- 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 policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Political opinion	This policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Racial group	This policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Age	There is likely to be a minor impact on older people from the implementation of the pavement café licensing regime across the District, particularly those with mobility or visual impairment	Minor (negative)
Marital status	This policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Sexual orientation	This policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Men and women generally	This policy will be implemented on an equal basis	None
Disability	There is likely to be a minor impact on those members of the community who have a	Minor (negative)

	disability, particularly those with mobility issues or visual impairment. • Well-designed screening will aid the visually impaired to navigate safely around the pavement café areas. However, it is acknowledged that poorly designed barriers could be a trip hazard for the visually impaired and others. • Specifying a minimum width for public access will ensure that wheelchair users (and those with prams) can negotiate the pavements safely. • Specifying that tables and chairs should be sufficiently spaces to enable wheelchair / highchair / pram access will ensure that the sitting out areas can be used by all. • Licence holders will be required to remove tables, chairs and other associated structures from the public area after trading hours	
Dependants	There is likely to be a minor impact on those members of the community with dependants. Those likely to be affected are those with young children in prams and those who have dependants that suffer from a physiological impairment. • Specifying a minimum width for public access will ensure that those with prams can negotiate the pavements safely. • Specifying that tables and chairs should be sufficiently spaces to enable wheelchair / highchair / pram access will ensure that the sitting out areas can be used by all.	Minor (negative)

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		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No
Age		No
Marital status		No
Sexual orientation		No
Men and women generally		No
Disability		No
Dependants		No
duty, to better	r promote good relations betw	e, to the equality of opportunity een Section 75 equality or promoting understanding?
		No x
		Yes

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

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).
No – not applicable.
Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

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	
2	Shall not be subject to an EQIA - mitigating measures/ alternative policies introduced	X
3	Shall be subject to an EQIA	

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

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.

Given that minor negative has been identified for three groups (age, disability and dependants) mitigation measures will be put in place in order to limit the negative impact. Please see the mitigation section for details.

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

Mitigation measures in relation to this policy will include the following:

- This policy will be monitored/re-evaluated three months from its approval by Council. This is to ensure any negative impacts can be resolved at an early juncture in its implementation.
- Further consultation with voluntary and statutory groups representative of people with sight loss and physical disabilities will be carried out (in a more focused way than is currently possible) once COVID-19 restrictions are eased.

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:

Implementation of this guidance will be subject to ongoing monitoring and review as pavement café licence applications are received and processed on a case by case basis. As part of Council's mitigating measures this guidance will be formally reviewed three months from the date it is approved by Council.

Section 6 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
M Pattern	Principal Environmental Health Officer (Health and safety, Public Safety & Licensing)	22.6.20
Approved by:	Position/ Job Title	Date
Mae	Director of Public Health & Infrastructure	24/06/20

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.

Appendix A

Mid Ulster District Council Screening Process



