



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

# **Equality & Disability Duties Screening Template**

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# Screening flowchart and template (taken from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 – A Guide for public authorities April 2010 (*Appendix 1*)).

## Introduction

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

**Part 2. Screening questions** – asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Details of the groups consulted and the level of assessment of the likely impact. This includes consideration of multiple identity and good relations issues. This section also includes two questions related to the Disability Duties.

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

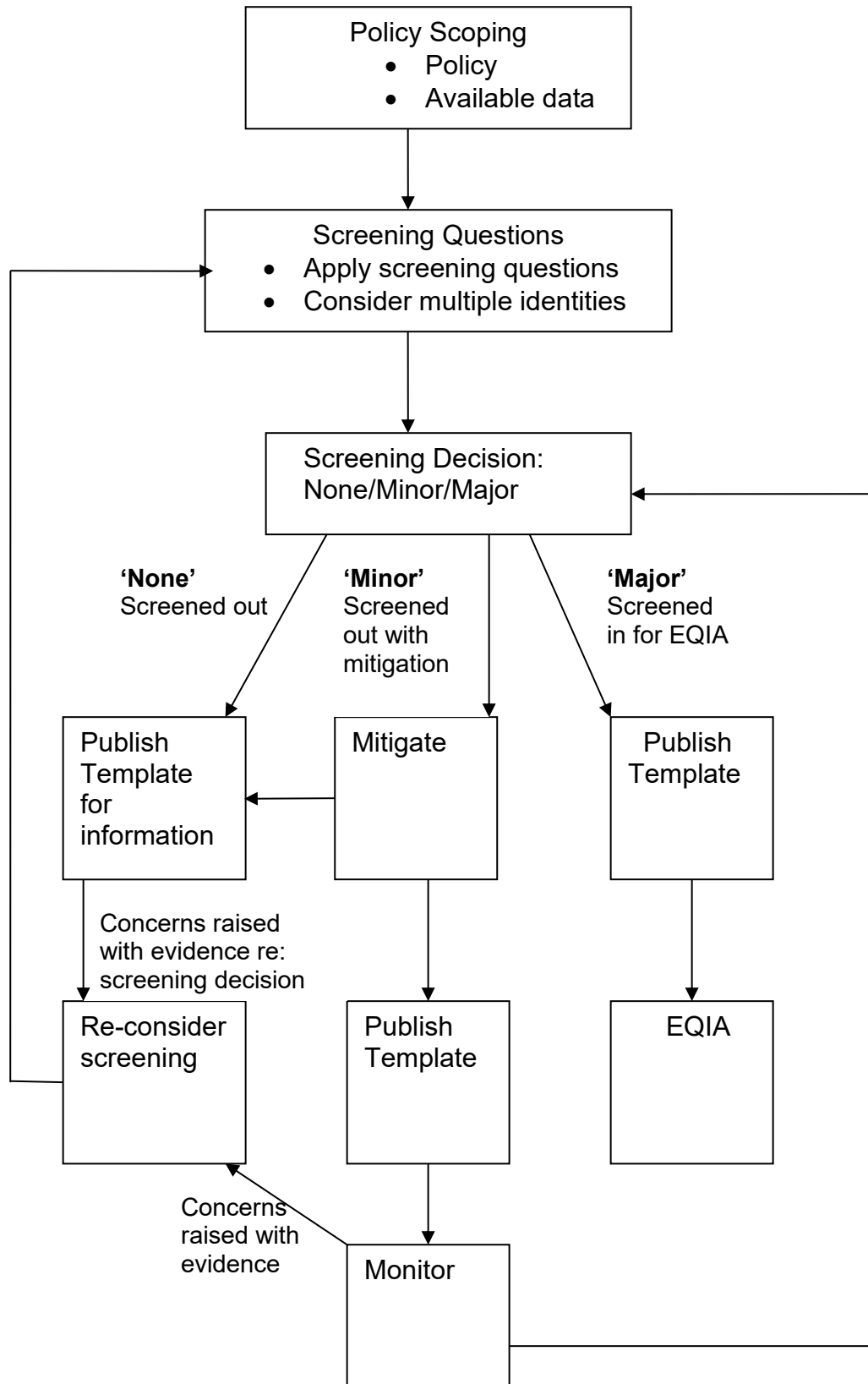
**Part 4. Monitoring** – provides guidance to public authorities on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.

**Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights** – please note this is not a Human Rights Screening form but rather a prompt that impacts on Human Rights should be considered.

**Part 6. Approval and authorisation** – verifies the public authority's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

A screening flowchart is provided overleaf.

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## **Part 1. Policy scoping**

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

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

### **Information about the policy**

#### **Name of the policy**

Sustainable Agriculture Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Policy

#### **Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?**

New policy

#### **What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)**

This policy aims to provide a structured process for all Sustainable Agriculture Programme monitoring and evaluation requirements. The policy describes the monitoring and evaluation processes of the Programme, Scheme and Project performance.

This is an internal policy. The implementation of this policy will require a small number of DAERA staff to implement new monitoring and evaluation procedures for schemes and projects.

This policy will introduce an annual report of results against specific environmental and economic indicators only which will be published on the Department's website. This report will demonstrate if the Sustainable Agriculture Programme's schemes and projects are having the positive impact on economic and environmental outcomes required. If the results demonstrate

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negative performance, schemes and projects will need to be reviewed and amended.

Within each of the Programme's individual schemes and projects, Workstreams are responsible for completing s75 screening for each scheme and project. Subsequently, should evaluation evidence require changes to a scheme or project, each relevant Workstream will be required to screen the amended policy for s75. Individual scheme and project s75 screening is undertaken separately to this screening exercise.

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

No. The policy is not specific or relevant to any particular Section 75 category.

**Who initiated or wrote the policy?**

Policy, Economics & Statistics Division/Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Branch in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

**Who owns and who implements the policy?**

Policy, Economics & Statistics Division in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs own the policy, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Branch are responsible for its implementation.

**Implementation factors**

**Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?**

**Yes**

**Resourcing** – Ability to deliver annual reports in a timely fashion due to staff resourcing.

**Communication** – Timely, accurate and clear communication between Sustainable Agriculture Programme workstreams to ensure compliance with the policy's methodology.

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## Main stakeholders affected

**Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon? (please delete as appropriate)**

**Staff** – Although DAERA staff, working on the Sustainable Agriculture Programme will implement the new monitoring and evaluation procedures they are not impacted by the policy. The implementation of the policy is not relevant to equality of opportunity in employment for staff and therefore will not materially impact any section 75 categories in relation to staff.

**Potential service users/rural community** – farmers and land managers. The implementation of this policy at this level is not relevant to equality of opportunity in service provision for service users/rural community. The policy will introduce a published annual report which will be published in line with the Department's Disability Discrimination (NI) Act 1995 Part 3 duties. The policy does not introduce any amended or new services other than the provision of a published report however, schemes and projects reporting results through this policy will undertake separate s75 screening exercises to assess the s75 impacts.

## Other policies with a bearing on this policy

### • What are they?

#### **DAERA Strategic Plan**

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Plan to 2050 "Sustainability for the Future"<sup>1</sup> published in 2021 outlines strategic priorities for the department:

- To enhance our food, forestry, fishery and farming sectors using efficient and environmentally sustainable models which support economic growth;

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<sup>1</sup> [Sustainability for the Future - "DAERA's Plan to 2050" | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://daera-ni.gov.uk)

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- To protect and enhance our natural environment now and for future generations whilst advocating its value to and wellbeing for all;
- To champion thriving rural communities that contribute to prosperity and wellbeing; and
- To be an exemplar, people focused organisation, committed to making a difference for the people we serve.

This policy aims to provide a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Sustainable Agriculture Programme which has a significant role in delivering against these priorities and underpins our Departmental purpose of 'Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone'.

## **Sustainable Agriculture Programme**

The Sustainable Agriculture Programme will help businesses, no matter where they farm, to maximise the sustainable returns they can achieve from the assets at their disposal. This vision has been shaped around four platforms: Land, Livestock, Infrastructure and People.

The vision for the Sustainable Agriculture Programme in Northern Ireland is defined around four outcomes;

1. Pursues enhanced productivity in international terms as a means to sustained profitability, closing the productivity gap which has been opening up with other major suppliers.
2. Is environmentally sustainable in terms of its impact on, and guardianship of, air and water quality, soil health and biodiversity, while making its fair contribution to achieving net zero carbon targets. This outcome is an integral part of the new Green Growth Strategy and associated Climate Action Plan.
3. Displays stronger resilience to external shocks (such as market and currency volatility, extreme weather events, etc.) which are ever more frequent and to which the industry has become very exposed.
4. Operates within an integrated, profitable, efficient, sustainable, competitive and effective functioning supply chain, with clear

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transmission of market signals and an overriding focus on high quality food and the end consumer.<sup>2</sup>

### **Environment Strategy<sup>3</sup>**

The Environment Strategy will set out Northern Ireland's environmental priorities for the coming decades. It will be used to form the basis for a coherent and effective set of interventions that can deliver real improvements in the quality of the environment. A draft Environment Strategy was published for public consultation on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **Nature Recovery Strategy**

This strategy is under development but will be based on the CBG Global Biodiversity Framework and will set the agenda up to 2032 for Northern Ireland nature recovery. It will consist of a high level framework which highlights those policies (existing and under development) which will address CBD requirements and will highlight gaps where new policies may be required.

### **Draft Ammonia Strategy<sup>4</sup>**

The draft Ammonia Strategy was released for public consultation in January 2023. It sets out the reduction targets and farm measures to be used to work towards these targets. This strategy is inextricably linked to the Sustainable Agriculture Programme as the Agriculture industry contributes 97% of Northern Ireland's Ammonia emissions. The Sustainable Agriculture Programme will support the adoption of the measures outlined in the Ammonia Strategy.

### **Green Growth Strategy<sup>5</sup>**

Green Growth is an over-arching, multi-decade Strategy which sets out the long-term vision and a solid framework for tackling the climate crisis by balancing climate action with the need for a clean, resilient environment and economy. It has been developed by all Ministers and Government departments working together, in collaboration with external stakeholders from local government, the private sector, voluntary and community sectors

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<sup>2</sup> [Farm Support and Development: Vision | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Environment Strategy Consultation | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Draft Ammonia Strategy for Northern Ireland Consultation | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Consultation on the draft Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#)

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and others. The strategy will be delivered through a series of Climate Action Plans, which will set out the actions to meet sector-specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emission targets to deliver a cleaner environment rich in biodiversity; delivering a more efficient use of resources within a circular economy; and green jobs.

### **Food Strategy<sup>6</sup>**

DAERA has been leading on the development of a Northern Ireland Food Strategy Framework. This Framework has been developed collaboratively with officials across Northern Ireland Departments and other interested parties and is complementary to the Agricultural Policy Framework, extending issues relating to food production and consumption out into other areas of government policy. The draft Food Strategy Framework recognises the interconnectedness between food, health, the economy and the environment. It proposes a new strategic food systems approach for Northern Ireland, and sets out a long-term vision, high level principles and areas for strategic focus. The vision is a transformed food system that protects natural resources for future generations, is economically and environmentally sustainable and provides safe, nourishing, accessible food to people, who make informed healthy choices.

### **Climate Action Plan<sup>7</sup>**

The draft Climate Action Plan will be shaped by cross-departmental input on policies and proposals to reduce Northern Ireland's emissions and deliver effective decarbonisation actions across key sectors. It will also consider, amongst others, key issues of Just Transition, behavioural change, science and evidence, innovation, climate resilience, soil quality, air quality and biodiversity. In developing the draft Climate Action Plan, departments will also assess the impacts associated with the proposed policies and proposals. Stakeholders' views on the CCC Advice Report gathered as part of this process will help inform the development of the Climate Action Plan.

## **• Who owns them?**

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<sup>6</sup> [Northern Ireland Food Strategy Framework Consultation | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://daera-ni.gov.uk)

<sup>7</sup> [Consultation on Northern Ireland's 2030 & 2040 Emissions Reduction Targets & First Three Carbon Budgets & Seeking views on Climate Change Committee \(CCC\) Advice Report: The path to a Net Zero Northern Ireland | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://daera-ni.gov.uk) (currently out for consultation).

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DAERA owns the Sustainable Agriculture Programme, the Environment Strategy, the Nature Recovery Strategy and the Ammonia Strategy.

DAERA is co-designing the Green Growth Strategy and Delivery Framework on behalf of the NI Executive.

DAERA leads on the development of the cross Departmental Food Strategy Framework, bringing together the relevant officials from other NI Departments and from FSA NI.

### Available evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data. The Commission has produced this guide to [signpost to S75 data](#).

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

*Please ensure all data used is the most current and up to date available. You should verify this by contacting the Departmental Statisticians.*

### Religious belief evidence/information:

The 2021 Census indicated that religious beliefs across the NI community are 45.7% Catholic and 43.5% Protestant and Other Christian and 1.5% from non-Christian religions.<sup>8</sup> The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (2022), the DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators Report October 2018 ('Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers') and the 2021 Census of Northern Ireland (phase 1). In the 2022 Life and Times Survey 36% of the respondents viewed themselves as part of the Protestant Community, 32% as Catholic and 32% as neither.<sup>9</sup>

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018 ('Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers') stated that 51% of farms in Northern Ireland were farmed by a member of the Protestant community and 42% by a member of the

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<sup>8</sup> [Census 2021 main statistics religion tables | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> [NI Life and Times Survey - 2022 : RELIGION \(ark.ac.uk\)](#)

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Catholic community.<sup>10</sup> Farmers from the Catholic community are more likely to tend very small farms with 85% of Catholic farmers tending very small farms compared with 68% of Protestants. A larger proportion of the Protestant community tend large farms while the proportion of the Catholic community who tend large farms is smaller, at 10% and 2% respectively.<sup>11</sup> Catholic farmers were also more likely to be engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, with over three quarters (77%) engaged in this type of farming activity compared with less than half (45%) of Protestant farmers. In contrast, a much higher proportion of Protestant (16%) than Catholic (5%) farmers were dairy farmers, and twice as many Protestant (25%) as Catholic (12%) farmers were lowland cattle and sheep farmers.<sup>12</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Political Opinion** evidence/information:

In the most recent NI Assembly election (May 2022) 63.6% of eligible voters turned out on the day. Of those who voted 29% give their first preference vote to the largest nationalist party and 21% give their first preference vote to the largest Unionist party. However, overall, a marginally higher share of the vote went to unionist parties<sup>13</sup>.

Information on political opinion was not collected in the 2021 or 2011 Census of Northern Ireland. However, national identity can be used a proxy indicator for Nationalist/Unionist divide. In the 2021 Census 31.9% of people in Northern Ireland considered themselves to be British only, 29.1% as Irish only and 19.8% as Northern Irish only. In the DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators Report 2018 similar figures were reported, with 44% of farmers have reported their identity as British only, 26% as Irish only and 23% as Northern Irish only with 8% stating another identity or a combination of more than one identity.<sup>14</sup>

A higher proportion of those stating an Irish only or Northern Irish only identity farmed on very small farms (85% and 81% respectively) than those stating a

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<sup>10</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 33).

<sup>11</sup> See above (figure 32).

<sup>12</sup> See above (figure 34).

<sup>13</sup> [Northern Ireland Assembly Election Results 2022 - BBC News](#)

<sup>14</sup> See above (figure 39).

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British only identity (69%). In contrast, the proportion of those stating a British only identity farming on large farms (9%) was more than double that of those who stated Irish only (2%) or Northern Irish only (4%) identities. High proportions of dairy farmers (62%) and those engaged in mixed farming (63%) stated a British only identity. More than three quarters of those describing their identity as Irish only (77%) and two-thirds of those with a Northern Irish only (68%) identity were engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, compared to less than half (48%) of farmers of British only identity.<sup>15</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Racial Group** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland indicated that 96.6% of the population are white (a breakdown of the ethnicity of rural populations as indicated in the 2021 census is expected late 2023).<sup>16</sup> DAERA's Equality Indicators Report (2018) stated the proportion of farmers stating an ethnicity other than white was too small to examine differences by farm characteristics.

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021 figures indicate that 4% of the population was born within the EU but outside the UK and Ireland.<sup>17</sup> A small number of migrant workers are employed within the farming industry.

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Age** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland showed that the NI population is an aging population with the population aged 65 and over increasing by 24% since 2011, the largest increase seen in across all age bands. The 65 and over age band

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<sup>15</sup> See above (figure 38).

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/system/files/statistics/census-2021-ms-b01.xlsx>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/Population.XLSX> (Population sheet 9)

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consists of 326,500 people and accounts for 17% of the population. In contrast the are 365,200 children aged 0-14 years, accounting for 19% of the populations.<sup>17</sup>

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that 36% of principal farmers are 65 years and over with 8% under forty years of age, with the average age being 59 years.<sup>18</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Marital Status** evidence/information:

The Northern Ireland Census 2021 showed that 45.8% of the population were married or in a civil partnership, and 38.1% were single.<sup>19</sup>

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that around 73% of all farmers are married and living with a wife/husband.<sup>20</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Sexual Orientation** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census for Northern Ireland indicates that 90% of the population considers themselves as heterosexual or straight. The results also indicate that 1.2% of the population consider themselves to be gay or lesbian, 0.6% bisexual and 0.2% of other sexual orientations. A significant percentage, around 8%, of the population did not state their orientation or preferred not to state it.<sup>21</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide

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<sup>18</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 7)

<sup>19</sup> [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin - Marital or civil partnership status & Household relationships \(couples\) \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#), p. 7.

<sup>20</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 13)

<sup>21</sup> [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin - Sexual orientation \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#), p. 6.

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S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Men & Women generally** evidence/information:

The 2021 Northern Ireland Census showed that 51% of the population were female and 49% male. Results indicated that 0.8% of the female population were employed in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industries, in contrast with 4% of the male population.<sup>22</sup>

The number of self-employed (aged 16+) in Northern Ireland was estimated at 127,200 in 2021, equivalent to just over 15% of all employed people aged 16+. Self-employment was more likely among employed men than women, 21% of all employed men were self-employed, compared with 8% of all employed women.<sup>23</sup>

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators 2018 data showed that 91% of farmers in Northern Ireland are males. Female farmers were more likely than their male counterparts to farm on very small farms - 87% of women farmers had small farms compared to 75% of male farmers. Farmers engaged in 'other types' of farming (such as running specialist horse farms) were twice as likely to be women as were farmers engaged in other activity types.<sup>24</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Disability** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census for Northern Ireland showed that 11.5% of the population found their day-to-day activities to be limited a lot due to a disability and 12.9% found their activities limited a little.<sup>25</sup> In Northern Ireland 24.3% of the population have some form of disability; amongst farmers this figure is higher. The DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators 2018 data indicates that almost a third of farmers

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/system/files/statistics/census-2021-ms-h06.xlsx>

<sup>23</sup> [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin – Labour Market](#), pg10

<sup>24</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 1).

<sup>25</sup> [Census 2021 Main statistics for Northern Ireland - Statistical bulletin - Health \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#), p. 17.

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(30%) suffered from a disability limiting their day to day activities.<sup>26</sup> The proportion of farmers of very small farms stating that their activities were limited a lot (16%) was twice that of farmers of large farms (8%). Farmers in disadvantaged areas (16%) were slightly more likely than lowland farmers (12%) to state that their activities were limited.<sup>27</sup> Some of the differences in farm characteristics by disability may be partly due to the variation in age profiles of those with and without disabilities. The incidence of those reporting that their activities were limited either a little or a lot rises with age.<sup>28</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

### **Dependants** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census for Northern Ireland found that 44.2% of household in NI had dependent children (Those aged 0-15 and person aged 16-18 who is unmarried and in full time non-advanced education).<sup>29</sup>

The most recent data from the 2018 DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators report revealed that almost 40% of households supported by family farms included one or more dependants.<sup>30</sup> Households of medium sized farms were slightly more likely than smaller or larger farms to contain dependants, as were the households of farmers engaged in pig, poultry or mixed farming.<sup>31</sup>

Although staff will implement this policy, their equality of opportunity in employment is not materially impacted. It also wouldn't be prudent to provide S75 data as the staff would be easily identifiable due to the small numbers of staff involved.

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<sup>26</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 25).

<sup>27</sup> See above.

<sup>28</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure B)

<sup>29</sup> [https://build.nisra.gov.uk/en/custom/data?d=HOUSEHOLD&v=HH\\_DEPENDENT\\_CHILDREN\\_IND](https://build.nisra.gov.uk/en/custom/data?d=HOUSEHOLD&v=HH_DEPENDENT_CHILDREN_IND)

<sup>30</sup> [Equality indicators Report | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](#) (figure 19).

<sup>31</sup> See above (figure 19, figure 21)

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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 of the needs, experiences and priorities for each of the Section 75 categories below:**

### ***Religious belief***

The policy is “religious neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the religious belief category. There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular religious belief. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Political Opinion***

The policy is “political opinion neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the political opinion category. There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular political opinion. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Racial Group***

The policy is “racial group neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the racial group category. There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular racial group. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Age***

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The policy is “age neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities people within the age category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular age. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Marital status***

The policy is “marital status neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the marital status category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular marital status. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Sexual orientation***

The policy is “sexual orientation neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the sexual orientation category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular sexual orientation status. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Men and Women Generally***

The policy is “gender neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the gender category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular gender. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams.as part of their s75 screening duty.

### ***Disability***

The policy is “disability neutral” as it is not perceived to address people’s needs experiences and priorities within the disability category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder of a particular disability status.

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However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

To ensure the needs of disabled people are taken into consideration the annual report will be made available in alternative formats on request in line with the Department's Disability Discrimination (NI) Act 1995 Part 3 duties.

### ***Dependants***

The policy is "dependant neutral" as it is not perceived to have any differential impacts on people's needs experiences and priorities within the dependant's category.

There is no evidence available at this time that would suggest the policy will disproportionately affect any stakeholder with or without dependents. However, should annual results demonstrate that schemes and projects need to be reviewed and amended, further s75 screening will be conducted by individual Workstreams as part of their s75 screening duty.

## **Part 2. Screening questions**

### **Introduction**

In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, the public authority should consider its answers to the questions 1-4.

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

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

If the public authority's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories and/or good relations categories, then

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consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

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

### **In favour of a 'major' impact**

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

### **In favour of 'minor' impact**

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

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## In favour of none

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

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

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## 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?

Please provide details of the likely policy impacts and determine the level of impact for each S75 categories below i.e. either minor, major or none.

#### **Details of the likely policy impacts on *Religious belief*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Religious Belief category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

#### **Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Political Opinion category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

#### **Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Racial Group category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

#### **Details of the likely policy impacts on *Age*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Age category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and

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will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Marital Status*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Marital Status category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Sexual Orientation*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Sexual Orientation category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Men and Women*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Men and Women category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Disability*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Disability category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** None

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**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Dependants*:**

This policy is considered to have no differential impact on the Dependants category. It is concerned with the internal processes used to evaluate performance and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**What is the level of impact?** **None**

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

Detail opportunities of how this policy could promote equality of opportunity for people within each of the Section 75 Categories below:

**Religious Belief**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA’s internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to religious belief are identified at this time.

**Political Opinion**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA’s internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to political opinion are identified at this time.

**Racial Group**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA’s internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to racial group are identified at this time.

**Age**

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**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to age are identified at this time.

**Marital Status**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to marital status are identified at this time.

**Sexual Orientation**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to sexual orientation are identified at this time.

**Men and Women generally**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to men and women generally are identified at this time.

**Disability**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to disability are identified at this time.

**Dependants**

**No**

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities for better promotion of equality related to dependants are identified at this time.

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3. **To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

Please provide details of the likely policy impact and determine the level of impact for each of the categories below i.e. either minor, major or none.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Religious belief*:**

This policy is considered to have no impact on good relations in the Religious Belief category.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*:**

This policy is considered to have no impact on good relations in the Political Opinion category.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:**

This policy is considered to have no impact on good relations in the Racial Group category.

**What is the level of impact?** None

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

No

Detail opportunities of how this policy could better promote good relations for people within each of the Section 75 Categories below:

***Religious Belief***

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious beliefs are identified at this time.

***Political Opinion***

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The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different political opinions are identified at this time.

### ***Racial Group***

The policy will direct DAERA's internal processes for monitoring and evaluation. No opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different racial groups are identified at this time.

## **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? If so, please detail below.

**No**

*(For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).*

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

The policy is focused on monitoring and evaluation and there is no aspect of the policy relevant to better promote equality of opportunity in persons with multiple identities.

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the [Disability Discrimination Order](#). Questions 5 – 6 relate to these.

## **Consideration of Disability Duties**

5. **Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity for DAERA to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?**

**No**

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The policy is focused on monitoring and evaluation. At this time there is no aspect of the policy relevant to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people.

6. **Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity to actively increase the participation by disabled people in public life?**

**No**

The policy is focused on monitoring and evaluation. At this time there is no aspect of the policy relevant to better increase the participation by disabled people in public life.

### **Part 3. Screening decision**

The policy is screened out without mitigation. There is no need to adopt an alternative policy.

**If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.**

This is an internal DAERA policy intended for use by a small number of DAERA staff.

Current policies are already section 75 compliant. The new policy will have no impacts on the section 75 categories; EQIA not required.

**If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment the public authority should consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced - please provide details.**

N/A

**If the decision is to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.**

**N/A**

All public authorities' equality schemes must state the authority's arrangements for assessing and consulting on the likely impact of policies adopted or proposed to be adopted by the authority on the promotion of equality of opportunity. The Commission recommends screening and equality impact assessment as the tools to be utilised for such assessments. Further advice on

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equality impact assessment may be found in a separate Commission publication: [A Practical Guide to Equality Impact Assessment](#)

## Mitigation

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

**Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations? No**

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

**N/A**

## Timetabling and prioritising

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

If the policy has been ‘**screened in**’ for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

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

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	N/A
Social need	N/A

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Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on people's daily lives	N/A
Relevance to a public authority's functions	N/A
<b>Total score</b>	N/A

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the public authority in timetabling. Details of the Public Authority's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the quarterly Screening Report.

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

**No**

**If yes, please provide details.**

**N/A**

## Part 4. Monitoring

**Section 75 places a requirement on DAERA to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services etc; and to help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity. Please note the following excerpt from The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland in relation to monitoring:**

*A system must be established to monitor the impact of the policy in order to find out its effect on relevant groups. The results of ongoing monitoring must be reviewed on an annual basis. The public authority is required to publish the results of this monitoring. And they must be included in the public authorities' annual review on progress to the Equality Commission. The Equality Scheme must specify how and where such monitoring information will be published. It is therefore essential that monitoring is carried out in a systematic manner and that the results are widely and openly published.*

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*If the monitoring and analysis of results over a two year period show that the policy results in greater adverse impact than predicted, or if opportunities arise which would allow for greater equality of opportunity to be promoted, the public authority must ensure that the policy is revised to achieve better outcomes for the relevant equality groups.*

Further advice on monitoring can be found at: [ECNI Monitoring Guidance for Public Authorities](#)

**Outline what data you will collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy or decision on equality, good relations and disability duties.**

This is an internal DAERA policy intended for use by internal staff. A DAERA Annual Report will be compiled annually from 2026/2027 and will consider the impact of this policy on equality. No data will be collected directly by Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Branch on equality impact.

**Equality: None**

**Good Relations: None**

**Disability Duties: None**

## **Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights**

**6. The Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998 brings the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and it applies in N Ireland. Indicate below by deleting Yes/No as appropriate, any potential adverse impacts that the policy or decision may have in relation to human rights issues.**

See Annex A for brief synopsis on each of the Human Rights Articles & Protocols

Right to Life

**Article 2**

No

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Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment	<b>Article 3</b>	No
Prohibition of slavery and forced labour	<b>Article 4</b>	No
Right to liberty and security	<b>Article 5</b>	No
Right to a fair and public trial	<b>Article 6</b>	No
Right to no punishment without law	<b>Article 7</b>	No
Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	<b>Article 8</b>	No
Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	<b>Article 9</b>	No
Right to freedom of expression	<b>Article 10</b>	No
Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association	<b>Article 11</b>	No
Right to marry and to found a family	<b>Article 12</b>	No
The prohibition of discrimination	<b>Article 14</b>	No
Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions	<b>Protocol 1 Article 1</b>	No
Right to education	<b>Protocol 1 Article 2</b>	No
Right to free and secret elections	<b>Protocol 1 Article 3</b>	No

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**8. Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified**

No adverse impacts on Human Rights have been identified.

**9. Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights**

No opportunity to positively promote human rights has been identified.

**Part 6 - Approval and authorisation**

**Screening Checklist**

Before signing off this screening template please confirm that you have completed all the actions listed below.

I can confirm that all the actions listed below have been completed –

- I have explained any technical issues in plain English (easily understood by a 12 year old)
- I have used the most relevant, current & up to date data available
- I have added evidence and explained my assessments in full
- I have provided a brief note to justify my decision to ‘Screen In’ or ‘Screen Out’
- A copy of this screening template and the final decision has been sent to the Equality Unit for their consideration before it has been forwarded for sign-off

**Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -**

**Name:** Georgina Fulton

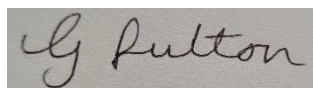
**Grade:** Staff Officer (TP)

**Branch:** Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Branch

**Division:** Policy, Economics and Statistics Division (PESD)

**Date** 19/02/2024

**Signature:**



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**Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3/Deputy Secretary or above) -**

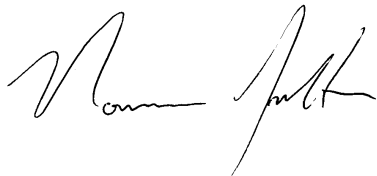
**Name:** Norman Fulton

**Grade:** 3

**Branch:** Food, Farming and Rural Affairs Group

**Date:** 3/4/24

**Signature:** please insert a scanned image of your signature



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 public authority's website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the CM container (AE2-19-11940) below as soon as possible after completion and forward the CM link to Equality Branch at [equality@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equality@daera-ni.gov.uk). The screening template must be saved to the container in **HTML format** (not PDF) in order to comply with accessibility requirements. The screening form will be placed on the DAERA website and a link provided to the Department's Section 75 consultees.



Strategic  
Management DAERA

For more information about equality screening, contact –

DAERA Equality Unit  
Staff Engagement, Equality & Diversity Branch  
Jubilee House  
111 Ballykelly Road  
LIMAVADY  
BT49 9HP

Email: [equality@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equality@daera-ni.gov.uk)

[Tel: 028 7744 2027](tel:02877442027)

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Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

## **Annex A**

### **Synopsis of Human Rights Act Articles & Protocols**

#### **ARTICLE 2**

##### ***Right to life***

1. Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law. No one shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of a sentence of a court following his conviction of a crime for which this penalty is provided by law.
2. Deprivation of life shall not be regarded as inflicted in contravention of this Article when it results from the use of force which is no more than absolutely necessary:
  - (a) In defense of any person from unlawful violence;
  - (b) In order to effect a lawful arrest or to prevent the escape of a person lawfully detained;
  - (c) In action lawfully taken for the purpose of quelling a riot or insurrection.

#### **ARTICLE 3**

##### ***Prohibition of torture***

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

##### ***Prohibition of slavery and forced labour***

1. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.
2. No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.
3. For the purpose of this Article the term "forced or compulsory labour" shall not include:

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- (a) Any work required to be done in the ordinary course of detention imposed according to the provisions of Article 5 of this Convention or during conditional release from such detention;
- (b) Any service of a military character or, in case of conscientious objectors in countries where they are recognised, service exacted instead of compulsory military service;
- (c) Any service exacted in case of an emergency or calamity threatening the life or well-being of the community;
- (d) Any work or service which forms part of normal civic obligations.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### ***Right to liberty and security***

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law:
  - (a) The lawful detention of a person after conviction by a competent court;
  - (b) The lawful arrest or detention of a person for non-compliance with the lawful order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation prescribed by law;
  - (c) the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence or when it is reasonably considered necessary to prevent his committing an offence or fleeing after having done so;
  - (d ) the detention of a minor by lawful order for the purpose of educational supervision or his lawful detention for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority;
  - (e) The lawful detention of persons for the prevention of the spreading of infectious diseases, of persons of unsound mind, alcoholics or drug addicts or vagrants;
  - (f) The lawful arrest or detention of a person to prevent his effecting an unauthorised entry into the country or of a person against whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or extradition.
2. Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a language which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.

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3. Everyone arrested or detained in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1(c) of this Article shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorised by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release pending trial. Release may be conditioned by guarantees to appear for trial.
4. Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.
5. Everyone who has been the victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this Article shall have an enforceable right to compensation.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### ***Right to a fair trial***

1. In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interest of morals, public order or national security in a democratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly necessary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.
2. Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.
3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:
  - (a) To be informed promptly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him;

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- (b) To have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defense;
- (c) To defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of justice so require;
- (d) To examine or have examined witnesses against him and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on his behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against him;
- (e) To have the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

##### ***No punishment without law***

1. No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed.
2. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

##### ***Right to respect for private and family life***

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for

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the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### ***Freedom of thought, conscience and religion***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance.
2. Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### ***Freedom of expression***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.
2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

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## **ARTICLE 11**

### ***Freedom of assembly and association***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This Article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### ***Right to marry***

Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and to found a family, according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### ***Prohibition of discrimination***

The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.

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## **Protocol 1**

### ***ARTICLE 1***

#### ***Protection of property***

Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law. The preceding provisions shall not, however, in any way impair the right of a State to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest or to secure the payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties.

## **Protocol 1**

### ***ARTICLE 2***

#### ***Right to education***

No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.

## **Protocol 1**

### ***ARTICLE***

#### ***3 Right to free elections***

The High Contracting Parties undertake to hold free elections at reasonable intervals by secret ballot, under conditions which will ensure the free expression of the opinion of the people in the choice of the legislature

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