**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS**

**Equality and Human Rights**

**Screening Template**



**DAERA Equality** and **Human Rights**

# Screening Template

DAERA has a statutory duty to screen. This includes our strategies and plans, policies, legislative developments; and new ways of working such as – the introduction, change or end of an existing service, grant funding arrangement or facility. This screening template is designed to help business areas consider the likely equality and human rights impacts of their proposed decisions on different groups of customers, service users, staff and visitors.

Before carrying out an equality screening exercise it is important that you have received the necessary training and know the current effective guidance first (see HPRM (Trim) link below for Guidance Document). To find out about the training needed, contact - [equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk). All screening exercises must be supported by evidence and Quality Assured by Equality Unit prior to being cleared at Grade 3 level.



The accompanying Screening Guidance note provides straightforward advice on how to carry out equality screening exercises. Detailed information about the Section 75 equality duties**[[1]](#footnote-1)** and what they mean in practice is available on the Equality Commission’s website.

Please note: Only plain English**[[2]](#footnote-2)** should be used in all sections of this document.

The screening template has 4 sections to complete. These are:

**Section A** - asks you to provide details about the policy / decision that is being screened.

**Section B** - has 4 key questions that require you to outline the likely impacts on equality groups, and all supporting evidence.

**Section C** - has 4 key questions in relation to obligations under the Disability Discrimination Order and the Human Rights Act.

**Section D** - is the formal record of the screening decision.

Section A

Details about the policy / decision to be screened – In plain English

|  |
| --- |
| Title of policy / decision to be screened:- Equine Identification - Horse Passports Regulations |

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| --- |
| Brief description of policy / decision to be screened:-  New European Union Commission regulations on equine identification entered into force on 1 January 2016. They are directly applicable to all Member States. DAERA as the Competent Authority in Northern Ireland is required to make legislation to enable the new EU regulations by setting out penalties, offences and implementing derogations for Northern Ireland. New Northern Ireland regulations are needed to replace the existing Horse Passports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010, and it is these regulations that need to be screened.  All equines when identified in Northern Ireland must be issued with a horse passport which is to remain with the horse at all times throughout the life time of the horse. Since 1 July 2009 it has been a requirement for equines to be implanted with a transponder (microchip) when they are first identified.  Although many of the requirements in the new EU regulations, EU 2015/262, remain the same or similar they introduce some new requirements including a mandatory central database for equine identification in each Member State, a requirement for the owner or keeper to notify modifications to a horse’s identification and measures to strengthen the security of the horse passport. The new requirements are relatively modest and, hence, any potential differential effect would also be modest in absolute terms. |

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| Aims and objectives of the policy / decision to be screened:- The primary purpose of equine identification is to ensure that horse meat produced in the EU is safe for human consumption. The policy will seek to stay as close to the existing arrangements in Northern Ireland along with any new EU requirements.  The policy will seek to ensure that equines are identified in line with the requirements in the EU legislation and that horse owners can use the horse passports for the purposes that they do now and that meat horses entering the food chain have not been treated with medicines that could be harmful to human health. |

|  |
| --- |
| **On whom will the policy / decision impact?**  Consider the internal and external impacts (both actual or potential)  Staff impact as regards implementing and enforcing the policy  X    service users as regards familiarisation with the new regulations  X  rural community as most horse owners and businesses are located in rural areas  X  there will be an impact with regards to familiarisation with the new regulations  other public sector organisations that are involved with the equine sector  X  X  voluntary / community groups / trade unions that are involved in the equine sector  others, please specify |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Are there linkages to other NI Departments / NDPBs? *Under the new Programme for Government there is an emphasis on shared responsibility between departments & this should be considered when answering this question.*  There will be some linkage to the Department of Justice as there are offences in the legislation though the policy does not introduce new penalties. The PSNI which deals with horses abandoned on roads and the District Councils that are responsible for welfare of horses may have some linkage to the ability to more easily identify owners of abandoned horses if they are registered on the central database.  Sport NI which is an NDPB of The Department for Communities and Tourism NI which is an NDPB of the Department for Economy have linkages to the equine sector as regards sport and tourism activities but the policy will not have any impact on their responsibilities. |

Section B

**Available evidence**

What evidence or information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Set out all evidence below along with details of the different groups you have met and or consulted with to help inform your screening assessment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 75 category** | **Details of evidence or information and engagement** |
| **Religious belief** | The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland shows that 40.76% of the population stated that their religion was Roman Catholic and 41.56% of the population stated their religion as Protestant or other Christian with 16.87 % not stating a religious belief.  Data from the farm census survey 2017 showed the number of horses and ponies kept on farms as 9,635. That total includes horses owned by the farmer and those owned by a third party. The 2001/02 Social Survey of Farmers and Farm Families (the most recent survey) found that the majority of farmers in Severely Disadvantaged Areas (SDA) were Catholic. Those in Disadvantage Areas (DA) were around 50/50 split of Catholic and Protestant and those in neither were predominately Protestant.  The 2017 Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland showed that 21% of horses kept on farms were on an SDA Farm with 28% kept on DA farms and 51% in neither SDA nor DA.  However, the total of 9,635 horses recorded in the Farm Census relates only to around 27% of past estimates for total horse numbers in Northern Ireland. Therefore, there is not a close correlation between the farmer population and the population of horse owners.   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Mainly SDA | Mainly DA | Mainly Non LFA | NI Total | | Owned by occupier | 1,783 | 2,220 | 3,850 | 7,853 | | Not Owned by occupier | 266 | 468 | 1,048 | 1,782 |   *Table: Horses/ ponies kept on farms by LFA category June 2017* |
| **Political opinion** | Equality Commission monitoring guidelines for public authorities suggest that community background or religion is a reasonable proxy indicator for the Unionist and Nationalist divide. Applying this principle to the likely impact of the policy as detailed above suggests that the policy will not have a material differential impact on equality of opportunity in terms of political opinion. |
| **Racial group** | The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland found that over 98% of residents are ethnically white. Likewise the 2001/02 Social Survey of Farmers found that the racial group for farmers was overwhelmingly white. |
| **Age** | Indications are that there is a wide range of ages involved in equestrianism. The age of respondents to the Baseline Study of the Northern Ireland Equine Industry 2015/16 carried out by CAFRE were 32% ages 45+, 23% ages 25-34 and 22% ages 35-44. Defra’s 2004 Study ‘A report of research on the horse industry in Great Britain’ found that the age profile of those interested in horse related activities was 44% for ages 45+, 19% 35-44 and 17% 25-34%. The British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) 2015 National Equestrian Survey found that 19% of riders were 45+ and 27% under 16. |
| **Marital status** | The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland found that 48% of the population aged over 16 are in a marriage or same sex civil partnership. A further 4% are separated. We have not found any figures specific to marital status in relation to participation in the equine sector. |
| **Sexual orientation** | There are no data on the number of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) persons in Northern Ireland as no national census has ever asked people to define their sexuality. Information provided by sexual orientation groups in response to the pre-consultation on the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 suggested a figure of 10% of the population being LGB. |
| **Men & women generally** | Respondents to the Baseline Study of the Northern Ireland Equine Industry 2015/16 were 77% female and the BETA 2015 Equestrian Survey found that 74% of riders in Great Britain were female.  Defra’s 2004 study found that those interested (included watching and reading about horse related activities) in horse-related issues was 49% female and 51% male but the figure for those participating in riding dropped to 17% for males.  In contrast there is evidence that the thoroughbred sector is much more male dominated. In terms of this policy it is likely that it is breeders/owners and trainers that will be affected, although the effect will be minor, by horse passport legislation. The trainers listed on the Irish Thoroughbred Marketing website’s find a trainer section 81% of those in Northern Ireland are male.  Clayton-Hathway,K and Manfredi, (2017) Women’s representation and diversity in the horseracing industry, Oxford: Centre for Diversity Policy Research and Practice, Oxford Brookes University showed that in terms of breeders in Great Britain and Ireland where gender could be identified 48.5% were male and 18.3% female. |
| **Disability** | The charity Riding for The Disabled Northern Ireland region is very active with 28 groups and reports that a 1000 participants ride and drive all over Northern Ireland assisted by nearly a 1000 volunteers. The charity works directly with 18 care centres, 40 schools and individuals to help those who can benefit from the therapy riding and driving offers. |
| **Dependants** | There is no specific evidence in relation to horse passports and people with or without dependants. |

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| **No evidence held? Outline how you will obtain it:**  DAERA has commissioned a review of the equine sector in Northern Ireland and this is currently being undertaken by Deloitte Consulting. Any evidence from that report that indicates any negative impact will allow the Department to give further consideration to the equality impact of this policy.  A consultation on the policy will be held and we will consider any further evidence arising from that consultation. |

1. **What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? What is the level of impact?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 75 category** | **Details of likely impact** | **Level of impact? Minor/Major/None** |
| **Religious belief** | The amendment of policy is required as a result of new EU regulations. The main affect to people in Northern Ireland is in relation to horse passports, though the changes proposed (and hence the impact) are minor. Passport issuing organisations are already required as part of the Department’s approval procedures to have rules of procedure which provide for non-discriminatory treatment of owners, breeders and equines. The policy will apply uniformly to all Section 75 groups.  The Department considers that the policy under consideration will not have a material differential impact on equality of opportunity in terms of religious belief. | None |
| **Political opinion** | Applying the Equality Commission principle that community background or religion is a reasonable proxy indicator for the Unionist and Nationalist divide there is not likely to be a material differential impact on equality of opportunity in terms of political opinion. | None |
| **Racial group** | The Department considers that the policy proposal under consideration will not have a differential impact because of an individual’s racial group. | None |
| **Age** | Evidence shows that people interested in equestrianism are from a wide range of age groups.  The Department considers that the policy proposal under consideration will not have a differential impact because of an individual’s age. | None |
| **Marital status** | The Department considers that the policy under consideration will not have a material differential impact on equality of opportunity in terms of religious belief. | None |
| **Sexual orientation** | The Department considers that the policy proposal under consideration will not have a differential impact because of an individual’s sexual orientation. | None |
| **Men and women generally** | The Department considers that the policy under consideration will not have a differential impact between men and women generally. | None |
| **Disability** | The Department considers that the policy proposal under consideration will not have a differential impact because of a person’s disability. | None |
| **Dependants** | The Department considers that the policy proposal under consideration will not have a differential impact because an individual has or does not have dependants. | None |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 75 category** | **If Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide reasons** |
| **Religious belief** | None identified | There is no evidence that there is any scope to better promote equality of opportunity through this policy but should evidence arise through the Deloitte Consulting review or in the consultation we will reconsider. |
| **Political opinion** | None identified | As above |
| **Racial group** | None identified | As above |
| **Age** | None identified | As above |
| **Marital status** | None identified | As above |
| **Sexual orientation** | None identified | As above |
| **Men and women generally** | None identified | As above |
| **Disability** | None identified | As above |
| **Dependants** | None identified | As above |

1. **To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? What is the level of impact? *Think People!***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good relations category** | **Likely impact?** | **Level of impact? Minor/Major/None** |
| **Religious belief** | None |  |
| **Political opinion** | None |  |
| **Racial group** | None |  |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good relations category** | **If Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide reasons** |
| **Religious belief** | No | The policy relates to statutory requirements on horse identification and there is no opportunity to better promote good relations |
| **Political opinion** | No | As above |
| **Racial group** | No | As above |

Section C

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the Disability Discrimination Order and Human Rights Act Questions 5 -9 relate to these two areas.

Consideration of Disability Duties

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

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| **Explain your assessment in full**  The proposed policy relates to statutory regulations required by EU legislation on equine identification and there is no evidence of an opportunity to promote positive attitudes to disabled people at present.  Any comments at consultation stage that can show an opportunity will be welcomed. |

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Explain your assessment in full**  The policy does not provide any opportunity to actively increase participation in public life. |

Consideration of Human Rights

7. 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 (place an X in the appropriate box) 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** |  |
| Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment | **Article 3** |  |
| Prohibition of slavery and forced labour | **Article 4** |  |
| Right to liberty and security | **Article 5** |  |
| Right to a fair and public trial | **Article 6** |  |
| Right to no punishment without law | **Article 7** |  |
| Right to respect for private and family life, home  and correspondence | **Article 8** |  |
| Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion | **Article 9** |  |
| Right to freedom of expression | **Article 10** |  |
| Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association | **Article 11** |  |
| Right to marry and to found a family | **Article 12** |  |
| The prohibition of discrimination | **Article 14** |  |
| Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions | **Protocol 1 Article 1** |  |
| Right to education | **Protocol 1 Article 2** |  |
| Right to free and secret elections | **Protocol 1 Article 3** |  |

Consideration of Human Rights (cont)

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| --- |
| 8. **Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified**  There are no adverse impacts identified |

|  |
| --- |
| 9. **Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights**  The policy does not positively promote policy on human rights |

**Monitoring Arrangements**

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.*

*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.*

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.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Equality** | **Good Relations** | **Disability Duties** |
| We will monitor consultation responses | We will monitor consultation responses | We will monitor consultation responses |
|  |  |  |

Section D – Summary Sheet

Formal Record of Screening Decision

|  |
| --- |
| **Title of Proposed Policy / Decision being screened** Equine Identification – Horse Passports Regulations |

I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision has been screened for –

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | equality of opportunity and good relations |
|  | disabilities duties; and |
|  | human rights issues |

On the basis of the answers to the screening questions, I recommend that this policy / decision is –

\***place an X in the appropriate box below**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | \***Screened In** – Necessary to conduct a full EQIA |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | \***Screened Out** – No EQIA necessary (no impacts)  Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:  The screening of this policy has not identified any impacts on Section 75 groups. It is as a result of legislation which is a mandatory requirement of EU regulations to ensure food safety and to ensure all equines are properly identified and will only introduce minor changes to the existing legislation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | \* **Screened Out -** Mitigating Actions (minor impacts)  Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:   * Describe clearly the mitigating actions and / or policy changes that will now be introduced * Explain how these actions will address the inequalities: |

**DAERA Equality** and **Human Rights**

# 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 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 |

**Formal Record of Screening Decision** (cont.)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -** | |
| Name: | Grade: SO |
| Jonathan Wightman | Date: 26/10/2018 |
| Branch: Agri Food Policy 1 | |

|  |
| --- |
| Signature: |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3 or above) -** | |
| Name: Norman Fulton | Grade: 3 |
|  | Date: 2/11/2018 |
| Branch: FFG | |

|  |
| --- |
| Signature: please insert a scanned image of your signature below |



**Annex A**

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

***Article 2***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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:**E+W+S+N.I.**

(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***

**E+W+S+N.I.*Prohibition of torture***

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

***Article 4***

**E+W+S+N.I.*Prohibition of slavery and forced labour***

1. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.**E+W+S+N.I.**
2. No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.**E+W+S+N.I.**
3. For the purpose of this Article the term “forced or compulsory labour” shall not include:**E+W+S+N.I.**

(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***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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:**E+W+S+N.I.**

(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.

1. 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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
2. 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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
3. 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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
4. 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.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 6***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
2. Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.**E+W+S+N.I.**
3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:**E+W+S+N.I.**

(a) To be informed promptly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him;

(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***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 8***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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 the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 9***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 10***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 11***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.**E+W+S+N.I.**
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.**E+W+S+N.I.**

***Article 12***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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.

**Protocol 1**

***Article 1***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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***

**E+W+S+N.I.*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* E+W+S+N.I.*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

1. ECNI ‘Section 75 of the NI Act 1998: A Guide for Public Authorities’ April 2010. [www.equalityni.org](http://www.equalityni.org) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Should be easily understood by a 12 year old. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)