# A4 DAERA Logo process.png

**Equality & Disability Duties**

**Screening Template**

# **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 tointroducemeasures 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.

Policy Scoping

* + Policy
	+ Available data

Screening Questions

* Apply screening questions
* Consider multiple identities

Screening Decision: None/Minor/Major

Mitigate

 Publish Template

Re-consider screening

Publish Template

for information

Publish Template

 EQIA

Monitor

**‘None’**

Screened out

**‘Major’**

Screened in for EQIA

**‘Minor’**

Screened out with mitigation

Concerns raised with evidence

Concerns raised with evidence re: screening decision

**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

Allocation of £3.45m to the North West Flooding Income Support scheme for farm businesses that were impacted by flooding on 22/23 August 2017.

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Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

New policy

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

There is a need to introduce a specific scheme to provide a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

The income support payment will be based on the self-declared damaged land area (936 Ha) on 209 Force Majeure (FM) applications received from the farm businesses impacted by this flooding event in 2017.

Following the flooding incident DAERA strongly encouraged farmers who were impacted by flooding to submit Force Majeure applications in respect of damaged land to ensure they did not compromise eligibility for their Direct Payments. Farming organisations such as the UFU and NIAPA and their local representatives along with politicians and community representatives also supported and encouraged this action. Farmers were encouraged to include as much information as possible on their application form.

Following the flooding incident in August 2017, officials were unable to develop a robust economic case to provide a compensation scheme for farmers. It was concluded that a Ministerial Direction would be needed for the Department to develop and deliver a scheme.

The Northern Ireland Assembly was suspended from January 2017 until January 2020. The DAERA Permanent Secretary did not have the power to intervene in the absence of a Minister.

On the 29 April 2021, the Minister announced a package of financial support of up to £3.45million as a contribution towards losses incurred by farm businesses impacted by flooding in the North West area in August 2017.

The flooding support scheme will provide two rates of compensation as a contribution towards loss, based on the land type classification of impacted land.

(a) £4,092 per hectare for eligible land in Severely Disadvantaged / Disadvantaged land; or

(b) £729 per hectare for eligible lowland land; or

(c) £145 per hectare for eligible Commons land.

Payments will be capped at £106,323 per farm business.

Legislation will be laid in the NI Assembly to enable aid to be paid to these farm businesses.

The scheme being developed to support these farm businesses will follow design principles similar to other schemes and ensure good governance, avoid unnecessary bureaucracy and ensure that the schemes comply with legal requirements. These principles include:

• Support for evidence-based losses caused by flooding;

• Support targeted to those impacted most financially;

• Compliance with State Aid rules;

• Straightforward and flexible to administer / minimum bureaucracy;

• No negative impact on administration of Basic Payment funding;

• Compliance with good governance and accountability;

• Measures to avoid over compensation of losses / consideration of benefits from other schemes;

• Developed and delivered using a partnership approach across the Department;

• Compliance with Section 75 obligations.

This Equality Screening assessment does not consider the operational implementation of this policy. A full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) was undertaken by DAERA in 2016 on the means by which we communicated and transacted with customers of farm payments, including the operational implementation of schemes. That EQIA resulted in the application of mitigating procedures to ensure that such schemes were accessible to all customers.

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

If so, explain how.

No- The scheme is not specific to any one particular Section 75 categories. It is open to farm businesses that were directly affected by the impact of the flooding event following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017; submitted a claim for an area based scheme in 2017 and made a Force Majeure application in 2017.

The North West Area Flooding Income Support scheme compensation to farmers is based on:

* Income forgone in the areas impacted by erosion
* Income forgone in the areas impacted by deposition
* Cost of restoring land to productive use (clearing land and reseeding)

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Area Based Schemes Development Branch \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who owns and who implements the policy?

Area Based Schemes Development Branch

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**Implementation factors**

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

If yes, are they (please delete as appropriate)

Financial – The DAERA funding of £3.45m is essential to ensure that a scheme can be delivered and provide a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

**Main stakeholders affected**

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

**Internal** - Support provided within DAERA (COVID Contingency Division, Area Based Schemes, Sustainable Agri-food Development Division and CAFRE. Staff will complete this work as part of their core job roles due normal working hours.

**External** – The farm businesses impacted by the flooding in the North West region in August 2017.

**Rural community** – The support provided to the farm businesses in the North West region will also benefit the wider rural community in this region.

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

* what are they?

 A full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) was undertaken by DAERA in 2016 on the means by which we communicated and transacted with customers of farm payments, including the operational implementation of schemes.

* who owns them?

Area Based Schemes Division

**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](https://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Employers%20and%20Service%20Providers/Public%20Authorities/S75DataSignpostingGuide.pdf).

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:

[Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dard/2014-2020-rdp-final-eqia-report.pdf)

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

Just over two fifths (42%) of farmers in Northern Ireland were Catholic, with half (51%) stating their religion as Protestant or another Christian religion. The remainder (6%) were of 'other' or no religion. Catholics were much more likely than Protestants to farm on very small farms, with 85% of Catholics farming small farms compared to 68% of Protestants, and only 2% having large farms compared to 10% of Protestant farmers. 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 to 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.

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**Political Opinion** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2011 Census of Northern Ireland

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

Information on political opinion was not collected in the Population Census 2011. However, as a question on National Identity was included responses were analysed against farm size, type and land characteristics as a proxy metric for political opinion.

Overall, 44% of farmers 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. However, the religious profile varied across farm characteristics, with the proportions stating a British only identity increasing with farm size, from 40% of those in very small farms to 65% of those in large farms.

A much 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 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.

In contrast, those stating a British only identity were much more likely to be engaged in farming cattle and sheep in lowland areas, dairy farming, or other types of farming activity, than those stating an Irish only or Northern Irish only identity. Farmers with an Irish only identity were almost twice as likely to farm in Severely Disadvantaged Areas (55%) than farmers with a British only identity (28%). The proportion of those with a Northern Irish identity farming in Severely Disadvantaged Areas was also very high at 48%. On the other hand, the proportion of those describing themselves as British only who farmed in lowland areas (39%) was more than twice that of those with an Irish only identity (15%) and much higher than those with a Northern Irish only identity (24%).

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**Racial Group** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2011 Census of Northern Ireland

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland (most recent as next is 2021) found that over 98% of the population, state their ethnic origin to be white. Non-white ethnic groups accounted for 1.7% of the total population. In addition under 1.3% of non-white minority ethnic groups of Black, Asian and other live in rural areas.

The proportion of farmers stating an ethnicity other than white was too small to examine differences by farm characteristics.

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**Age** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2011 Census of Northern Ireland – [Population Estimates – Single year of Age](https://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/Theme.aspx?themeNumber=74&themeName=Population)

2016 [EU Farm Structure Survey Northern Ireland](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/daera/17.18.088%20EU%20Farm%20Structure%20Survey%202016%20V2.pdf)

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

The mean age of the NI population is 37.59. 57.61% of NI residents aged 16-72 were economically active.

The average age of farmers in Northern Ireland was 59 years. Only 8% of farmers were aged under 40 years, and more than a third (36%) were aged 65 years or older.

There was little variation in the age profile of farmers by farm size, although farmers of very small farms (which account for three-quarters of all farms in Northern Ireland) had a slightly older age profile than those of larger farms.

There was also little variation in age across farming activity type. However, farmers engaged in cattle and sheep farming, general cropping and horticulture had the oldest age profiles, while pig and poultry farmers had the youngest age profiles. Poultry farmers were around twice as likely to be aged under 40 than other farmers.

There was virtually no difference in age profile across land types. However, farmers aged under 40 were slightly more likely to farm in Severely Disadvantaged Areas than older farmers.

**Marital Status** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

Almost three quarters (73%) of farmers were married, with the proportion of married farmers increasing with farm size; 84% of farmers of large farms were married, compared to 71% of farmers of very small farms.

Conversely, twice as many farmers (18%) of very small farms were single as farmers of medium sized (9%) or large farms (9%).

Across farm activity types, a very high proportion of pig farmers (88%) and farmers engaged in horticulture (88%) in 2010-11 were married. Lowland farmers were slightly more likely to be married (77%) than farmers in Disadvantaged (73%) or Severely Disadvantaged (71%) Areas.

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**Sexual Orientation** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2011 Census of Northern Ireland

[Sexual Identity, UK: 2016](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/sexuality/bulletins/sexualidentityuk/2016)

In 2016, just over 1 million (2%) of the UK population aged 16 and over identified themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB). The population aged 16 – 24 were the age group most likely to identify as LGB in 2016 (4.1%). More males (2.3%) than females (1.6%) identified themselves as LGB in 2016.

There are no data on the number of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) persons in NI as no national census has ever asked people to define their sexuality. However, according to the 2013 NI Life and Times Survey (NILT), 96% of people in NI are heterosexual and 1% are homosexual (<http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2013/Background/ORIENT.html>).

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

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2016 EU Farm Structure Survey Northern Ireland

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

Only 9% of principal farmers were female. 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.

A higher proportion of female (86%) than male farmers (78%) were engaged in cattle and sheep farming, and a much lower proportion (4% of female compared to 12% of male farmers) were dairy farmers.

Female farmers were also more likely to farm in Less Favoured Areas. Forty-four percent of women farmers farmed in Severely Disadvantaged Areas compared to 39% of male farmers.

Some of the gender differences in farm characteristics may be partly due to the differing age profiles of male and female farmers. Female farmers had an older age profile than their male counterparts, with 4% of female farmers aged under 40, compared to 8% of male farmers, and 45% of female farmers aged 65 or over, compared to 35% of male farmers.
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**Disability** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2011 Census of Northern Ireland

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

In Northern Ireland it is estimated that 22% of the population have some form of disability; amongst farmers this figure is slightly higher, with 26% reporting they suffer from some form of disability.

Almost a third (30%) of farmers stated that they had a long-term illness or disability which limited their daily activities, with the incidence of disability inversely related to farm size.

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.

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 steeply with age.

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**Dependants** evidence / information:

Equality Impact Assessment of the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme.

2018 DAERA Equality Indicators Report

Two fifths (40%) of all farm households contained children under 18 years old, elderly disabled people, or both.

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.

Farm households in Disadvantaged Areas (41%) were slightly more likely than those in lowland areas (38%) to contain dependants.

**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**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their religious belief) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Political Opinion**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their political opinion) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Racial Group**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their racial group) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Age**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their age) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Marital status**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their martial status) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Sexual orientation**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their sexual orientation) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Men and Women Generally**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of their gender) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Disability**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of level of disability) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**Dependants**

Needs/experiences – This proposed policy provides a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses (irrespective of whether they have dependents or not) who lost income due to the impact of a flooding event on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding, following the heavy rainfall caused by Storm Lorenzo on 22 and 23 August 2017.

Priorities – For grant funding to be provided to the farm businesses impacted most by the flooding event.

**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 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**

1. The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. 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;
5. The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
6. The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

**In favour of ‘minor’ impact**

1. The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

**In favour of none**

1. The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
2. 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.**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**:

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme will provide a contribution towards compensating farm businesses that were affected by the flooding event on 22 / 23 August 2017. The income support payment will be based on the self-declared damaged land area on Force Majeure applications received in 2017.

It is not designed to address other difficulties or challenges that may exist concurrently.

It will provide support to the farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their religious belief.

There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative differential impact on the equality of opportunity of applicants with different religious beliefs.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole which is representative of the range of political beliefs in NI. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their political opinion.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their racial group. There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative differential impact on the equality of opportunity of applicants in different racial groups.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their age. There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative impact on the equality of applicants in relation to their age.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their marital status. There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative impact on the equality of applicants in relation to their marital status.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their sexual orientation. There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative impact on the equality of applicants in relation to their sexual orientation.

What is the level of impact? None

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

 The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of their gender. The £3.45m income support scheme shall directly and indirectly benefit the agriculture industry as a whole which is representative of men and women generally in NI.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45 m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of whether or not they have a disability. There is no evidence to suggest the £3.45m income support funding package would have a negative impact on the equality of applicants in relation to their disability.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The £3.45m NW Area Flooding Income Support Scheme shall directly and indirectly positively benefit the beneficiaries of the scheme and the agriculture industry as a whole. It will provide support to farm businesses, in line with their level of loss irrespective of whether or not they have dependants. The £3.45m income support scheme shall directly and indirectly benefit the agriculture industry as a whole which is representative of those with dependants in NI.

What is the level of impact? None

1. **Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?** Yes/No (please delete as appropriate)

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

**Religious Belief -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Political Opinion -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Racial Group -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Age -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Marital Status -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Sexual Orientation -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Men and Women generally -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Disability -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

**Dependants -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - This funding is specifically intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017 and does not reflect particular section 75 categories.

1. **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**:

The provision of £3.45m support funding is a contribution towards losses incurred as a result of the flooding regardless of religious beliefs.

What is the level of impact? None

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

The provision of £3.45m support funding is a contribution towards losses incurred as a result of the flooding regardless of religious beliefs.

What is the level of impact? None

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

There is likely to be no impact as almost all farm business members will be from the same racial group.

What is the level of impact? None

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

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

**Religious Belief -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No – the scheme is intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2017, irrespective of their religious belief.

**Political Opinion -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No – the scheme is intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2-17, irrespective of their political opinion.

**Racial Group -** If Yes, provide details:

If No, provide reasons: No - The 2011 Census found that over 98% of the population in NI state their ethnic origin to be white[[1]](#footnote-1).

The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2019[[2]](#footnote-2) found that 95% of respondents identified as being White and 5% as being Other.

**Farmers and Farm Workers**

The breakdown by ethnic group and country of birth of farmers and farm workers from the 2011 Census is set out in the tables below (Tables 1 and 2). These tables show that the vast majority of farmers and farm workers are of a white ethnic group and their country of birth was Northern Ireland. For those recorded in agricultural occupation codes, over 99.6% were reported to be White[[3]](#footnote-3).

**Table 1 - Farmers and farm workers by ethnic group[[4]](#footnote-4)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **All usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment (employees) with Census occupation codes 5111 and 9111** | **Farmers** **(Code 5111)** | **Farm workers****(Code 9111)** |
| **Ethnic group** | **2,898** | **1,192** | **1,706** |
| White | **2,887** | 1,188 | 1,699 |
| Other | **11** | 4 | 7 |

**Table 2 - Farmers and farm workers by country of birth[[5]](#footnote-5)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **All usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment (employees) with occupation codes 5111 and 9111** | **Farmers****(Code 5111)** | **Farm workers****(Code 9111)** |
| **Country of birth** | **2,898** | **1,192** | **1,706** |
| Northern Ireland | **2,638** | 1,103 | 1,535 |
| Elsewhere | **260** | 89 | 171 |

**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.

(*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.

No – the scheme is intended to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event in August 2-17, irrespective of their Section 75 category.

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the Disability Discrimination Order. Questions 5 – 6 relate to these.

Consideration of Disability Duties

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

No. The scheme will not provide an opportunity to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people. The scheme is designed to provide income support to farm businesses affected by the flooding event on 22 / 23 August 2017. The support provided is a contribution towards the ‘income forgone’ as a result of the flooding taking agricultural land out of production, and the costs associated with removing debris and silt, and reseeding.

There is no evidence of poor attitudes towards disabled persons within the agriculture sector.

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

No. The scheme will not directly increase participation by disabled persons in Northern Ireland’s agriculture sector. It will provide a contribution towards the financial hardship experienced by farm businesses who lost income due to the impact of flooding on productive agricultural land and incurred the cost of removing debris and silt, and reseeding.

**Part 3. Screening decision**

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

The £3.45m funding support package will address hardship in the agriculture sector due to evidenced and verifiable financial losses specifically incurred as a result of the flooding event in August 2017 irrespective of the claimants Section 75 Category.

In assessing the need for, design and development of this scheme, the Department has had due regard in the need to promote equality of opportunity between the nine equality categories of persons of different age, sex, religious belief, political opinion, racial group, marital status, sexual orientation, persons with a disability and those without, and persons with and without dependents.

The Department recognises that the detailed Section 75 composition of the farming population within each of the sectors varies and this variation has been taken into consideration in making the decisions. This support package is targeted geographically on the areas most impacted by Storm Lorenzo and reflects the nature of the damage inflicted by the event. Therefore, the majority of the funding is directed towards farms that are classified as being in Less Favoured Areas (with the s75 characteristics noted above). However, this funding pattern is determined by the incidence of the storm event, not policy design.

The policy objective has been to mitigate the loss and additional costs incurred as a result of the flooding event in August 2017.

**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 equality impact assessment may be found in a separate Commission publication: [A Practical Guide to Equality Impact Assessment](https://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Employers%20and%20Service%20Providers/PracticalGuidanceonEQIA2005.pdf?ext=.pdf)

**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? N/A

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

**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  | 1 |
| Social need | 1 |
| Effect on people’s daily lives | 1 |
| Relevance to a public authority’s functions | 1 |
| **Total score** | 4 |

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.

**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.*

*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](https://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Employers%20and%20Service%20Providers/S75MonitoringGuidance2007.pdf?ext=.pdf)

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:

Data will be held on scheme applicants and grant awards.

Good Relations:

DAERA will monitor scheme impacts on good relations through engagement with industry stakeholders.

Disability Duties:

Data will be held on scheme applicants and grants awards.

**Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights**

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

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

No adverse impact on Human Rights have been identified.

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

The policy does not create opportunity to promote human rights.

**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:** Steven Millar **Grade:** Director of COVID-19 Contingency Planning

**Branch:** COVID-19 Contingency Planning

**Signature:** 

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

**Name:** Norman Fulton **Grade:** 3

**Branch:** Food and Farming Group

**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. 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.

 

For more information about equality screening, contact –

DAERA Equality Unit

Equality, Diversity & Public Appointments Branch

Ballykelly House

111 Ballykelly Road

LIMAVADY
BT49 9HP

Email: equality@daera-ni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 7744 2027



**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. Table KS201NI <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/2011-census-results-key-statistics-northern-ireland-report-11-december-2012.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. NILT 2019 <https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Northern Ireland Census 2011, provided by NISRA [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Northern Ireland Census 2011, provided by NISRA [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Northern Ireland Census 2011, provided by NISRA [↑](#footnote-ref-5)