**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 first. 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 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.

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

|  |
| --- |
| Title of policy / decision to be screened:-  ‘Bovine TB – Consultation on DAERA’s Response to the TB Strategic Partnership’s Recommendations to Eradicate Bovine TB in Northern Ireland’.  The consultation document, which has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), sets out a strategic long-term approach to the eradication of bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) in Northern Ireland over the next 30 years. This screening document is where DAERA, will determine the differential impact of our actions or proposed actions on different groups of people here in Northern Ireland. |

|  |
| --- |
| Brief description of policy / decision to be screened:-  In 2014, an independent group was established to develop a long-term strategy to eradicate bTB in the cattle population in Northern Ireland. This group, the TB Strategic Partnership Group (TBSPG), published its ‘Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Strategy for Northern Ireland’ in December 2016. This strategy included a series of recommendations for DAERA which is responsible for delivering the bTB control programme across Northern Ireland.  The consultation document sets out proposals for the eradication of bTB in cattle in Northern Ireland. A number of the aspects of the consultation - around finance, field methodology, biosecurity and wildlife intervention will, if implemented, have legislative and financial implications and may require further consultation.  The consultation document sets out the Department’s response to the recommendations and invites the public and key stakeholders within the farming industry to give their views on the proposals.  Each section outlines the key issues, TBSPG’s recommendations for what should be done, DAERA’s consideration of the recommendations and what it proposes to do. More detail is provided in the next section on ‘aims and objectives’. |

|  |
| --- |
| Aims and objectives of the policy / decision to be screened:-  The aim of the consultation is to get the views of the public and stakeholders on a package of proposals to eradicate bTB in Northern Ireland over a 30-year-period.  Bovine TB is a chronic disease affecting cattle. It is caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium bovis (M. bovis) which can also infect and cause disease in many other mammals including humans, deer, goats, pigs, cats, dogs and badgers. The disease is spread mainly by contact with infected farmed and wild animals. It is a very stressful disease for farmers and the animals themselves. It has and will have an adverse impact on animal exports.  As bovine TB is a complex disease and a large number of factors are involved in its spread, so a package of recommendations is being considered. These cover a range of issues, including:   * Improvements to the bovine TB testing programme; * Better herd health management; * Issues around the role of wildlife and addressing the reservoir of bovine TB, especially in badgers; * Changes to compensation arrangements and how we pay for the bovine TB programme; * Enhancing what we do through good research   All of the above will be structured and developed as a result of the consultation taking all responses into consideration.  The incidence level of bTB has remained high within Northern Ireland, bTB levels have been rising over the past six years and over the last year the incidence level has been steadily increasing. The 2016 agriculture census shows that the total cattle population in Northern in June 2016 was 1,664,592. At the end of August 2017, the herd incidence was 9.03% and the animal incidence was 0.87%. The annual cost of the bTB programme to tax payers is significant, in excess of £35 million in 2016/17. The cost of compensation and testing has increased to a point where we are now forecasting that it will be over £20 million in 2017/18. Compensation is currently paid at 100% of the market value of the animal. The consultation document is seeking views on proposals for both a cap on compensation payments and a percentage reduction on compensation payments.  The document also highlights the need for a robust communication plan to support the delivery of any new measures that may be introduced and notes the uncertainty around what will happen post Brexit and what any new arrangements will mean for the industry. |

|  |
| --- |
| **On whom will the policy / decision impact?**  Consider the internal and external impacts (both actual or potential)  Staff (DAERA veterinary officers and field staff who will be delivering actions).  x    service users (farmers, meat processers, mart operators, hauliers)  x  rural community (by nature given the focus on farmers who are living within the rural areas also those with an interest in rural life)  x  Other public sector organisations. NI Environment Agency given its remit in relation to wildlife and in particular badgers.  x  x  voluntary / community groups / trade unions (conservation and environment/nature groups will have an interest given that part of the consultation will focus on wildlife)  x  others, please specify– (Private veterinary officers who contract with the department to deliver services)*see below* |
| The PSNI are responsible under Welfare of Animals Act 2011 for Wildlife within Northern Ireland |

|  |
| --- |
| Are there linkages to other NI Departments / NDPBs?  The Department of Finance may have an interest as there will be budgetary requirements if recommendations are accepted and progressed. |

Section B

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 | On analysing the statistic available, form the Social Survey for Farmers and Farm Families conducted in 2001/2002, 54% of the farms are owned by people from the Protestant faith and 44% from the Catholic faith. According to the 2011 Census, in rural communities 47% follow the Catholic faith and 45% follow Protestant faith.  **Staff**  The community breakdown of DAERA staff at 1 July 2017 was:  Protestant: 47.8%  Catholic: 47.9%  Not determined: 4.2%  The community breakdown of Veterinary Service and Animal Health Group (VSAHG) at 1 July 2017 was:  Protestant: 44.1%  Catholic: 48.9%  Not determined: 7.1%  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Political opinion | According to the NI Life and Times Survey (2012), 23% of the NI population describe themselves as nationalist, 28% as unionist and 47% as “no political preference.  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation, and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Racial group | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland indicated that the farming population was overwhelmingly white.  An equality impact assessment report on the 2014-20 Rural Development Programme stated that:  “98.2% of the Northern Ireland population is classified as white with a host of ethnic minority groups included in the remaining 1.9%.  DAERA is mindful that some people who work in farming may not have English as a first language. DAERA will therefore ensure that people responding to the consultation have the opportunity to request information in another language.  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Age | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, the median age for farmers in Northern Ireland in 2016 was 58 years, with 6% of farmers under 35 years old.  **Staff**  DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by age as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  16-34: 11.3%  35-49: 46.7%  50-59: 34.8%  60+: 7.2%  VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by age as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  16-34: 9.6%  35-49: 44.2%  50-59: 36.8%  60+: 9.3%  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Marital status | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, 30% of farmers in Northern Ireland had no spouse, and approximately half (48%) of farmers’ spouses contributed to the work of the farm.  **Staff**  DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by marital status as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  Single: 23.7%  Married: 66.6%  Divorced: 2.7%  Widowed: 1.1%  VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by marital status as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  Single: 20.1%  Married: 70.1%  Divorced: 3.2%  Widowed: 1.4%  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Sexual orientation | There has never been a specific survey on the sexual orientation on farmers in Northern Ireland therefore no statistics available.  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Men and women generally | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, 53,877 persons contributed to the work on farms in the 12 months ending March 2016. The survey found that that 96% of farmers were male and 4% female; 76% of workers were male and 24% female; and that 5% of farms were managed by females.  **Staff**  DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by gender as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  Male: 56.5%  Female: 43.5%  VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by gender as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  Male: 65.6%  Female: 34.4%  DAERA will review any section 75 issues raised during the consultation and section 75 issues will also be considered during the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | None |
| Disability | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland found that some 26% of farm workers (27% of farmers) suffered from a long standing illness or disability which limited their activities.  **Staff**  DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  No disability declared: 92.7%  Declared disability: 7.3%  VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff as at 1 July 2017 was as follows:  No disability declared: 93.9%  Declared disability: 6.1  DAERA are mindful of the need to provide additional support for people with disabilities to ensure that they can fully participate in the consultation. DAERA will provide alternative formats of documents on request and will ensure that reasonable adjustments are made as required and that any consultation meetings with stakeholders are fully accessible. | None |
| Dependants | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland indicated that:  “on the 26,490 family farms there were 29,360 households, with 77,890 adults aged 16 or over and 25,630 children aged under 16, a total of 103,270 persons.  Information was also sought on the numbers of household dependents who lived elsewhere, generally students living away from home, elderly parents or other relatives. The inclusion of these raised the number of persons directly dependent on family farms to 107,100, an average of 4.04 per farm.”  The survey found that almost three-quarters of households supported by family farms included one or more dependent:  39% with children under 16 or 16-18 in full time education;  14% with a member claiming a disability related benefit;  32% with a member aged 65 or over;  73% with any of the above.  DAERA will review any section 75 issues in light of responses to the consultation and as part of the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation. | 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** |  | DAERA actively seek opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and during this consultation will review any issues identified in light of responses to the consultation and as part of the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation.  The proposals in the consultation include a comprehensive and robust communications and promotions plan to ensure that all those in the farming industry and other key stakeholders are encouraged to engage.  DAERA will monitor the consultation responses for issues around section 75. Any that are identified will be taken into account as we move to consider how to implement proposals. |
| **Political opinion** |  | As per above |
| **Racial group** |  | As per above |
| **Age** |  | As per above |
| **Marital status** |  | As per above |
| **Sexual orientation** |  | As per above |
| **Men and women generally** |  | As per above |
| **Disability** |  | As per above |
| **Dependants** |  | As per 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?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good relations category** | **Likely impact?** | **Level of impact? Minor/Major/None** |
| **Religious belief** | DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group and during this consultation will review any issues identified in light of responses to the consultation and as part of the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation.  The proposals in the consultation include a comprehensive and robust communications and promotions plan to ensure that all those in the farming industry and other key stakeholders are encouraged to engage.  The proposals around the establishment of new governance structures at a Northern Ireland wide, sub regional and local levels seek to engage stakeholders and farmers in the development and delivery of bTB policy. On delivering on the above governance structures DAERA will take all available opportunities to improve good relations to all. | **None**. |
| **Political opinion** | As above |  |
| **Racial group** | As above |  |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good relations category** | **If Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide reasons** |
| Religious belief | DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group and during this consultation will review any issues identified in light of responses to the consultation and as part of the implementation stage of any proposals that are progressed following consultation.  The proposals in the consultation include a comprehensive and robust communications and promotions plan to ensure that all those in the farming industry and other key stakeholders are encouraged to engage.  The proposals around the establishment of new governance structures at a Northern Ireland wide, sub regional and local levels seek to engage stakeholders and farmers in the development and delivery of bTB policy. On delivering on the above governance structures DAERA will take all available opportunities to improve good relations to all |  |
| Political opinion | As above |  |
| Racial group | As above |  |

**Available evidence**

What evidence / 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 / information and engagement** |
| Religious belief | The Department worked with the TBSPG over the period 2013 to 2016 in the development of its strategy and had extensive discussions with the group as they developed their proposals. The TBSPG met with a range of bodies and stakeholders as part of its work. These included the Ulster Farmers’ Union, wildlife groups, the Livestock & Meat Commission and Animal Health and Welfare NI. The TBSPG also produced an Interim Report in 2014 and publicly consulted on it.  A behavioural study was commissioned by DAERA on behalf of TBSPG. TBSPG looked at research and best practice in other jurisdictions. A cost-benefit analysis of the recommendations in TBSPG report was also carried out.  If implemented, proposals in the document for new governance structures at Northern Ireland, regional and local levels will provide opportunities for further engagement with stakeholders. In addition, any future consultation on individual elements of the policy will give stakeholders and the public a further opportunity to have their say.  The document ‘Farmers and Farm Families in Northern Ireland’: The results of a Social Survey of Farmers and Farm Families conducted in 2001/02’ states that:  *“Referring to the head of the main household associated with each farm, 54% of farms were owned by a member of the Protestant faith and 44% Catholic.”*  An equality impact assessment report on the 2014-20 Rural Development Programme stated that:  *“According to the 2011 Census of Northern Ireland, 44.6% of the population belong to one of the main Protestant Christian Churches, 43.7% of the population belong to the Roman Catholic Church and 11.7% share neither of these religious beliefs.*  *In rural communities there is slightly higher proportion of people (47%) who follow the Catholic faith than Protestant (45%) and there are fewer people who claim to follow either faith at 8% compared to almost 12% across NI.*  *Amongst farmers there is a larger gap between the two main religious groups: 54% of farmers state that they are Protestant and 44% that they are Catholic.*  *According to the NI Life and Times Survey (2012), 23% of the NI population describe themselves as nationalist, 28% as unionist and 47% as “no political preference”.”*  The community breakdown of DAERA staff at 1 July 2017 was: Protestant: 47.8% Catholic: 47.9% Not determined: 4.2%  The community breakdown of Veterinary Service and Animal Health Group (VSAHG) at 1 July 2017 was: Protestant: 44.1% Catholic: 48.9% Not determined: 7.1% |
| Political opinion | An equality impact assessment report on the 2014-20 Rural Development Programme stated that:  *“According to the NI Life and Times Survey (2012), 23% of the NI population describe themselves as nationalist, 28% as unionist and 47% as “no political preference”.”* |
| Racial group | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland indicated that the farming population was overwhelmingly white.  An equality impact assessment report on the 2014-20 Rural Development Programme stated that:  *“98.2% of the Northern Ireland population is classified as white with a host of ethnic minority groups included in the remaining 1.9%. Appendix 2, Sub-Section 12.5 provides a detailed breakdown of the number of people from the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities across NI. In total there were 32,414 people from BME communities in NI in 2011.*  *In rural areas the population is almost entirely classified as white (99.27%). The remaining 0.7% is divided among a host of different ethnic groups… In total there were 4,739 people from BME communities living in rural areas of NI in 2011.”*  As regards DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by ethnicity as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: White: 99.6% Ethnic minority (incl Travellers): 0.4% |
| Age | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, the median age for farmers in Northern Ireland in 2016 was 58 years, with 6% of farmers under 35 years old. However, it is stressed that these figures refer only to the principal farmer in each business rather than to all farmers. In the 2016 survey, 22% of managers (ie persons responsible for the running of the farm) were under 45 and 31% were 65 or over.  A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland indicated that on the 26,490 family farms, there were 29,360 households, with 77,890 adults aged 16 or over and 25,630 children aged under 16, a total of 103,270 persons.  As regards DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by age as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: 16-34: 11.3% 35-49: 46.7% 50-59: 34.8% 60+: 7.2%  As regards VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by age as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: 16-34: 9.6% 35-49: 44.2% 50-59: 36.8% 60+: 9.3% |
| Marital status | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, 30% of farmers in Northern Ireland had no spouse, and approximately half (48%) of farmers’ spouses contributed to the work of the farm.  As regards DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by marital status as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: Single: 23.7% Married: 66.6% Divorced: 2.7% Widowed: 1.1%  As regards VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by marital status as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: Single: 20.1% Married: 70.1% Divorced: 3.2% Widowed: 1.4% |
| Sexual orientation | There has never been a specific survey on the sexual orientation on farmers in Northern Ireland therefore no statistics available. |
| Men & women generally | According to the EU Farm Structure Survey 2016 for Northern Ireland, 53,877 persons contributed to the work on farms in the 12 months ending March 2016. The survey found that that 96% of farmers were male and 4% female; 76% of workers were male and 24% female; and that 5% of farms were managed by females.  As regards DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff by gender as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: Male: 56.5% Female: 43.5%  As regards VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff by gender as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: Male: 65.6% Female: 34.4% |
| Disability | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland found that some 26% of farm workers (27% of farmers) suffered from a long standing illness or disability which limited their activities.  As regards DAERA staff, the breakdown of staff as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: No disability declared: 92.7% Declared disability: 7.3%  As regards VSAHG staff, the breakdown of staff as at 1 July 2017 was as follows: No disability declared: 93.9% Declared disability: 6.1% |
| Dependants | A 2001/02 survey of farmers and farm families in Northern Ireland indicated that:  *“on the 26,490 family farms there were 29,360 households, with 77,890 adults aged 16 or over and 25,630 children aged under 16, a total of 103,270 persons.*  *Information was also sought on the numbers of household dependents who lived elsewhere, generally students living away from home, elderly parents or other relatives. The inclusion of these raised the number of persons directly dependent on family farms to 107,100, an average of 4.04 per farm.”*  The survey found that almost three-quarters of households supported by family farms included one or more dependent:  39% with children under 16 or 16-18 in full time education;  14% with a member claiming a disability related benefit;  32% with a member aged 65 or over; 73% with any of the above. |

|  |
| --- |
| **No evidence held? Outline how you will obtain it:**  **N/A** |

Section C

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

Consideration of Disability Duties

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Explain your assessment in full**  DAERA views this as a good opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards people with a disability. The proposals include a comprehensive and robust communications and promotions plan to ensure that all those in the farming industry and other key stakeholders are encouraged to engage. In terms of that communication, full consideration will be given as to how those with a disability or impairment are communicated to and with and what reasonable adjustments may need to be put in place. This will be in line with DAERA policy. |

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Explain your assessment in full**  DAERA views this as an opportunity to actively seek applications from people with disabilities to increase their participation in public life. Additionally recruitment to the various governance structures will encourage applications and participation from those with a disability. DAERA has been working with the Commission for Public Appointments NI (CPANI), in relation to this. |

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 / decision may have in relation to human rights issues.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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)

|  |
| --- |
| 8. **Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified**  **None**. DAERA have considered if there are any aspects of the policy proposals in the consultation which could have an adverse impact on human rights and have not identified any. The nature of the policy proposals and potential actions are focused on the eradication of a disease. Any intervention or actions taken forward as a result of the consultation on the DAERA proposals will be focused on the disease incidence and its control and eradication.  DAERA will of course welcome and consider any issue that may be identified as part of the consultation process. |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| 9. **Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights**  DAERA will consider all opportunities which arise from this consultation to positively promote human rights. DAERA will of course welcome and consider any issue that may be identified as part of the consultation process. |

**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.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Equality** | **Good Relations** | **Disability Duties** |
| DAERA will monitor the consultation responses for any potential equality, good relations and disability impacts. In addition, monitoring arrangements will be put in place as part of the implementation phase of any proposals.  A monitoring form will also be included as part of the consultation and respondents to the consultation will be asked to complete this when submitting their response.  One of the proposals within the consultation is that the new over sight body the TB Eradication Partnership will carry out a 5 year review and as part of this it will consider impacts. | As per ‘Equality’ column. | As per ‘Equality’ column. |

Section D

Formal Record of Screening Decision

|  |
| --- |
| **Title of Proposed Policy / Decision being screened** ‘Bovine TB – Consultation on DAERA’s Response to the TB Strategic Partnership’s Recommendations to Eradicate Bovine TB in Northern Ireland’ |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| x | equality of opportunity and good relations |
| x | disabilities duties; and |
| x | 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 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| x | \***Screened Out** – No EQIA necessary (no impacts)  The nature of the policy proposals and potential actions are focused on the eradication of a disease. Any intervention or actions taken forward as a result of the consultation on the DAERA proposals will be focused on the disease incidence and its control and eradication.  It will engage a range of stakeholders across the broad farming community and those within the scientific and environmental fields but this will be on a disease and programme delivery focused basis.  We have considered a range of data as detailed above under ‘Available Evidence’.  We have not identified any adverse impact on any section 75 grouping as a result of the policy proposals  The potential to promote equality of opportunity, good relations or promote human rights is limited to that of engagement in the programme and actions to eradicate the disease which has and will be focused on and available to all those involved in the farming industry, that said DAERA will actively promote human rights , good relations and equality of opportunity.  The proposals in the consultation include a comprehensive and robust communications and promotions plan to ensure that all those in the farming industry and other key stakeholders are encouraged to engage. DAERA will ensure that any communication is available in a range of formats to address a disability or impairment.  The proposals around the establishment of new governance structures at a Northern Ireland wide, sub regional and local levels seek to engage stakeholders and farmers in the development and delivery of bTB policy.  DAERA will work closely with CPANI to ensure that those from section 75 groups and in particular females and people with disabilities are actively encouraged to apply for membership of these bodies.  DAERA will welcome any contributions to the consultation which may indicate that there is a potential adverse impact or where there is potential for positive promotion. These will be considered as part of the overall response to the consultation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | \* **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: |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -** | |
| Name: Seamus Murray | Grade: 7 |
|  | Date: |
| Branch: Animal Health and Welfare Division | |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3 or above) -** | |
| Name: Robert Huey | Grade: 3 |
|  | Date: 26 Feb 2018 |
| Branch:      VSAHG Head of Group | |

|  |
| --- |
| Signature: |

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the TRIM container below as soon as possible after completion and forward the TRIM link to Equality Branch at [equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk). 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 Branch

Room 515

Dundonald House

Upper Newtownards Road

Belfast BT4 3SB

Telephone 028 9052 4435

Text Relay 18001 028 9052 4435

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



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)