**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. 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:-** Transposition of Directive (EU) 2015/1787 through the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 |

|  |
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| **Brief description of policy / decision to be screened:-** The purpose of the Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption, known as the Drinking Water Directive (DWD), is toprotect human health from adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.Commission Directive (EU) 2015/1787 amends the provisions relating to technical  Annexes II (minimum requirements of the monitoring programmes for all water intended for human consumption) and III (specifications for the method of analysis of different parameters) of the DWD. The specifications amended by Directive (EU) 2015/1787 are in the light of current scientific and technical progress and so as to ensure coherence with European Union legislation. Amendments also allow for more problem/risk orientated monitoring of the public drinking water supply. Flexibility in the monitoring is allowed if a number of conditions are met to ensure human health is protected.The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 as amended in 2009, 2010 and 2015 by amending Regulations and collectively referred to here as the ‘2007 Regulations’, transposed the DWD in Northern Ireland with respect to the public drinking water supply. The Regulations transposing Commission Directive (EU) 2015/1787 will consolidate, replace and revoke the 2007 Regulations. It is anticipated that it is unlikely the introduction of the new requirements under Directive (EU) 2015/1787 would lead to any significant additional burden but will likely provide opportunities to reduce costs associated with monitoring the public drinking water supply. Therefore, there are no significant financial or nor new procurement implications associated with the making of the proposed new Regulations and theamendments made by Directive (EU) 2015/1787. |

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| **Aims and objectives of the policy / decision to be screened:-** The purpose of the Regulations is to transpose the amended DWD in Northern Ireland by incorporating wording from Directive (EU) 2015/1787 around monitoring requirements and programmes for water intended for human consumption in relation to the public drinking water supply.  |

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| **On whom will the policy / decision impact?**Consider the internal and external impacts (both actual or potential) Staff       service users      rural community     other public sector organisations     voluntary / community groups / trade unions     others, please specify      |

|  |
| --- |
| **Are there linkages to other NI Departments / NDPBs?** No- TheRegulations set out monitoring and regulatory responsibilities for Northern Ireland Water Limited (who is the ‘water undertaker’ in Northern Ireland who supplies the public drinking water supply), and regulatory responsibilities for the Department.  |

**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 | N/A | None  |
| Political opinion  | N/A | None |
| Racial group  | N/A | None |
| Age | N/A | None |
| Marital status  | N/A | None |
| Sexual orientation | N/A | None |
| Men and women generally  | N/A | None |
| Disability | N/A | None |
| Dependants  | N/A | 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** | No | See available evidence below |
| **Political opinion**  | No | See available evidence below |
| **Racial group**  | No | See available evidence below |
| **Age** | No | See available evidence below |
| **Marital status** | No | See available evidence below |
| **Sexual orientation** | No | See available evidence below |
| **Men and women generally**  | No | See available evidence below |
| **Disability** | No | See available evidence below |
|  **Dependants** | No | See available evidence below |

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** | N/A | None |
| **Political opinion**  | N/A | None |
| **Racial group** | N/A | None |

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 | No | See available evidence below |
| Political opinion  | No | See available evidence below |
| Racial group  | No | See available evidence below |

**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  | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Political opinion  | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Racial group  | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Age  | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Marital status  | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Sexual orientation | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Men & women generally | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Disability | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |
| Dependants | In relation to the relevant groups, organisations or individuals, the proposed Regulations replace and revoke existing legislation, which is required by EC Directives and which will apply equally to each section 75 category. |

|  |
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| **No evidence held? Outline how you will obtain it:**  |

**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?

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| --- |
| No. The Regulations set out responsibilities for Northern Ireland Water Ltd and for the Department. The Regulations do not impact adversely on people with disabilities and there are no opportunities to promote positive attitudes as a result. |

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

|  |
| --- |
| No. The Regulations set out responsibilities for Northern Ireland Water Limited and for the Department. The Regulations do not impact adversely on people with disabilities and there are no opportunities to promote positive attitudes as a result |

**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 1Article 1** | [ ]  |
| Right to education | **Protocol 1Article 2** | [ ]  |
| Right to free and secret elections | **Protocol 1Article 3** | [ ]  |

Consideration of Human Rights (cont)

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| 8. **Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified** No adverse impact identified. |

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| 9. **Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights** None identified. |

**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** |
| N/A | N/A | N/A |
|  |  |  |

**Section D**

**Formal Record of Screening Decision**

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| --- |
| **Title of Proposed Policy / Decision being screened** Transposition of Directive (EU) 2015/1787 through the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 |

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 proposed Regulations apply equally to each section 75 category and there is no negative impact identified.
* The Regulations do not impact adversely on people with disabilities and there are no opportunities to promote positive attitudes as a result.
* No adverse impacts on human rights identified
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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [ ]  | \* **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: Arlene McGowan | Grade: DP |
|  | Date:      1/9/2017 |
| Branch: Water Policy, Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division |

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

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| **Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3 or above) -** |
| Name: David Small | Grade: 3 |
|  | Date: 8 September 2017 |
| Branch: EMFG |

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

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. 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.

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)