# 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**

DAERA is planning to apply to the Queens Commonwealth Canopy Initiative, to secure QCC Status for woodland at Glenarm Forest. This forms part of the overall Forests for our Future policy, to increase woodland/tree coverage by 18 million trees over the next decade and is also a foundation programme for the Green Growth Strategy.

Whilst individual initiatives under the policy will be equality screened as appropriate, the purpose of this screening exercise is to consider the possible branding and communications to be used by the Minister.

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

New – requested by Minister

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

The Queens Commonweath Canopy (QCC) is an opportunity for the Commonwealth family to unite to save one of the worlds’ most important natural habitats – forests. The QCC will create a pan-Commonwealth network of forest conservation projects conserving indigenous forests for future generations. Launched in 2015, the QCC is being led by The Royal Commonwealth Society in partnership with Cool Earth and the Commonwealth Forestry Association.

The QCC is committed to raising awareness of the value of indigenous forests and saving them for future generations. It will create a network of forest conservation projects that brings collective credibility and integrity to individual Commonwealth initiatives. It aims to raise the profile of the Commonwealth, demonstrating the capacity of its 54 member countries to act together as one to ensure forest conservation, use the Commonwealth network to facilitate a programme of knowledge exchange activities, share best practice and create new, collaborative initiatives that contribute to forest conservation across the globe. Finally, it will create a physical legacy of the Queen’s leadership of the Commonwealth.

The QCC project is just one of the mechanisms to aid DAERA achieve the aims in the Forest for our Future policy, there are a number of others such as planting at Loughry, new woodland grant schemes to encourage afforestation and identifying and acquiring additional public land for planting however these projects will be screened separately.

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

**If so, explain how.**

There is the potential for all Section 75 categories to benefit from the overall programme, as all events and activities will be fully accessible and inclusive.

The branding is designed to be neutral.

**Who initiated or wrote the policy?**

Conceived by the Right Honorable Frank Field MP, and led by the Royal Commonwealth Society in partnership with Cool Earth and the Commonwealth Forestry Association.

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

The Royal Commonwealth Society

**Implementation factors**

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

**Legislative –** Should the Glenarm application to QCC be successful, this will act to showcase Northern Ireland’s efforts to meet UN SDG 15, which seeks to ‘Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss’.

Forests for our Future, of which this application is a key component, is a foundation programme of DAERA’s Green Growth Strategy, which aims to ensure the sustainability of Northern Ireland’s natural environment into the heart of future Executive policies while fostering the necessary conditions for innovation, investment and competition that can give rise to new sources of economic growth, while building resilient ecosystems.

Branding design and use will be in line with guidance produced by the Royal Commonwealth Society and associated partners, for the Queens Commonwealth Canopy project.

**Main stakeholders affected**

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

**Staff** – there will be no impact on staff

**Service users** – there will be no impact on service users

**Rural voluntary/community groups –** there is an opportunity to nominate young foresters to be considered for participation in the QCC Youth Training Programme by placing them at internationally recognised centres in forest conservation and management. It is possible that members of local conservations groups may be eligible for this element.

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

 Forests for our Future is the overarching policy. Forests for our Future is owned by Forest Service, DAERA. The overall aim of the Forests for our Future policy is to increase woodland/tree coverage by 18 million trees over the next decade. Attaining QCC status feeds into this aim, raising the profile of forest conservation.

**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:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland found that 45 per cent of the population were either Catholic or brought up as Catholic, while 48 per cent belonged to or were brought up in Protestant, Other Christian or Christian-related denominations. A further 0.9 per cent belonged to or had been brought up in Other Religions and Philosophies, while 5.6 per cent neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in, a religion.

**Political Opinion** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland
* Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2019

Information on political opinion was not collected in the Population Census 2011.

The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2019 states that 23% of the Northern Ireland population describe themselves as nationalist; 33% as unionist; 39% held neither political opinion; 2% other and 3% don’t know.

**Racial Group** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

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.

**Age** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

Statistics from the 2011 census show the make-up of the community to be 24% aged under 18, 16% aged 18 – 29, 45% aged 30 – 64 and 15% aged 65+.

**Marital Status** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

Statistics from the 2011 census show the make-up of households to be 36.14% single; 47.56% married; 0.09% in a same-sex civil partnership; 3.98% separated; 5.45% divorced; 6.78% widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership.

**Sexual Orientation** evidence/information:

* Sexual orientation was not asked as a specific question in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.
* Figures obtained from NISRA (Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2017) indicate 97% of the population to be heterosexual/straight; 1% gay/lesbian; 1% bisexual; 1% other.

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

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

Statistics from the 2011 census show the make-up of the population to be 49% male and 51% female.

**Disability** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

Statistics from the 2011 census show that 68.5% of the population have no health condition and 31.43% have a disability or long-term condition.

**Dependants** evidence/information:

* Consideration of the breakdown of statistical data in the 2011 census of Northern Ireland.

Statistics from the 2011 census show the make-up of households to be 37% with dependants and 63% without.

**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*** – There is no religious element to the QCC branding. QCC is open to all regardless of religious belief.

***Political Opinion -*** The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2019 states that 23% of the Northern Ireland population describe themselves as nationalist; 33% as unionist; 39% with neither political opinion; 2% other and 3% don’t know.

Departmental Officials are required to be politically impartial, however it is accepted that a Minister is not. This screening exercise recognises that there are sensitivities surrounding the monarchy and the Queen as head of state. The project has the potential to raise sensitivities (though not exclusively so) for those identifying as having nationalist political beliefs.

The QCC branding aims to be politically neutral and intended only for use on correspondence and in the promotions and communications associated with projects/successful applicants. Any Ministerial announcements regarding this project will be available to everyone, regardless of political opinion.

***Racial Group*** - 99.4% of the Northern Ireland population is white, however any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of race.

***Age*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of age

***Marital status*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of marital status

***Sexual orientation*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation

***Men and Women Generally*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of gender

***Disability*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of disability

***Dependants*** - Any communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of dependents

**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*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of religious belief

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

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

No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of political opinion. Due to the sensitivities surrounding the monarchy and the Queen as head of state, using any kind of branding or communications may lead to the potential for some identifying from a nationalist background to feel impacted.

The branding drafted by QCC is neutral and does not make a specific reference to Northern Ireland. Its primary use will be limited to use on correspondence and in the promotions and communications associated with projects/successful applicants. Use of QCC branding in this way will not materially impact on anyone because of their political opinion.

**What is the level of impact?** None – Whilst it is recognised that projects associated with the Queen have the potential to cause offence to those identifying from a Nationalist background, it is assessed that the use of branding will have no material impact. Any DAERA initiatives associated with Forests for our Future will be screened separately.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of race.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Age*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of age.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Marital Status*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of marital status.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Sexual Orientation*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Men and Women*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of gender

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Disability*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of disability.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Dependants*:** No impact on equality of opportunity – Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of dependents.

**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?**

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: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of religious belief.

***Political Opinion* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Whilst is it recognised that acknowledging the monarchy and Queen has the potential to cause offence to those identifying from a Nationalist background, it is assessed that the use of branding will have no material impact. Any DAERA initiatives associated with the Forests for our Future will be screened separately.

***Racial Group* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of race.

***Age* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of age.

***Marital Status* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of marital status.

***Sexual Orientation* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation.

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

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of gender.

***Disability* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of disability.

***Dependants* - If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of dependents.

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*:** No detrimental impact.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*:** Whilst is it recognised that acknowledging the monarchy and Queen has the potential to cause offence to those identifying from a Nationalist background, it is assessed that the use of branding will have no material impact. Any DAERA initiatives associated with the Forests for our Future will be screened separately.

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:** Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of race.

**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:** N/A

**If No, provide reasons:** There will be no religious element to any of the branding or communications.

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

**If No, provide reasons**: Whilst is it recognised that acknowledging the monarchy and Queen has the potential to cause offence to those identifying from a Nationalist background, it is assessed that the use of branding will have no material impact. Any DAERA initiatives associated with the Forests for our Future will be screened separately.

It is hoped that the QCC project will provide opportunities for those with differing political opinion to come together under the common goal of forest conservation. The initiative is intended to be inclusive and to include shared learning.

Racial Group **- If Yes, provide details: N/A**

**If No, provide reasons:** N/A

There will be no racial element to any of the branding or communications.

**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.**

N/A

**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?**

 Success in securing QCC status provides the opportunity to raise the profile of the work of forest conservation, including DAERA led afforestation activities. This in turn can provide opportunities for disabled people with an interest in conservation to participate, thus promoting positive attitudes towards disabled people.

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

Whilst the QCC communication and branding specifically has no opportunity to increase participation, this will be borne in mind when planning forest conservation initiatives, which will be screened separately.

**Part 3. Screening decision** (Please delete as appropriate)

“Screened out” without mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted.

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

* QCC branding was developed separately from DAERA and of which DAERA had no input
* QCC branding is neutral in appearance
* Any QCC communications and branding will be available to everyone, regardless of Section 75 equality category.

**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.**

There is an engaged culture within DAERA which encourages openness and transparency. If any staff wish to object in any way, there are channels available to do this. In addition for any external person there is a formal process in place for handling any complaints, details of which are on the DAERA internet site, available by clicking [HERE](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/how-do-i-make-complaint-if-i-am-unhappy-quality-service-i-received).

**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? No**

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

The QCC is led by The Royal Commonwealth Society, a network of individuals and organisations committed to improving the lives and prospects of Commonwealth citizens across the world, Cool Earth is an award winning UK based charity that works alongside indigenous villages to halt rainforest destruction and The Commonwealth Forestry Association who link foresters, scientists, students and policy makers throughout the Commonwealth to seek ways to wisely manage forests.

DAERA has had no direct involvement in the development of the scheme or its implementation.

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

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?**

**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:** Monitoring of Equality will be carried out by QCC

**Good Relations:** Monitoring of Good Relations will be carried out by QCC

**Disability Duties:** Monitoring of Disability Duties will be carried out by QCC

**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(s) do not create any 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:** Kelly Moore **Grade:** SO

**Branch:** RAD North **Date:** 01/06/2021

**Signature:** ****

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

**Name:** FIONA McCANDLESS **Grade:** 3

**Branch:** Deputy Secretary RAFSET **Date: 9 June 2021**

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

 ****

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be ‘signed off’ and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy, made easily accessible on the public authority’s website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the CM container (AE2-19-11940) below as soon as possible after completion and forward the CM link to Equality Branch at equality@daera-ni.gov.uk. 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