# 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**

Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme – introducing earlier age of slaughter for heifers, steers and young bulls. This is one component of a Beef Sustainability Package currently being developed.

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

New policy.

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

The aim of the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is to improve both the productivity and environmental footprint of the beef sector in Northern Ireland by incentivising beef finishers to reduce the age of slaughter of finished beef cattle. This will be achieved by supporting a gradual reduction in the maximum age at slaughter from 30 months in year 1 of the scheme to 26 months in year 4.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

**If so, explain how.**

There are no specific Section 75 categories that will benefit from the intended policy. This policy has the potential to impact positively on all people in Northern Ireland and potentially deliver benefit to all Section 75 categories generally as it seeks to contribute to a sustainable agricultural industry through the operation of a voluntary Beef Carbon Reduction scheme.

There are approximately 26,000 farms in Northern Ireland, 79% of which have cattle and sheep. Cattle and sheep farmers are present in every county in Northern Ireland and the majority (97%) are classified as very small or small with 74% located in the Severely Disadvantaged Areas (SDA) and Disadvantaged Areas and 26% located in the lowland.

**Who initiated or wrote the policy?**

The DAERA Minister announced the Future Agricultural Policy Decisions for Northern Ireland on 24 March 2022. This included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme.

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

DAERA will own and implement the policy.

**Implementation factors**

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

**Lack of Funding; Poor legislation and guidance drafting; Poor communications, inadequate support for farm businesses and poor analysis of training needs; Inadequate IT systems to support introduction and operation.**

**If yes, are they (please delete as appropriate)**

**Yes**

**Financial**

The HM Treasury Spending Review and Autumn 2021 Budget announced that Northern Ireland will be provided with almost £1.0 billion for farmers and land managers over the next three financial years (2022-2025). Post EU Exit, this funding stream has converted from an EU provision to a HMT ring-fenced allocation. There is no certainty of the budget post 2024/25, however it is assumed that HMT will provide a similar annual funding envelope for subsequent years.

The ring-fenced agricultural budget allocation from HMT for replacement agricultural schemes for 2023/24 is £327.2m. The minimum percentage of agriculture expenditure that must comply with the requirements of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Green Box (i.e. non or minimally trade distorting support) is 83%. Therefore, taking into account the total annual budget available to fund agricultural support, a maximum of 17% can be allocated for Blue Box compliant support measures. This equates to around £50 million per annum for the Beef Sustainability Package.

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme will run on a calendar year basis and will require funding of approximately £25million per year, with a payment rate of £75 per eligible animal. This funding will be drawn from the HMT ring-fenced agricultural budget. The payment rate per animal has been set to minimise the risk of increased production of beef animals. A maximum of 352k animals can receive payment each year under the scheme. If more that this number meet the eligibility criteria for the scheme, a linear reduction will be applied. To ensure that this is fair, the linear reduction will be made to all farm businesses’ claim (made to the number of animals receiving payment by each farm business if the number of eligible animals exceeds this number). Therefore all farm businesses will be treated equally.

**Resourcing –**Staff resource – sufficient suitably experienced staff, with the appropriate expertise, will need to be available to progress the policy finalisation of the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme and implementation needs of the Scheme within the proposed timeframe.

IT – inadequate resource to develop a system for scheme introduction.

**Communication and knowledge** –

Delivery of timely, accurate and clear communication to stakeholders to enable them to adopt more efficient behaviours to meet the slaughter targets. The need for communication / knowledge / training may increase in later years of the scheme to help farmers meet the target set.

**Legislative-** The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme will help the agriculture sector meet its greenhouse gas reduction targets as set out in Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.It is also being delivered through primary powers as set out in the NI Agriculture (1949) Act and Articles 52(9) and 70(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013, with approval from the Department of Finance.

**other, please specify**

**Main stakeholders affected**

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

**Service users-** The main beneficiaries are farm businesses in Northern Ireland who finish beef cattle.

**Rural community-** This scheme is designed to support improvements in productivity and environmental sustainability of beef farm businesses in rural areas of Northern Ireland. This in turn should improve farm business profitability, supporting the financial viability of rural communities.

**Staff** – DEARA staff who will adviseapplicants on the scheme, staff who deliver training to help farmers meet the age at slaughter targets set, staff who manage the processing and payment of the scheme, staff who will be responsible for ongoing monitoring of the scheme, IT staff.

**Others - others, please specify –**

**Slaughter houses & Meat Product manufacturers –** implementation of the Scheme will bring a change in profile of meat / age of animal sent to slaughter. In the first year, this may result in a small increase in the number of animals slaughtered, but this should then return to normal as the scheme is embedded across beef producers. In addition having younger and more uniform beef animals being presented by farmers for slaughter should benefit abattoirs and meat processors resulting in less time required to process a carcase and an increase in saleable meat.

The public consultation on the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, (which was included in the consultation on Future Agricultural Policy proposals) did not raise any concerns in respect of the scheme. In addition the main representative bodies for beef finishers, the Ulster Farmers Union, (UFU) and Northern Ireland Producers Association (NIAPA) and NIMEA (the Northern Ireland Meat Exporters Association) have been extensively involved in stakeholder discussions throughout the scheme development and have not expressed any concerns in respect of differential impacts on any of the Section 75 categories.

**Other policies with a bearing on this policy**

**What are they?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strategy / Policy** | **Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme links to the Strategies/ Policies listed below.** |
| **DAERA Vision** | DAERA’s purpose is: *‘Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.’*The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme aligns with DAERA’s vision by contributing to more sustainable beef production and a reduction in carbon emissions  |
| **DAERA Future Agricultural Policy Framework Portfolio**[[1]](#footnote-1) | The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme aligns with the Future Agricultural Policy key outcomes by aiming to ensure the future viability of the beef sector, help the sector to keep pace with, or surpass, the productivity growth of its competitors, and improve profitability, resilience and environmental sustainability. In particular the Scheme seeks to reduce emissions and carbon footprint by slaughtering animals at an earlier age thereby reducing the amount of time animals spend on farm in an unproductive state.The scheme will assist in the Future Agricultural Policy aim to make a full contribution to the requirements of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, particularly in relation to Net Zero.  |
| **Ammonia Emissions –** Environment Strategy for NI | Air pollutants like ammonia (NH3) are the other type of gaseous emissions from agriculture. They are not greenhouse gases, but they negatively impact on human and animal health while also damaging ecosystems.‘*Northern Ireland has 6% of the UK land area and 3% of the population and is responsible for 12% of UK ammonia emissions. 97% of ammonia emission in Northern Ireland come from the agriculture sector. Between 2009 and 2019, ammonia emissions from agriculture in Northern Ireland increased by almost 19% and have reached levels similar to those experienced at peak levels in the late 1990s. Sustained and tangible reductions in ammonia are required to protect nature, to meet Northern Ireland’s legal obligations, and to ensure a sustainable agri-food sector.*’[[2]](#footnote-2)The Draft Ammonia Strategy proposes the following targets for 2030* Reduce agricultural ammonia emissions from Northern Ireland by at least 30%, based on the 2020 emissions levels (from 31.2 kt in 2020 to 21.8 kt in 2030)
* Reduce ammonia concentrations at all designated sites by at least 40% (using 2020 as the baseline year) or to below crucial levels[[3]](#footnote-3).

The ammonia emission reduction impacts of the reductions in cattle numbers on farms through the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme are outlined below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Policy Mitigation measure | Ammonia impact by 2027 (kt NH3) | Proportion of 2020 agriculture sector ammonia emissions (%) | Ammonia impact by 2030 (Kt NH3) | Proportion of 2020 agriculture sector ammonia emissions (%) |
| Beef Structural improvement – age at 1st calving of beef cow replacements and age at slaughter of clean beef cattle (Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme). | 537 | -2.0 | 539 | -2.0 |

 |
| Draft Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland[[4]](#footnote-4) | The Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (Act) sets a target of an at least 100% reduction in net zero Green house Gases(GHG) emissions by 2050 for Northern Ireland compared to the baseline, along with interim targets including at least a 48% reduction in net emissions by 2030.As outlined above, the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme aims to help the agriculture sector contribute to greenhouse gas reduction targets as set out in the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.The NI Assembly passed its first climate change legislation, the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) in 2022 which commits NI to a 2050 net zero target. The Green Growth Strategy, a multi decade Strategy to balance climate, environment and the economy has been developed to underpin the strategy to achieve net zero, and aims to enable a move from a high to a low greenhouse gas emissions economy to improve people’s quality of life through green jobs and a clean environment. The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, by aiming to help meet the Department’s obligations under the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, will be in line with the aims of the Green Growth Strategy meeting the high level principles of respect for our planet, reducing GHG emissions, sharing responsibility and measuring progress. |

**Who owns them?**

DAERA has statutory duties under the framework of the Environment Act (2022) and the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (Act).

DAERA leads on its Strategic Plan and the Environment Strategy.

DAERA is co-designing the Green Growth Strategy and Delivery Framework on behalf of the NI Executive.

DAERA leads on the development of the cross Departmental Food Strategy Framework, bringing together the relevant officials from other NI Departments and from FSA NI.

other, please specify ­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**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 has been given to the Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (2020)13, 2021 Census of Northern Ireland (phase 1) 14 and the DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018 (‘Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers’). In the 2020 Life and Times Survey 41% of the respondents viewed themselves as part of the Protestant Community, 26% as Catholic and 33% as neither. 4% of respondents considered themselves as part of a minority ethnic community while 93 % did not.

The 2021 Census indicated that religious beliefs across the NI community are 37% Protestant and 42% Catholic. 1.34% indicated that they were other religion, 17.39% indicated that they did not have a religion and 1.6% did not state a religion.

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018 (‘Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers’) stated that 51% of farms in Northern Ireland were farmed by a member of the Protestant community and 42% by a member of the Catholic community.

Catholic farmers were also more likely to be engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, with over three quarters (77%) engaged in this type of farming activity compared with less than half (45%) of Protestant farmers.

In contrast, a much higher proportion of Protestant (16%) than Catholic (5%) farmers were dairy farmers, and twice as many Protestant (25%) as Catholic (12%) farmers were lowland cattle and sheep farmers.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively[[5]](#footnote-5))

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Political Opinion** evidence/information:
The Northern Ireland life and Times Survey 2020 found that 19% of the NI population describe themselves as nationalist, 35% as unionist and 42% held neither political opinion.

The DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators Report 2018 suggested that national identity is a reasonable proxy indicator for the Unionist/Nationalist divide. 44% of farmers have reported their identity as British only, 26% as Irish only and 23% as Northern Irish only with 8% stating another identity or a combination of more than one identity.

Information on political opinion was not collected in the 2021 or 2011[[6]](#footnote-6) Census of Northern Ireland. However, as a question on National Identity was included, responses for 2011 were analysed against farm size, type and land characteristics as a proxy metric for political opinion. Overall, 44% of farmers reported their identity as British only, 26% as Irish only and 23% as Northern Irish only, with 8% stating another identity or a combination of more than one identity.

High proportions of dairy farmers (62%) and those engaged in mixed farming (63%) stated a British only identity. More than three quarters of those describing their identity as Irish only (77%) and two-thirds of those with a Northern Irish only (68%) identity were engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, compared to less than half (48%) of farmers of British only identity.

In contrast, those stating a British only identity were much more likely to be engaged in farming cattle and sheep in lowland areas, dairy farming, or other types of farming activity, than those stating an Irish only or Northern Irish only identity.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively[[7]](#footnote-7))

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Racial Group** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland indicated that 96.6% of the population are white (further geographical breakdown scheduled for Summer 2023 that will allow analysis of rural profile). The 2011 Census indicated that 99% of the rural population are white and the farming population has a similar pattern. DAERA’s Equality Indicators Report (2018) stated the proportion of farmers stating an ethnicity other than white was too small to examine differences by farm characteristics.

This would support the view that the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to affect largely white beneficiaries as this reflects the makeup of the population.

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021[[8]](#footnote-8) figures indicate there are around 53,000 people living here in 2019 who were born in the rest of the EU (excluding UK and Ireland). A small number of migrant workers are employed within the farming industry.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Age** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland reported 326,500 people 65 years and over, comprising 17% of the population.

The Annual Report of the Registrar General, RG Annual Report 2019.PDF (nisra.gov.uk)[[9]](#footnote-9) states the NI population continues to age with the number of those aged 65 and over increasing by 2.1 per cent to reach 314,700 people (16.6 per cent of the population).

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that 36% of principal farmers are 65 years and over with 8% under forty years of age, with the average age being 59 years.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Marital Status** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census for Northern Ireland Census indicated that 1,514,743 were aged 16 and over, of this 38 % were single (never married or registered a civil partnership), 46 % were married or in a civil partnership and 16% were separated, divorced/ dissolved civil partnership, widowed/ survivor of a civil partnership[[10]](#footnote-10).

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that around 73% of all farmers are married and living with a wife/husband.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Sexual Orientation** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census for Northern Ireland recorded 1,514,745 residents aged 16 and over. Of this population 90% indicated that they identified as straight or heterosexual, 2 % identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or other sexual orientation and 8% preferred not to say or state this information[[11]](#footnote-11).

There are also a number of new and emerging inequalities, for which evidence is limited but would include issues such as, inequalities experienced by transgender people. As further evidence becomes available DAERA will consider the relevance for future agricultural policy development.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Consideration has been given to the Northern Ireland Life, and Times Survey (2020) the 2021 Census for Northern Ireland, the DAERA Farm Equality Indicators 2018 data and the Quarterly Labour Force Survey 2021[[12]](#footnote-12).

The 2021 Census showed that 51% of the population were female and 49% male. The estimated employment rate in NI for those aged 16-64 in 2020 was 74.8% for males (432,000) and 66.5% for females (392,000). The estimated economic inactivity rate (16-64) was 22.8% for males (132,000) and 31.6% for females (186,000). The number of self-employed (aged 16+) in Northern Ireland was estimated at 134,000 in 2019, equivalent to just over 15% of all employed people aged 16+. Self-employment was more likely among employed men than women, 22% of all employed men were self-employed, compared with 8% of all employed women.

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey shows that for August-October 2021 the self employment rate for men in NI was 17.4% (75,000) compared with 6.9% (29,000) for women. The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators 2018 data showed that 91% of farmers in Northern Ireland are males.

Female farmers were more likely than their male counterparts to farm on very small farms - 87% of women farmers had small farms compared to 75% of male farmers. Farmers engaged in 'other types' of farming (such as running specialist horse farms) were twice as likely to be women as were farmers engaged in other activity types.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Disability** evidence/information:

The 2021 Census showed that 12% of NI residents report that their day to day activities are limited a lot, and 13% reported that their day to day activity is limited a little[[13]](#footnote-13).

In Northern Ireland it is estimated that 25% of the population have some form of disability; amongst farmers this figure is slightly higher.

The DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators 2018 data indicated that almost a third of farmers (30%) suffered from a disability limiting their day to day activities with the incidence of disability inversely related to farm size.

Some of the differences in farm characteristics by disability may be partly due to the variation in age profiles of those with and without disabilities. The incidence of those reporting that their activities were limited either a little or a lot rises steeply with age.

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021 reports that one in five people have a disability or limiting long-term illness, with 12% of people claim Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payment.

The Disability Strategy Expert Advisory Panel (communities-ni.gov.uk) report, published in December 2020[[14]](#footnote-14), developed by the Disability Strategy Expert Advisory Panel appointed by the Department for Communities make evidence based recommendations on the scope of a new Disability Strategy.

This report helps us to understand the experience of, and issues faced by disabled people appropriate including participation and leadership, economic security and autonomy of persons with disabilities. It provides valuable insights which will be used in the development of policies and strategies such as Green Growth.

The new NI Disability Strategy, scheduled to be published as part of a suite of 4 Social Inclusion Strategies (Anti-Poverty Strategy, Disability Strategy, Gender Strategy and Sexual Orientation Strategy), is being developed through co design.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Dependants** evidence/information:

The 2021 NI Census showed that 29% of all households have dependent children aged between 0-18[[15]](#footnote-15).

2018/19 Family Resources Survey, Northern Ireland[[16]](#footnote-16) indicated that 33% of NI households have dependent children (Those aged 0-16 and person aged 16-19 who are unmarried and in full time non-advanced education). The most recent data from the 2018 DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators report revealed that almost 40% of households supported by family farms included one or more dependants. Households of medium sized farms were slightly more likely than smaller or larger farms to contain dependants, as were the households of farmers engaged in pig, poultry or mixed farming.

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

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021 reports that one in three households have a dependent child[[17]](#footnote-17) .

NISRA Women in Northern Ireland 2020 report indicates that over the past 10 years there have been consistently more economically inactive women than men. The most common reason for inactivity among women was family and home commitments. 76% of women with dependent children were economically active, compared with 92% of men with dependent children.

(Published figures are not available for beef farmers exclusively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**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***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals, which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to religious belief when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

The planned Scheme is available to all farmers who finish beef animals and training will be offered to all farmers to help them meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set for the Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Political Opinion***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals, which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to political opinion when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

The planned Scheme is available to all farmers who finish beef animals and training will be offered to all farmers to help them meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set for the Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Racial Group***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to racial groups when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

The planned Scheme is available to all farmers who finish beef animals and training will be offered to all farmers to help them meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set for the Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Age***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 5 responses were received in relation to equality issues associated with age, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to age when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

The Scheme is available to all beef finishers who finish beef cattle and meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set. The Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the “Age” category. During the launch and implementation of the scheme, information will be shared in numerous formats to ensure that all farmers have equal access to knowledge about the Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Marital status***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to marital status when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Sexual orientation***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to sexual orientation when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Men and Women Generally***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to men and women generally when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Disability***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. 1 response was received in relation to disability which raised potential lack of access to schemes due to disability.

The Scheme is available to all beef finishers who finish beef cattle and meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set wish to produce finished clean beef and meet the proposed slaughter targets. The Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the “disability” category. During the launch and implementation of the scheme, information will be shared in numerous formats to ensure that all farmers have equal access to knowledge about the Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Dependants***

The 2022 consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals , which included the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme, sought input on needs, experiences, and priorities in relation to equality. While 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues, no responses raised specific concerns with respect to dependants when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**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**

The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.

1. 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.

DAERA has reviewed any section 75 issues raised during the Future Agricultural Policy Proposals for Northern Ireland consultation and considered these when developing the Scheme.

Issues with respect of Section 75 category - Religious belief – none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Political opinion - none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Racial Group none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Age none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Marital Status none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Sexual Orientation none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Men & Women generally none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Disability none

Issues with respect of Section 75 category – Dependants none

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Religious belief*:**

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Religious Belief Category

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

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

Equality Commission monitoring guidelines for public authorities suggest that community background/religion is a reasonable proxy indicator for the unionist/nationalist divide. Applying this principle to the likely impact of the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme for Northern Ireland suggests that, as detailed under Religious Belief, there should not be a differential impact on those of differing political opinion.

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

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

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Racial Group Category

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

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

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs report (October 2018), ‘Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers’ states that the average age of farmers in Northern Ireland was 59 years. The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the ‘Age’ category.

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

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

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Marital Status Category

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

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

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Sexual Orientation Category

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

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

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Men and Women Category

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

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

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Disability Category

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

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Dependants*:** (insert text here)

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is considered to have no differential impact on the Dependants Category

**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?** No

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies. However, the training to help farmers to meet the maximum age at slaughter targets set will be offered through CAFRE. Participation in training enables farmers from all Section 75 categories to come together an build relations in an area of interest to all participants.

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

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Religious Belief***

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Political Opinion* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Racial Group* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Age* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Marital Status* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Sexual Orientation* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Men and Women generally* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Disability* -**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

***Dependants* –**

**No,**

DAERA actively seeks opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity. It is unlikely that there will be any facility with the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to better promote equality of opportunity for those affected by the policies.

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

DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion and racial groups.

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*:**

DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different religious belief. The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on good relations in respect of different religious beliefs.

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

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

DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different political opinion. The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on good relations in respect of different political opinions.

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

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

DAERA is proactive in improving good relations between people of different racial groups. The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on good relations in respect of different racial groups.

**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?**

**No**

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

***Religious Belief* -**

**If No, provide reasons:**

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on promoting good relations between people of different religious belief.

***Political Opinion* -**

**If No, provide reasons**

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on promoting good relations between people of different political opinion.

**Racial Group -**

**If No, provide reasons**

The Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is likely to have no impact on promoting good relations between people of different racial groups.

**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).*

It is envisaged that there will be a significant number of beneficiaries from the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme. At a farm population level any differential effect on people who fall into more than one Section 75 category is likely to be negligible.

**Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.**

There are no potential impacts on people with multiple identities from the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme

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

Consideration of Disability Duties

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

No

It is very unlikely that there will be any facility in any of the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to promote positive attitudes towards people with disabilities

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

No

It is very unlikely that there will be any facility in any of the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme to increase the participation by disabled people in public life.

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

Screened out” without mitigation

The effects at Northern Ireland level of Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme will not have an identifiable differential impact because of an individual’s religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, disability or whether or not he/she has dependents.

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? Yes / No (delete as appropriate)**

**No – the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme is open to Beef farmers only and all beef farmers who finish cattle for slaughter are eligible to apply.**

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

**Timetabling and prioritising**

Factors to be considered in timetabling and prioritising policies for equality impact assessment.

If the policy has been **‘screened in’** for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

**On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.**

| **Priority criterion** | **Rating (1-3)** |
| --- | --- |
| Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations  |  |
| 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.

**General scheme monitoring** –

Work has been undertaken to ensure that all relevant farm business information and metrics will be gathered to enable full monitoring and tracking of the Beef Carbon Reduction scheme progress. This will encompass (this list is not exhaustive):

* Application information - uptake of scheme eg - details of business & location
* Performance monitoring - details of animals meeting eligibility analysis of slaughter data
* Baseline data - five years of historical data to provide the same items and requirements as the application performance monitoring

**Scheme review process** – a review process is built into the enabling legislation for the scheme. This will enable scheme review at any point, if necessary, to mitigate for any unintended consequences, allowing dynamic review of the scheme and additionally there will be a requirement for a review of the scheme at a maximum of 2 years post introduction.

Intervention - BCR closure provision inclusion - The scheme will have a statutory power to enable swift action to be taken to close the scheme prior to its intended conclusion in order to mitigate for any unintended consequences.

**Equality:**

The proposals for the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme were subject to consultation in 2022. Comments from any of the Section 75 groups were welcomed and 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues. No responses raised specific concerns with respect to equality when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

**Good Relations:**

The proposals for the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme were subject to consultation in 2022. Comments from any of the Section 75 groups were welcomed and 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues. No responses raised specific concerns with respect to good relations when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

**Disability Duties:**

The proposals for the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme were subject to consultation in 2022. Comments from any of the Section 75 groups were welcomed and 43 responses were received in relation to equality issues. No responses raised specific concerns with respect to disability duties when considering the Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme proposals.

**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 impacts on human rights have been identified.

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

The policy does not create 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:** Debbie Boyd **Grade:** SO

**Branch:** Beef Carbon Reduction Scheme **Date: 6/11/23**

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



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

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

**Branch:** Head of Food, Farming

and Rural Affairs Group **Date: 6/12/23**

**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

Staff Engagement, Equality & Diversity Branch

Jubilee 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***

***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.
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:

(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***

**.*Prohibition of torture***

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

***Article 4***

***Prohibition of slavery and forced labour***

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

(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***

 ***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:

(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.
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.
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.
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.

***Article 6***

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

(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***

***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.
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.

***Article 8***

**.*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.
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.

***Article 9***

***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.
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.

***Article 10***

***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.
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.

***Article 11***

***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.
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.

***Article 12***

***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***

***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***

***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***

***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***

***Right to free elections***

The High Contracting Parties undertake to hold free elections at reasonable intervals by secret ballot, under conditions which will ensure the free expression of the opinion of the people in the choice of the legislature

1. [21.22.086 Future Agriculture Framework final V2.PDF (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/daera/21.22.086%20Future%20Agriculture%20Framework%20final%20V2.PDF) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/daera-launches-consultation-draft-ammonia-strategy#:~:text=The%20draft%20ammonia%20strategy%20sets%20targets%20for%20ammonia,also%20proposes%20actions%20to%20protect%20our%20vulnerable%20habitats> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [Draft Ammonia Strategy for Northern Ireland Consultation | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/draft-ammonia-strategy-northern-ireland-consultation) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. [Green Growth\_Brochure V8.pdf (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/consultations/daera/Green%20Growth_Brochure%20V8.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Published statistics group beef and sheep (sometimes known as grazing livestock farms) and this is the case in all UK admins and ROI. This is because beef farms are also likely to have sheep so these are grouped together. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/census/2011-census> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. In terms of published statistics, beef and sheep are grouped together ( sometimes known as grazing livestock farms) and this is the case in all UK admins and ROI ( in UK and EU farms are classified into 10 categories including Cattle and Sheep LFA and Cattle and Sheep Lowland), this allows robust comparison across the UK. Beef farms are likely to also have sheep, are also often very small and there is limited data on them in terms of income. Farm incomes are not published for beef on a stand alone basis. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%203%20March%202021_0.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrar-general-annual-reports-2011-2019> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. [census-2021-ms-a30.xlsx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nisra.gov.uk%2Fsystem%2Ffiles%2Fstatistics%2Fcensus-2021-ms-a30.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. [census-2021-ms-c02.xlsx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nisra.gov.uk%2Fsystem%2Ffiles%2Fstatistics%2Fcensus-2021-ms-c02.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/labour-force-survey-tables-december-2021> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. [census-2021-ms-d02.xlsx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nisra.gov.uk%2Fsystem%2Ffiles%2Fstatistics%2Fcensus-2021-ms-d02.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. [Disability Strategy Expert Advisory Panel (communities-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/system/files/publications/communities/dfc-social-inclusion-strategy-disability-expert-advisory-panel-report.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. [census-2021-ms-a24.xlsx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nisra.gov.uk%2Fsystem%2Ffiles%2Fstatistics%2Fcensus-2021-ms-a24.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/system/files/publications/communities/frs-household-1819-tables.XLSX> t [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%20February%202020_0.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-17)