

ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Appendix 1 Equality Screening Form

Policy Scoping

Policy Title:

Brief Description of Policy (please attach copy if available). Please state if it is a new, existing or amended policy.

Current and future waste management activities are influenced by the legislative and policy framework in Northern Ireland. This includes EU waste policy which amongst other things aims to improve resource efficiency.

Council previously provided residents with a 240-litre bin for collecting garden waste and food co-mingled in the same bin, which was collected fortnightly.

Brown bin collections will move from fortnightly collections to a new 'One in Four' weeks cycle for households across the ABC Borough from mid-December to the end of March 2025, with residents' collection day of the week remaining the same during this period.

Intended aims/outcomes. What is the policy trying to achieve?

The 'One in Four' initiative is a pilot scheme during the winter months when less garden waste is produced, and the contents of the brown bin is considerably reduced and will enable the Council to lower its carbon footprint through less mileage and fuel usage with a reduction in vehicle emissions.

Policy Framework

Has the policy been developed in response to statutory requirements, legal advice or on the basis of any other professional advice? Does this affect the discretion available to The Council to amend the policy?

All Local Authorities in Northern Ireland have a statutory duty under the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to arrange for the collection of households, commercial and industrial waste. Furthermore, the introduction of the Food Waste Regulations (NI) 2015 placed an obligation on councils to provide receptacles for the separate collection of food waste from households. Where a council is satisfied that the amount of food waste that will be collected is not significantly less than that collected separately, the food waste may be collected in a receptacle along with other bio-waste. The Food Waste Regulations (NI) 2015 do not mandate councils in terms of collection frequency from households and therefore gives Council the discretion to amend the policy in order to benefit other environmental considerations including carbon emissions.

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the policy? If so, please outline.

The Pilot will have no detrimental or beneficial impact on any Section 75 categories.

Who initiated or wrote the policy (if The Council decision, please state). Who is responsible for implementing the policy?

Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Environmental Services Department
Who is responsible for implementation?	The Council is responsible for implementation

Are there any factors which might contribute to or detract from the implementation of the policy (e.g. financial, legislative, other)?

Potential financial savings and a reduction in carbon emissions.

Main stakeholders in relation to the policy

Please list main stakeholders affected by the policy (e.g. staff, customers, other statutory bodies, community or voluntary sector, private sector)

Residents of the Borough, staff members, elected members, re-processers (NWP)

Are there any other policies with a bearing on this policy? If so, please identify them and how they impact on this policy.

Assisted Lift Application
 Additional Capacity/Medical Bin Application
 Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy: Delivering Resource Efficiency-October 2013
 Waste Management Plan 2016-2020 (Joint Councils Addendum to the Waste Management Plan August 2024).

Available Evidence

The Council should ensure that its screening decisions are informed by relevant data. What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories. For up to date [S75 Borough Statistics](#)

Section 75 category	Evidence
Religious belief	43.8% of residents in the borough on Census Day 2021 belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 46.7% belong to or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. A further 1.2% belonged to or had been brought up in other religions while 8.2% neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in a religion. <i>Table 1: Religion or religion brought up in of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Religion or Religion Brought Up In – Table MS-B23, Census 2021, NISRA.</i>

Political opinion	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has 41 elected members. A breakdown of results of the Local Government Election in May 2023 for the borough are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic Unionist Party – 13 • Ulster Unionist Party – 6 • Sinn Fein – 15 • Social Democratic and Labour Party – 1 • Alliance – 4 • Independent – 1 • TUV – 1 <p>A total of 87,684 votes were polled in the borough from an eligible electorate of 155,625 giving an overall turnout of 56.34%. This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of the political opinion of people within the borough.</p>
Racial group	<p>Results from the 2021 Census showed that 96.7% of the usually resident population of the borough were white and 3.3% were from minority ethnic groups. The main ethnic minorities were Mixed (1,652 individuals), Black African (1,132 individuals) and Chinese (683 individuals).</p> <p><i>Table 2: Ethnic group of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table: MS-B01 Ethnic Group, Census 2021, NISRA.</i></p>
Age	<p>The population of the borough was estimated to be 218,656 on Census Day 2021, the profile of which is shown below. 48,243 (22%) aged 0-15yrs, 21,774 (10%) 16-24, 72,023 (33%) 25-49, 41,626 (19%) and 34,990 (16%) 65+.</p> <p><i>Table 5: Age profile of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census Day 2021. Source: Table MS-A06 Age Structure, Census 2021</i></p>
Marital status	<p>The 2021 Census provides information on the marital and civil partnership status of those aged 16 and over. Almost half of residents aged 16+ in the borough were married (49.0%). 60,075 (35%) single, 307 (0.2%) in a civil partnership, 5,833 (3.4%) separated but still legally married or in a civil partnership, 10,253 (6%) divorced or formerly in a civil partnership now legally dissolved, 10,420 (6%) widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership.</p> <p><i>Table 6: Marital and civil partnership status of residents aged 16+ in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Marital and Civil Partnership Status – Table MS-A30, Census 2021, NISRA.</i></p>
Sexual orientation	<p>The question on sexual orientation was new for the 2021 Census and was asked of all people aged 16 and over. However, while completing the census is a legal obligation, there was no statutory penalty for those people who failed to provide an answer to the question on sexual orientation.</p>

	<p>There were 170,413 residents aged over 16yrs and 154,259 identified as straight or heterosexual, 2,497 (1.5%) identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or other and 13,657 (8%) did not state sexual orientation.</p> <p><i>Table 7: Sexual Orientation of residents aged 16 and over in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland, 2021. Source: Table MS-C01, Census 2021.</i></p>
Men and women generally	<p>The 2021 Census showed that in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 49.5% (108,268) of usual residents were male and 50.5% (110,388) were female.</p>
Disability	<p>According to the 2021 Census, more than one in five people in the borough (22% or 48,726 individuals) had a limiting long-term health problem or disability. Census 2021 results are disaggregated by broad age bands and the results show the prevalence of a limiting long-term health problem or disability is related to age1.</p> <p>2,759 (6%) were aged 0-14yrs, 7,367 (11%) 15-39, 18,715 (26.5%) 40-64, 19,885 (56.8%) 65+.</p> <p><i>Table 8: Limiting long-term health problem or disability by age band, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-D02, Census 2021.</i></p> <p>As presented in Table 8, almost 57% of the population aged 65+ in the borough had a limiting long-term health problem or disability compared to 6% of those aged between 0-14.</p> <p>Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities showed that as of November 2022 there were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,510 or 5.2% of under 16 population and 5,030 or 15.2% of pension age eligible population claiming Disability Living Allowance. • 5,930 or 17.9% of 66+ population claiming Attendance Allowance. • 18,540 Personal Independent Payment claims in payment (experimental statistics).
Dependants	<p>The 2021 Census showed that 32% or 27,192 households in the borough contained dependent children. Results from the 2021 Census also show that 12% of the borough's population aged 5 years old and over (or 24,741 individuals) provided unpaid care. Of those who provided unpaid support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46% provided 1 – 19 hours per week • 24% provided 20 – 49 hours per week • 30% provided 50+ hours per week. <p>Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities show that at November 2022 there were 8,120 claimants, or 4.8% of 16 and over population, claiming Carer's Allowance in the borough.</p>

Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information gathered above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories in relation to this particular policy/decision?

Section 75 category	Needs, experiences and priorities
Religious belief	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.
Political opinion	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.
Racial group	We will ensure that the communication programme takes into account the needs of a diverse population and promotes participation from all groups.
Age	An Assisted Lift Application is still available for those residents that experience difficulty leaving their bin to the kerbside.
Marital status	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.
Sexual orientation	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.
Men and women generally	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.
Disability	An Assisted Lift Application is still available for those residents that experience difficulty leaving their bin to the kerbside.
Dependants	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category. The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.

Screening Questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy for each of the Section 75 categories?

Category	Policy Impact	Level of impact (Major/minor/none)
Religious belief	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Political opinion	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None

Racial group	We will ensure that the communication programme takes into account the needs of a diverse population and promotes participation from BME groups.	Minor
Age	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Marital status	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Sexual orientation	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Men and women generally	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Disability	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None
Dependants	We do not anticipate any additional impact for this category	None

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 categories?

Category	If yes, provide details	If no, provide reasons
Religious belief		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Political opinion		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Racial group		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Age		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about

		the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Marital status		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Sexual orientation		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Men and women generally		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Disability		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service
Dependants		The communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service

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

Category	Details of Policy Impact	Level of impact (major/minor/none)
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group		None

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

Category	If yes, provide details	If no, provide reasons
Religious belief		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No

Multiple Identity

Generally speaking, people fall into more than one Section 75 category (for example: disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; young lesbian, gay and

bisexual people). Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant s75 categories concerned.

Older disabled people may be impacted. Families from BME communities.

Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006

Is there an opportunity for the policy to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

Arrangements are already in place for those who require an assisted bin lift and for those that require an additional capacity bin.

Is there an opportunity for the policy to encourage participation by disabled people in public life?

No

Screening Decision

A: NO IMPACT IDENTIFIED ON ANY CATEGORY – EQIA UNNECESSARY

Please identify reasons for this below

B: MINOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY AS IMPACT CAN BE ELIMINATED OR MITIGATED

Where the impact is likely to be minor, you should consider if the policy can be mitigated, or an alternative policy introduced. If so, an EQIA may not be considered necessary. You must indicate the reasons for this decision below, together with details of measures to mitigate the adverse impact or the alternative policy proposed.

We will ensure that the communication programme takes into account the needs of a diverse population and promotes participation from BME groups. The public consultation and the communication programme will ensure that all groups are provided the opportunity to learn about the changes to the Waste Collection Service.

C: MAJOR IMPACT IDENTIFIED – EQIA REQUIRED

If the decision is to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

Timetabling and Prioritising

If the policy has been screened in for equality impact assessment, 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.

Policy Criterion

Rating (1-3)

Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations

Social need

Effect on people's daily lives

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 Council in timetabling its EQIAs.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? If yes, please give details.

Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help the authority identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy. It is recommended that where a policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced to mitigate adverse impact, monitoring be undertaken on a broader basis to identify any impact (positive or adverse).

Further information on monitoring is available in the Equality Commission's guidance on monitoring (www.equalityni.org).

Identify how the impact of the policy is to be monitored

There is ongoing monitoring of performance through Waste Data Flow tonnage reporting. There are also quarterly reports prepared for Council in relation to statutory targets.

Approval and Authorisation

A copy of the screening form for each policy screened should be signed off by the senior manager responsible for that policy. The screening recommendation should be reported to the relevant Committee/The Council when the policy is submitted for approval.

Screened by	Position/Job title	Date
Jason Patterson	Business Support Officer	20/12/2024
Approved by	Position/Job Title	Date
Claire Duddy	Head of Climate, Sustainability & Parks	20/12/2024

A copy of the completed screening form should be signed off and approved by the senior manager responsible for that policy. The completed screening form should be attached to the relevant Committee paper when the policy is submitted for approval.

Following approval by Council please forward a copy of the completed approved policy and screening form to:

Equality@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

The policy and completed screening form will be made available on the Council's website.

Appendix 2 Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)

SECTION 1

Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority: Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough The Council

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

'One in Four' Brown Bin Collection winter pilot scheme

1C Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to:

Developing a

Adopting a

Implementing a

Revising a

Designing a Public Service

Delivering a Public Service

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above

'One in Four' Brown Bin Collection winter pilot scheme

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

The 'One in Four' initiative is a pilot scheme during the winter months when less garden waste is produced, and the contents of the brown bin is considerably reduced and will enable the Council to lower its carbon footprint through less mileage and fuel usage with a reduction in vehicle emissions.

Council previously provided residents with a 240 litre bin for collecting garden waste and food co-mingled in the same bin, which was collected fortnightly.

Brown bin collections will move from fortnightly collections to a new 'One in Four' weeks cycle for households across the ABC Borough from mid-December to the end of March 2025, with residents' collection day of the week remaining the same during this period.

1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

- Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition)
- Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below)
- A definition of 'rural' is not applicable

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used

N/A

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

N/A

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

This service will be provided to the whole Borough but it will not have any negative impact on those in rural areas.

SECTION 2

Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes No If response is No go to 2E

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas *differently* from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

- Rural Businesses
- Rural Tourism
- Rural Housing
- Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas
- Education or Training in Rural Areas
- Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas

- Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas
- Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas
- Poverty in Rural Areas
- Deprivation in Rural Areas
- Rural Crime or Community Safety
- Rural Development
- Agri-Environment
- Other (Please state)

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

This service will be provided to the whole Borough but it will not have any negative impact on those in rural areas.

SECTION 3
Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes No If response is No go to 3E

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

- Consultation with Rural Stakeholders
- Consultation with Other organisations
- Published Statistics
- Research Papers
- Surveys or Questionnaires
- Other Publications
- Other Methods or Information Sources
- (include details in Question 3C below)

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

This service will be provided to the whole Borough but it will not have any negative impact on those in rural areas.

SECTION 4
Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

N/A

SECTION 5
Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes No If response is No go to 5C

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

If the response to Section 5A was YES go to 6A.

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

This service will be provided to the whole Borough but it will not have any negative impact on those in rural areas.

SECTION 6

Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained, and relevant information compiled.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:

Position:

Department / Directorate:

Signature: Jason Patterson

Date: 20/12/2024

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:

Position:

Department / Directorate:

Signature: Claire Duddy

Date: 20/12/2024