

Policy Screening Form

Policy Scoping

Policy Title: Request from Mourneview Assembly to utilise the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan from 6th March 2022 – 25th December 2022

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

Council officers have received an application form from Mourneview Assembly to utilise the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan each Sunday commencing 6th March 2022 – 25th December 2022 from 5.00pm – 8.00 pm for the purpose of a weekly drive-in Church Meeting.

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

The aim of the services are to provide an outreach initiative to be supported by the local community.

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 Council to amend the policy?

The application to hold the services was received by the Estates Department by way of submission of application form, received 28th January 2022.

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

This is a weekly service and an outreach initiative that will benefit those of different religious belief. The Council acknowledges that no individual belongs exclusively to one equality group. However, the majority of participants of the event are parishioners of Mourneview Community who are members of the Protestant community.

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

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Who initiated or wrote policy? | Who is responsible for implementation? |
| The Council | 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)?

The event organisers have provided a copy of their current Insurance cover and this has been confirmed by Council's officer responsible for Insurance to be sufficient. As required, local PSNI are kept informed of the services. No previous negative comments or complaints have been made in relation to same. The services will not be conducted via a loudspeaker. Those attending listen via their radios and remain seated in the vehicles at all times. Church has confirmed that it has the appropriate Licence in place from OFCOM to broadcast.

Main stakeholders in relation to the policy

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

Service participants

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

Local

**Good Relations Strategy
Equality Scheme**

Regional

**The Together: Building a United Community Strategy T:BUC
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland: Promoting Good Relations, a Guide for Public Authorities October 2007**

Available Evidence

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.

| Section 75 category | Evidence |
|----------------------------|---|
| Religious belief | The 2011 Census showed that 43% of the population in the Borough were either Catholic or brought up as Catholic and 52% belonged to or were brought up in Protestant, other Christian or Christian-related denominations. A further 1% belonged to or had been brought up in other religions, while 5% neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in, a religion. |
| Political opinion | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has 41 elected members, the breakdown of seats by political party is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic Unionist Party – 11 • Ulster Unionist Party - 10 |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sinn Fein - 10 • Social Democratic and Labour Party - 6 • Alliance - 3 • Independent - 1 <p>A total of 79,309 votes were polled in the borough from an eligible electorate of 147,977 giving a turnout of 53.6%. This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of the political opinion of people within the Borough.</p> |
| Racial group | <p>The 2011 Census showed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98.5% of the usually resident population of the Borough were White and 1.5% were from minority ethnic groups. The main ethnic minorities were Mixed (605 individuals), Chinese (528 individuals) and Other Asian (463 individuals). • 89.0% of residents in the Borough were born in Northern Ireland. The Borough had 5.4% of residents or 10,846 individuals who were born outside the United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland. <p>4.1% of residents aged 3+ years or (7,896 individuals) spoke a language other than English or Irish as their main language. Apart from English and Irish, the most common other main languages were Polish (2,919 residents aged 3+ years), Lithuanian (1,736) and Portuguese (834). Of those whose main language is not English or Irish, 34% cannot speak English or cannot speak it well (based on the three legacy council areas).</p> |
| Age | <p>The population of the Borough was estimated to be 216,205 at 30 June 2019. The profile by age group is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-15 years - 23% • 16-39 years - 30% • 40-64 years - 32% • 65+ years - 16% <p>The Borough has a growing and ageing population. The population of the Borough is projected to increase by almost 8% or 16,675 people over the next 10 years to 2029. The largest percentage increase is projected in the 65 and over age group (29%). Within this age group the number aged 85 and over are projected to increase by an extra 1,781 people (46%).</p> |
| Marital status | <p>The 2011 Census provides information on the marital status profile of those aged 16 and over in the Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) - 34% • Married - 51% • In a registered same-sex civil partnership - 0.1% • Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership) - 4% • Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved - 5% • Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership - 7% |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Sexual orientation | <p>The 2011 Census did not include a question on sexual identity.</p> <p>The Continuous Household Survey provides results on the sexual identity of persons aged 16 and over. In 2017/18 - 2019/20, 98% of respondents to the survey identified as Heterosexual/Straight, 1% as Gay/Lesbian and 1% as Bisexual in the Borough. Note figures may not sum to 100% due to rounding.</p> <p>Results from the 2019 Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey showed for adults aged 18 and over in NI overall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am 'gay' or 'lesbian' (homosexual) - 2% • I am heterosexual or 'straight' - 90% • I am bi-sexual - 1% • Other answer - 1% • I do not wish to answer this question – 7% <p>Note figures may not sum due to rounding.</p> |
| Men and women generally | <p>The 2011 Census showed that in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 49% (98,713) of usual residents were males and 51% (100,980) were females.</p> <p>Population estimates for 2019 show the borough is made up of 107,540 (49.7%) males and 108,665 (50.3%) females.</p> |
| Disability | <p>In 2011, one fifth (20%) of people (or 39,861 individuals) in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities.</p> <p>The Family Resources Survey showed, using data for 2015/16 to 2017/18, 19% of individuals in the Borough were disabled, similar to the level in NI overall (21%).</p> <p>Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities showed as of May 2020 there were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,120 or 4.4% of under 16 population and 6,070 or 18.1% of 65 and over population claiming Disability Living Allowance • 5,550 or 16.6% of 65 and over population claiming Attendance Allowance • 15,130 Personal Independence Payment claims in payment (experimental statistics). |
| Dependants | <p>The 2011 Census showed:</p> <p>36% or 27,287 households in the Borough contained dependent children.</p> <p>12% of the population (or 23,101 individuals) provided unpaid care. Of those who provided unpaid support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58% provided 1-19 hours per week, • 17% provided 20-49 hours per week, and • 25% provided 50+ hours per week. <p>Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities show that at May 2020, there were 7,940 claimants or 4.7% 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 Political opinion | This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also |
| Racial group | N/A |
| Age | N/A |
| Marital status | N/A |
| Sexual orientation | N/A |
| Men and women generally | N/A |
| Disability | N/A |
| Dependants | N/A |

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 Political opinion | <p>This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also</p> <p>Equality Commission Guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good</p> | Minor |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|------|
| | Relations: a Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007 – The Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan is a shared space. | |
| Racial group | N/A | None |
| Age | N/A | None |
| Marital status | N/A | None |
| Sexual orientation | N/A | None |
| Men and women generally | N/A | None |
| Disability | N/A | None |
| Dependents | N/A | 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 | | <p>This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also</p> <p>Equality Commission Guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good Relations: a Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007 –</p> <p>The Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan is a shared space.</p> |
| Political opinion | | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Racial group | | |
| Age | | |
| Marital status | | |
| Sexual orientation | | |
| Men and women generally | | |
| Disability | | |
| Dependents | | |

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 | <p>This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also</p> <p>Equality Commission Guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good Relations: a Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007 –</p> <p>The Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan is a shared space.</p> | Minor |
| Political opinion | | |
| Racial group | | |

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 | | <p>This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also</p> <p>Equality Commission Guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good Relations: a Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007 –</p> <p>The Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan is a shared space.</p> |
| Political opinion | | |
| Racial group | | |

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.

The Council acknowledges that no individual belongs exclusively to one equality group. However, the majority of participants of the event are parishioners of Mourneview Community who are members of the Protestant community.

Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006

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

N/A

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

N/A

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.

This is a weekly Sunday service event that is held by Mourneview Assembly. The event consists of a number of vehicles parked in the Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan who gather to listen to their Sunday Service via radios in their vehicles. Whilst it is Mourneview Assembly that complete the application form it is not solely for their parishioners to attend. It is seen as an outreach initiative also

Equality Commission Guidance states that public authorities must consider how the policies it makes and implements affect relationships amongst the people it serves and employs. Promoting Good Relations: a Guide for Public Authorities, October 2007 – The Council-owned Off-Street Car Park at Millennium Way, Lurgan is a shared space.

The following measures will mitigate any potential impact on equality and good relations:

Previous ad-hoc services have previously received Council approval;

The event only takes place for a short period on Sunday evenings. No previous negative comments have been received and no complaints have been made. Service is not broadcast through a loud speaker and it is only those participants in their vehicles who tune

in via their radios who have access to the service content. Church has confirmed that it has the appropriate Licence in place from OFCOM to broadcast.

Local PSNI are continually kept informed and no issues have been raised by same.

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.

| Priority 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

Complaints will be monitored

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/Council when the policy is submitted for approval.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Screened by | Position/Job title | Date 07/03/22 |
| Mark Halliday | Strategic Asset & Investment Manager | |
| Approved by | Position/Job Title | Date 07/03/22 |
| Jonathan Hayes | Head of Department | |

Please forward a copy of the completed policy and form to:

mary.hanna@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

who will ensure these are made available on the Council's website.

The above officer is also responsible for issuing reports on a quarterly basis on those policies "screened out for EQIA". This allows stakeholders who disagree with this recommendation to submit their views. In the event of any stakeholder disagreeing with the decision to screen out any policy, the screening exercise will be reviewed.