

Appendix 3 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.

Dromore Place Plan

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Developing a | Plan |
| Adopting a | <i>Choose an item.</i> |
| Implementing a | <i>Choose an item.</i> |
| Revising a | <i>Choose an item.</i> |
| Designing a Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delivering a Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

Dromore Place Plan

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

The Dromore Place Plan is the creation of a new locality/community plan for the town. The aim of the plan is to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Dromore through harnessing the place shaping powers and functions of community planning partners.

The Plan details five outcomes

1. Historic Dromore – A thriving heritage town
2. Stocked Dromore – A vibrant town stocked with new businesses, economic growth, assets and life
3. Active Dromore – An energetic town with a wealth of activity opportunities
4. Discovered Dromore – A charming town with an abundance to explore
5. Connected Dromore – A sustainable town with physical and community linkages

The plan identifies 37 actions for implementation to help deliver the above outcomes.

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

Rationale for using alternative definition of ‘rural’.

Reasons why a definition of ‘rural’ is not applicable.

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.

As Dromore is surrounded by rural hinterland, the Dromore Place Plan advocates a sustainable urban development approach that seeks to protect the rural landscape but also to serve the people in rural areas to access vital services, facilities and activities that need to take place and continue.

The Plan will impact positively on people in rural areas who visit, shop, work in Dromore. The Dromore Place Plan offers many actions for an enhanced and improved town that caters for rural dwellers that use the town regularly. From delivering revitalisation and regeneration across the town centre, attracting new businesses, improved linkages and connectivity across the Settlement Development Limit, improved car parking to aid commuters in the area to a 'busy bus' provision to better connect the hinterlands of Dromore with the town which could support employment opportunities.

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.

The proposals contained within the plan will be beneficial to both urban and rural dwellers. Due to a number of transport proposals, rural dwellers will benefit as well as urban dwellers from improved transport infrastructure that connects them into the town.

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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Tourism | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Education or Training in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Poverty in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Deprivation in Rural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Crime or Community Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rural Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Agri-Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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.

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.

- Area wide survey that gathered 241 responses, many of which came from outside the settlement of Dromore in May - June 2024
- Engagement sessions held in person and online during May – June 2024 which involved a number of rural dwellers

Please refer to the Draft Dromore Place Plan Chapter 4 which details the strategic analysis of policies and strategies which was carried out during the discovery phase to identify common themes and to ascertain what alignment opportunities exist across government and with wider stakeholders.

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

- Access to services
- Car parking
- Better transport connectivity

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

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.

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: (Jennifer McKibben)

Position: (Project Officer)

Department / Directorate: (Community Planning)

Signature:

Date: 22/10/2024

Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by: (Elaine Gillespie)

Position: (Head of Department)

Department / Directorate: (Community Planning Policy & Research)

Signature:

Date: 22/10/2024