

# NORTH DOWN AND ARDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E10
2.	Policy Name	Dog Control Policy and Procedures
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	New Policy
4.	Responsible Officer	Acting Director of Environmental Services (ABC) and Borough Inspector (NDBC)
5.	Description of policy to be screened	Policy details how the Council will fulfil its statutory duties relating to dog licensing, impounding stray and unwanted dogs and investigating dog control incidents and offences.
	Aims and expected outcomes – what is the policy expected to achieve?	The policy aim is to clarify how the Council will fulfil its responsibilities under the statutes and detail the responsibilities and rights of residents and dog owners.
6.	Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit and how they may benefit.	All Section 75 categories will benefit from the clarity the policy and procedure provides.

7.	Factors which could contribute to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the Policy when being implemented.	Statutory requirements and codes of practice include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Control of Greyhounds Act (NI) 1950</li> <li>• The Dogs NI Order 1983 as amended</li> <li>• The Dangerous Dogs (NI) Order 1991</li> <li>• The Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2011</li> <li>• The Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2011</li> <li>• Associated Regulations</li> </ul>
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8. The main stakeholders on which the policy will impact. For example, employees, potential service users and community groups.

The main stakeholders in this policy are those residents who own or are affected by dogs, dog owners visiting the Borough and employees.

Consider the internal and external impacts (either actual or potential) and comment, or list, information where appropriate.

9.	Please provide details of other policies which have a bearing on this one.	
	Policies:  Dog Control Policies within Ards and North Down Borough Council	Owned by :  Acting Director of Environmental Services (ABC) and Borough Inspector (NDBC)

10. Available evidence (quantitative and qualitative) considered as important to encourage completion in relation to :

Religious Belief                      No specific information identified

Political Opinion

Racial Group

Age

Marital Status

Sexual orientation  
 Men & Women generally  
 Disability  
 Dependents

11. Based on data previously provided what are the needs, experiences and priorities for each of the following categories, in relation to this policy/decision?

Religious Belief	Arrangements to waiver any fee is based on safety of the animal, animal owner or general public. The decision to waiver the fee is never taken on any other considerations than safety and risk. The Business Manager must authorise a decision to waiver a fee to ensure the decision is based only on the criteria above.
Political Opinion	
Racial Group	
Age	
Marital Status	
Sexual orientation	
Men & Women generally	
Disability	
Dependents	

**Does this Policy require an Equality Impact Assessment?**

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for each of the Section 75 categories?

	Detail of Impact	Level of Impact Minor/Major/None
Religious Belief	This policy will apply to all individuals equally and will not adversely affect one Section 75 category over another.	
Political Opinion		
Racial Group		
Age		
Marital Status		
Sexual orientation		
Men & Women generally		
Disability		
Dependents		

2.	Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?		
		If "Yes", provide details	If "No", provide details
	Religious Belief	This policy does not provide opportunities to better promote equality of opportunities.	
	Political Opinion		
	Racial Group		
	Age		
	Marital Status		
	Sexual orientation		
	Men & 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?		
		Details of Impact	Level of Impact Minor/Major/None
	Religious Belief	None	
	Political Opinion		
Racial Group			

4.	Are there opportunities to better promote Good Relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
		If "Yes" provide details	If "No" provide details
	Religious Belief	No	
	Political Opinion		
Racial Group			

### Additional Considerations

Multiple Identity Considerations	Details of Impact or potential impact (Positive/Negative)
Are there any potential impacts of the policy decision on people with multiple identities? (e.g. disabled minority ethnic persons)	Multiple identity considerations were included above. The Council will seek, on a case by case basis, to meet the needs of all employees, dog owners and those responsible for dogs which fall under this policy.
Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.	N/A

Does this proposed policy provide an opportunity to:	Yes / No	Explain your reasoning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>better promote positive attitudes</u> towards disabled people</li> <li>- <u>increase participation</u> by disabled people in public life</li> </ul>	No	This is an operational policy which will apply to employees only. The needs of employees with a disability which fall under this policy will be able to discuss their specific needs with the Council.
	No	The policy will ensure that dog owners or those responsible for dogs will be communicated with in an alternative format where a need is identified.

## Monitoring Arrangements

Section 75 places a requirement on the Council to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services, help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity.

Outline what data you could collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy / decision on <u>equality, good relations and disability duties</u> .	The Borough Inspector's office will monitor the application of the policy and its effect on its application to individuals and employees in the Borough.
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## Formal Record of Screening Decision

Policy Reference	E 10
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I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision has been screened for:-

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equality of opportunity and good relations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disabilities duties; and
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights issues

On the basis of the answers to the screening questions, I recommend that this policy / decision is:-

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Screened Out – No EQIA necessary (no impacts)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Screened Out – Mitigating Actions (minor impacts)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Screened In – Necessary to conduct a full EQIA
	Please detail actions to be taken:

Screening assessment completed by:-

Name: David Brown  
Title: Borough Inspector  
Date: 2 March 2015  
Signature:

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:  
Name: Richard Britten  
Title: Acting Director of Environmental Services  
Date: 2 March 2015

Signature:



If an Equality Impact Assessment is required

Priority Rating for timetabling an Equality Impact Assessment. (1-3)	Priority Criterion	Rating
	Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
	Social need	
	Effect on people's daily lives	
	Relevance to a public authority's functions	

Is this policy affected by timetables established by other relevant Public Authorities?	
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Monitoring Recommendation	
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	Approval and Authorisation		
	Screened by :	Position/Job Title:	Date:
	David Brown	Borough Inspector	2 March 2015
	Approved by: Richard Britten	Acting Director of Environmental Services	2 March 2015



### Consideration of Human Rights

The Human Rights Act 1998 brings the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK and, therefore, Northern Ireland. Indicate below any potential adverse impacts that the policy / decision may have in relation to human rights issues.

Right to Life	Article 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prohibition to torture, inhuman or degrading treatment	Article 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prohibition of Slavery and forced labour	Article 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to Liberty and Security	Article 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to a Fair and Public Trial	Article 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to no punishment without due legal process	Article 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Article 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	Article 9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to freedom of Expression	Article 10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association	Article 11	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to marry and found a family	Article 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
The prohibition on discrimination	Article 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions	Protocol 1 Article 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to education	Protocol 1 Article 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right to free and secret election	Protocol 1 Article 3	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Please explain any adverse impacts on Human Rights that you have identified?	
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	Please indicate any ways in which you consider the policy positively promotes Human Rights	
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