

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E 113
2.	Policy Name	Requests to Light Up Buildings - Policy Review
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	Revised policy
4.	Responsible Officer	Director of Organisational Development and Administration
5.	Description of policy to be screened	<p>In October 2015 the Council adopted criteria and procedures for processing requests to light up Council Buildings where suitable arrangements are in place to facilitate appropriate colours. Requests for lighting up buildings are currently deemed as eligible if they:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of charities nominated by the Mayor; • Mark events directly organised by or financially supported by the Council; • Mark events not directly organised by the Council but which may be held wholly or in part in the Borough and be regarded as of significant benefit to the Borough from a tourism or promotional perspective (e.g. Giro d'Italia); • Charitable, community or other non-profit making organisations based in or with a significant connection to the Borough and which are celebrating a significant anniversary or occasion; or • Recognised sporting teams or organisations with a specific connection to the Borough which have received a significant accolade. <p>Further, it was agreed that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requests to light up buildings on UN recognised days would, in the first instance be brought to the Council for approval and marked annually thereafter and reviewed after a ten year period or until the Council decides to cease such practice; and • requests which were not covered by the criteria outlined above, or were considered to be of a political or potentially controversial nature, would require the consideration and approval of the Council. It is considered appropriate and good practice to review these procedures. <p>In general, the lighting up of Council buildings has been positively received by the public, enhances our buildings, provides colour and interest in town centres, and raises awareness of important campaigns. This policy also gave the opportunity for the Council to mark a range of one off events</p>

		<p>including sporting achievements and significant anniversaries of teams and groups.</p> <p>Requests were also received from elected members in response to world events or events which fall outside those listed in the original policy. These decisions were, by virtue of the need to react quickly, taken without Council agreement and prompted a wide range and variety of responses (positive and negative) from elected members and the general public, illustrating that such events cause different, and sometimes controversial, reactions from different people and interest groups. The Council has also come under criticism for lighting up buildings in response to some, but not all, terrorist attacks. It is considered appropriate to no longer light up the buildings in response to world events as an immediate response. It is therefore proposed that within this policy:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Council continues to process requests to light up buildings in line with the existing policy; •The Council does not light up buildings in immediate response to world events and • Requests to light up buildings to mark national holidays will be processed via the Corporate Services Committee/ Council structure and S75 screened accordingly.
	Aims and Expected Outcomes – what is the Policy expected to achieve?	To have in place a transparent policy and operating procedure for use across the council at buildings and features where it is possible to use lighting to highlight a significant event or date. Currently these are at the McKee Clock, Bangor and the Arts Centre, Newtownards.

6.	Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit and how they may benefit.	All Section 75 categories will benefit from the clarity of this policy.
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7.	Factors which could contribute to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the Policy when being implemented.	If the policy is not delivered as intended or if additional requests are made that are considered and are outside the policy arrangements.
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8.	The main stakeholders on whom the policy will impact. For example, Employees, Potential Service Users and Community Groups Consider the internal and external impacts (either actual or potential) and comment, or list, information where appropriate	This policy will impact on the Council, elected members and employees and all stakeholders, which includes any person, group or organisation requesting the implementation of the policy; any potential group that may request the implementation of the policy; and all residents, businesses and visitors to the Borough.
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9.	Please provide details of other policies which have a bearing on this one.	
	Policies: E 49 Lighting up buildings policy E 68 Policy for the Provision of Memorial Benches E 78 Request to light Ards Town Hall in national or recognised colours in memory of Orlando Shooting June 2016	Owned by : Ards and North Down Borough Council

10.	Available evidence (quantitative and qualitative) considered as important to encourage completion in relation to :	
	Religious Belief	Ards and North Down Borough Council data that is available for the Electoral Ward areas providing a profile of residents. Data on requests received and delivered to light up buildings and requests not agreed to with reasons from introduction of the original policy. Data on requests agreed to and rejected. NISRA and NINIS data on areas where lighting of buildings will take place.
	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	All requests that meet the criteria of the policy. All requests that do not meet the criteria of the policy. The policy will be enacted for a range of Section 75 categories and multiple identities where the policy can be delivered within the lighting equipment available and the criteria of the policy. The buildings will be lit up where the criteria are met and the facilities are available to accommodate the appropriate colours.
	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	Some individuals may not feel the request the council supports demonstrates equality of opportunity. However, the policy and decision making process for late requests will consider a broad range of opinion and each will be considered on its own merit cognisant of the timing, event and	Minor
	Political Opinion		
	Racial Group		
	Age		
	Marital Status		
	Sexual orientation		
	Men & Women generally		
	Disability		
	Dependents		

		reason for the request.	
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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	No as the policy review takes into account the issues raised from when the policy was originally agreed and the arrangements now in place are to ensure the promotion of equality of opportunity is considered as early as possible in the process where issues are identified.	
	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	Minor as the policy will highlight some events that will promote good relations. Good relations will be considered in all requests to ensure any potential adverse impact.	
	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 as the policy review takes into account the issues that may be raised that could impact adversely on the promotion of good relations.	
	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) Where appropriate provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.	As this policy is to identify particular dates or events of significance or recognise achievements and will raise the profile of the requests the policy impacts on a broad range of multiple identities. Some of the identified dates will be to raise awareness of certain disabilities and individuals/group/teams/organisations achievements.

Disability Discrimination Order (NI) 2006

Does this proposed policy provide an opportunity to: - <u>better promote positive attitudes</u> towards disabled people - <u>increase participation</u> by disabled people in public life	Yes / No	Explain your reasoning:
	Yes	The policy includes arrangements to light up buildings at significant dates to raise the profile of those with disabilities and disability support organisations. The arrangements will be highlighted through the Councils Communication Policy.

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>	Requests for lighting up of the buildings, from whom the requests are received, dates of requests for action. Section 75 data where possible to collect of those whom these requests are representing. Requests that are not agreed to.
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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?	
	Please indicate any ways in which you consider the policy positively promotes Human Rights	

I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision have 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: Amanda Martin
Title: Head of Administration
Date: 2 May 2017
Signature:

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:

Name: Wendy Monson
Title: Director of Organisational Development and Administration

Date: 2 May 2017

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:
	Head of Administration	2 May 2017
Approved by:	Director of Organisational Development and Administration	2 May 2017