

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E 186
2.	Policy Name	Ards and North Down Borough Council Scheme of Delegation
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	New policy
4.	Responsible Officer	Director of Finance and Performance Improvement
5.	Description of policy to be screened	<p>Ards and North Down Borough Council (“the Council”) is committed to setting and securing the highest standards in decision making and the Scheme of Delegation provides the framework and guidance for the powers delegated to Committees of Council and to senior officers within the Council.</p> <p>Like every other Local Authority, the Council is only able to do what the law empowers it to do. In the absence of a decision by the Council to the contrary, all its powers would have to be exercised through meetings of the full Council.</p> <p>Recognising that this would be unworkable and would detract from the achievement of the Council’s objectives and values, the Council has chosen to exercise one of the powers available to it – the power to delegate. There are however some powers which the law says cannot be delegated and others which the Council chooses to keep for itself.</p> <p>The purpose of the Scheme is, therefore, to set out the decisions and authorisations which Members agree Officers can make or grant without any further reference to Council or Committees. This authorisation will be conditional upon Committees receiving regular assurance on the delivery of Council Services. Assurance should be provided to Council through the various elements of the Council’s governance framework, including performance reports, health and safety reports, finance reports, internal audit reports and risk management reports. Decisions made by officers under delegated authority are not subject to reconsideration under ‘Call-in’ Part 7, paragraph 41 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014,</p>

		which applies only to decisions made by the Council or a Committee of the Council.
	Aims and Expected Outcomes – what is the Policy expected to achieve?	<p>By delegating responsibility for specific duties to Officers, Members will have more opportunity to concentrate on the most important strategic decisions of council policy including both corporately significant decisions and service delivery issues. This will allow officers to deal with operational issues in a more expedient way and reduce the overall administrative burden on the political process.</p> <p>Delegation also provides officers with confidence in the parameters within which they are working and the knowledge of when matters need to be escalated. Delegated authority is designed to aid the integrated management of the organisation, the effective deployment of resources and the efficient delivery of services and this Scheme should therefore be considered in that light. The delegations in this Scheme should be interpreted widely to assist with the smooth running of the organisation, the effective deployment of resources, the efficient delivery of services, and the achievements of the Council’s vision and objectives.</p> <p>Nothing in the Scheme of Delegation shall impair the discharge of the direct accountability to the Council by the Chief Executive and the Corporate Leadership Team.</p>

6.	Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit and how they may benefit.	All Section 75 Sections are expected to benefit from this decision making process
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7.	Factors which could contribute-to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the Policy when being implemented	If the Scheme of Delegation, framework and guidance is not implemented as intended.
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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	The Council, Elected Members, Council officers, those affected by Council decisions.
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9.	Please provide details of other policies which have a bearing on this one.	
	E 15 Ards and North Down Borough Council - Corporate Plan E 48 Performance Management Policy	Ards and North Down Borough Council

10.	Available evidence (quantitative and qualitative) considered as important to encourage completion in relation to :																																							
Religious Belief	<p>Summary: The Northern Ireland Census 2011 (NISRA) statistics for the Borough area showed that 75% are or have been brought up in Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religions. While this varied across the borough from 17% in Portaferry ward to 87% in Carrowdore ward this does not have any relation to this policy. These compared to 48% for Northern Ireland as a whole. See table below</p> <p>Data: Religion or Religion Brought up in (Numbers with % in brackets)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 674 1422 1178"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Catholic</th> <th>Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)</th> <th>Other Religions</th> <th>None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1,810,863 (100%)</td> <td>817,385 (45%)</td> <td>875,717 (48%)</td> <td>16,592 (1%)</td> <td>101,169 (6%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards and North Down Borough Council</td> <td>156,672 (100%)</td> <td>20,550 (13%)</td> <td>117,589 (75%)</td> <td>1,729 (1%)</td> <td>16,804 (11%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Religion or religion brought up in. Census 2011, NISRA</p>		All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)	Other Religions	None	Northern Ireland	1,810,863 (100%)	817,385 (45%)	875,717 (48%)	16,592 (1%)	101,169 (6%)	Ards and North Down Borough Council	156,672 (100%)	20,550 (13%)	117,589 (75%)	1,729 (1%)	16,804 (11%)																					
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Political Opinion	<p>Summary: Electoral Office data from recent Local Government elections detail the political representation on Ards and North Down Council, The Stormont Executive for this electoral area and Westminster election. This data is an approximate measure of political opinion of the voting electorate within the Borough. Turnout to vote in North Down and Strangford constituencies tend to be lower than the rest of NI suggesting less strong political opinions. Of those who do turn out, the results show preferences for voting Unionist parties. See table below</p> <p>Data: Council Election results The most recent local council election (2nd May 2019) showed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1583 1620 1850"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Eligible Electorate</th> <th rowspan="2">Votes Polled (% Turnout)</th> <th colspan="10">Elected Candidate</th> </tr> <tr> <th>DUP</th> <th>Sinn Féin</th> <th>UUP</th> <th>SDLP</th> <th>Alliance</th> <th>Independent</th> <th>TUV</th> <th>Green</th> <th>PUP</th> <th>Aontu</th> <th>CCIA</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Eligible Electorate	Votes Polled (% Turnout)	Elected Candidate										DUP	Sinn Féin	UUP	SDLP	Alliance	Independent	TUV	Green	PUP	Aontu	CCIA															
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		Northern Ireland	1,305,553	687,733 (52.7%)	122	105	75	59	53	24	6	8	3	1	1
		Ards and North Down Borough Council	112,077	47,161 (42.1%)	14		8	1	10	3	1	3			
		Ards Peninsula (DEA)	16,656	7,369 (44.2%)	3		1	1	1						
		Bangor Central (DEA)	17,194	6,678 (38.8%)	2		1		1	1		1			
		Bangor East and Donaghadee (DEA)	16,956	6,915 (40.8%)	2		2		1	1					
		Bangor West (DEA)	13,479	5,448 (40.4%)	1		1		2			1			
		Comber (DEA)	13,681	6,272 (45.8%)	2		1		1		1				
		Holywood and Clondeboy (DEA)	14,158	6,229 (44.0%)	1		1		2			1			
		Newtownards (DEA)	19,953	8,250 (41.4%)	3		1		2	1					

Source: [The Electoral Office, NI](#)

Racial Group	<p>Summary: NISRA, NINIS and Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership data provide up to date data. The 2011 census showed that 32,000 (1.8%) of the usually resident population in Northern Ireland is from a minority ethnic background. Within the borough, the 2011 Census showed that 1.5% (2,300) were from a minority ethnic background. Across the borough this ranged from 5.2% in Loughview ward to 0.3% in Lisbane ward. See table below</p> <p>Data: Ethnic Group (Numbers with % in brackets)</p>
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	All usual residents	White	Chinese	Indian	Bangladeshi	Other Asian	Black African	Black Other	Mixed	Other
Northern Ireland	1,810,863 (100%)	1,778,449 (98%)	6,303 (0%)	6,198 (0%)	540 (0%)	6,089 (0%)	2,345 (0%)	1271 (0%)	6,014 (0%)	3,654 (0%)
Ards and North Down Borough Council	156,672 (100%)	154,365 (99%)	406 (0%)	283 (0%)	177 (0%)	415 (0%)	139 (0%)	132 (0%)	556 (0%)	199 (0%)
Ards Peninsula	156,672 (100%)	23,367 (99%)	26 (0%)	19 (0%)	5 (0%)	19 (0%)	6 (0%)	2 (0%)	51 (0%)	29 (0%)
Bangor Central	23,524 (100%)	24,469 (98%)	105 (0%)	43 (0%)	17 (0%)	43 (0%)	26 (0%)	32 (0%)	9 (0%)	38 (0%)
Bangor East and Donaghadee	24,892 (100%)	22,648 (99%)	56 (0%)	27 (0%)	10 (0%)	91 (0%)	11 (0%)	2 (0%)	82 (0%)	19 (0%)
Bangor West	22,946 (100%)	17,763 (98%)	19 (0%)	135 (0%)	2 (0%)	11 (0%)	3 (0%)	26 (0%)	73 (0%)	15 (0%)
Comber	18,152 (100%)	18,216 (99%)	30 (0%)	8 (0%)	9 (0%)	35 (0%)	4 (0%)	8 (0%)	55 (0%)	17 (0%)
Hollywood and Clondeboye	18,382 (100%)	20,061 (98%)	65 (0%)	31 (0%)	23 (0%)	81 (0%)	81 (0%)	56 (0%)	1 (0%)	61 (0%)
Newtownards	20,560 (100%)	27,841 (99%)	105 (0%)	20 (0%)	11 (0%)	30 (0%)	8 (0%)	6 (0%)	75 (0%)	20 (0%)

Source: [Ethnic Group, Census 2011, NISRA](#)

Age
 NISRA have published population projections for the Borough which show that the proportion of those aged 85 and over are expected to more than double within the next 25 years.
 ANDBC has the highest % population of older people in Northern Ireland.
 See table below

Data: **Age Groups** (Numbers with % in brackets)

	0-15	16-39	40-64	65+	Total
Northern Ireland	385,200 (21%)	583,116 (31%)	591,481 (32%)	291,824 (16%)	1,851,621 (100%)

Ards and North Down Borough Council	29,801 (19%)	43,239 (27%)	54,094 (34%)	31,663 (20%)	158,797 (100%)
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Sources: [Demography and Methodology Branch, NISRA](#)
[World Health Organization](#)

Marital Status
The 2011 Northern Ireland Census showed that 48% of adults (those aged over 16 years of age) in Northern Ireland were either married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership. Within the borough, 54% of adults fell into this category. This varies across the borough from 36% in Central (Ards) ward to 64% in Lisbane ward.
See table below

Data: Marital Status (All aged 16+) (Numbers with % in brackets)

	All usual residents	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	Married	In a registered same-sex civil partnership	legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership
Northern Ireland	1,431,540 (100%)	517,393 (36%)	68,031 (48%)	1,243 (0%)	56,911 (4%)	78,074 (5%)	97,088 (7%)
Ards and North Down Borough Council	126,945 (100%)	36,730 (29%)	67,866 (53%)	123 (0%)	4,328 (3%)	8,548 (7%)	9,350 (7%)

Source: [Northern Ireland 2011 Census, Marital Status](#)

Sexual orientation
Summary: It should be noted that no reliable data is available on sexual orientation-NISRA are currently examining methodology on how to measure this. However, the 2011 census indicates that less than 1% of the Northern Ireland adult population (those aged 16 years and over) were in a registered same-sex civil partnership. This was similar to the borough as a whole. The Continuous Household Survey in Northern Ireland estimated this figure between 0.9% and 1.9% in 2015-2016. The Office for National Statistics estimates a similar range for the United Kingdom (1.7%).

Source: [Northern Ireland 2011 Census, Marital Status](#)
[ONS 2015 Sexual Identity](#)

Men & Women generally
According to census (NISRA) almost half of the population of Northern Ireland were male (49%) and this was similar throughout Ards and North Down Borough Council (48%). See table below
Data:

		Males	Females	All
	Northern Ireland	887,323 (49%)	923,540 (51%)	1,810,863 (100%)
	Ards and North Down Borough Council	75,920 (48%)	80,752 (52%)	156,672(100%)

Source: [Age Structure, Census 2011, NISRA](#)

[Review of statistical classification and delineation of settlements, NISRA](#)

Disability The 2011 Census (NISRA) showed that 20% of the population in Ards and North Down area had a health issue or disability (including those related to old age) which has lasted or expected to last at least 12 months. (This was similar to the Northern Ireland figure of 21%.)

Disability Living Allowances, 2015

	2015 (Disability Living Allowance Recipients)	2015 (Multiple Disability Benefits) *MDB is aggregated data from Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance data, and data for Employment and Support allowance
Northern Ireland	209,280	251,490
Ards and North Down Borough Council	13,840	18,080
Ards Peninsula	2,920	n/a
Bangor Central	2,250	n/a
Bangor East and Donaghadee	1,740	n/a
Bangor West	1,650	n/a
Comber	1,270	n/a
Hollywood and Clandeboye	1,180	n/a
Newtownards	2,840	n/a

[Northern Ireland Census 2011 Long-term health problem or disability by long-term problem or disability](#)

Dependents **Summary:** In considering this dimension the following have been included: persons with responsibility for the care of a child, children, a person with a disability and or an older person. According to the Continuous Household Survey, 2013-2016, 37% of Ards and North Down claimed to have a dependent (This did not differentiate on the type of dependent).

		According to the 2011 Census, 7,474 households in Ards and North Down had a dependent child under the age of 4 (This might give an indication on the numbers who would have buggies or prams). Sources: Continuous Household Survey
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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	This policy is to enable improved decision making through the delegation of powers in the Council. It will impact on decision making irrespective of the individual making the decision or proposing the decision. Thus the nine identified categories will not be relevant in the process.
	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	As this policy is about delegation of decision making there will be no impact on equality of opportunity as it is in relation to the process and not the individual decisions.	None
	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	No as the policy is in relation to the process and not individual decisions.	
	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 as the policy is in relation to the process and not the individual decisions.	
	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 is in relation to the process and not the individual decisions	
	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.	This policy is about a decision making process and it will be made clear to all with responsibility for taking decisions irrespective of their multiple dimensions.

Disability Discrimination Order (NI) 2006

Does this proposed policy provide an opportunity to:	Yes / No	Explain your reasoning:
	Yes	All policies are made available in a format that suits the user in relation to their needs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>better promote positive attitudes</u> towards disabled people - <u>increase participation</u> by disabled people in public life 		

Monitoring Arrangements

Section 75 places a requirement on the Council to have equality monitoring arrangements in place 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 to monitor the impact of this policy / decision on <u>equality, good relations and disability duties</u>	If decisions are not made within the process and this compromises the Councils responsibilities and duties of Section 75.
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I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision have been screened for:-

X	Equality of opportunity and good relations
X	Disabilities duties

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

X	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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please detail actions to be taken:

Screening assessment completed by:-

Name: Shirley Poxon
 Title: Compliance Officer (Equality and Safeguarding)
 Date: 17 July 2019
 Signature:

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:

Name: Andrew Scott
 Title: Head of Performance Improvement
 Date: 17 July 2019
 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	Position/Job Title:	Date:
	Screened by:	Compliance Officer (Equality and Safeguarding)	17 July 2019
	Approved by:	Head of Performance Improvement	17 July 2019