

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E 193
2.	Policy Name	Ards and North Down Borough Council – Proposed outdoor recreation & biodiversity scheme at Cairn Wood
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	New Policy
4.	Responsible Officer	Director of Finance and Performance
5.	Description of policy to be screened	<p>The Council is in the process of entering into a partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), Forest Service to enable continued public ownership of an area known as Cairn Wood and therefore ensuring continued public access to it. In 2016 the Department for Regional Development had intended to dispose of the asset but following a public campaign amassing a total of 2,700 signatures this decision was reversed. As part of the partnership arrangement, DAERA will remain responsible for the trees and it will be the remit of the Council to provide the recreational and leisure possibilities of the site.</p> <p>In August 2017, Council commissioned an Outline Business Case (OBC) to explore recreational and leisure possibilities of the site. An assessment of need was carried out as part of the OBC and key stakeholders were consulted with. Site reviews were also carried out to identify constraints and opportunities for development.</p> <p>The OBC found that despite Cairn Wood extending some 76 Ha only a small proportion of it is utilised by the public given the minimal trail structure which doesn't utilise the entire area of land within the site. Only some of the paths are stoned and considered in good condition for recreational walking.</p> <p>The car park can only accommodate 15-20 cars and reaches capacity quickly at weekends which limits the number of visitors to Cairn Wood. The car park is accessed from the B170 which has a significant straight stretch that runs along the northern boundary of the site and cars travel at fast speeds along it. The wayfinding</p>

		<p>signage in the site is poor and offers little guidance to especially new visitors on the extent of the routes and features within the site. Mountain biking within the site is evident but limited.</p> <p>Given that there is currently no formal provision within the borough for this activity the site has the potential to offer an excellent facility for the development of a dedicated trail for mountain bikes separate from any walking trails and the biodiversity of the wood.</p> <p>In June 2019, Council was notified that DAERA had an open funding programme available for Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation which would support projects that will develop sustainable family orientated outdoor experiences in forests. The projects must also provide an environment that is inclusive and that will aid the health and wellbeing of all who visit and increase opportunities for social engagement and interaction with the aim of reducing social isolation. Council has submitted an application for this funding stream at the end of August 2019 based on the preferred option that was identified in the OBC which included increasing the extent of the walking trails and enhancing those already existing, introduction of new biking trails, an extended car park with a one way in/out system implemented to provide a safer egress from it onto the road, biodiversity enhancements, new seating and wayfinding signage. It is anticipated that the development of the infrastructure at Cairn Wood will deliver on the goals of the funding requirements.</p> <p>If the funding application is successful works are anticipated to start on site January 2020 however if funding is not secured works will start later in 2020.</p>
	<p>Aims and Expected Outcomes – what is the Policy expected to achieve?</p>	<p>Objective 1: Improve health and wellbeing and promote active lifestyles. Performance measure: Provide opportunities for residents to enjoy an active lifestyle and work to reduce social deprivation and inequality. Target: By year 3 increase the number of visitors to the site by 50% compared to year 0 (from 50,000 to 75,000 per annum)</p> <p>Objective 2: Increase pride in the borough. Performance measure: Ensure residents are engaged and empowered to help shape the future of the borough. Target: Increase the number of positive survey responses compared to baseline figures (a year 0 survey should be undertaken prior to investment to set a baseline and</p>

		<p>appropriate target).</p> <p>Objective 3: Invest and promote facilities and outdoor spaces.</p> <p>Performance measure: Make the borough an attractive place to live/visit through a variety of recreational and sporting facilities and events.</p> <p>Target: By year 3 encourage at least 3 regular recreational or sporting events at the site. This may be nature walks or sponsored walks, a mountain biking event or a running event.</p> <p>Objective 4: Enhance the visitor experience to increase visitor spend.</p> <p>Performance measure: Increase access to clean, high quality spaces. Promote the cultural, recreational, sporting and event offering in the borough.</p> <p>Target: By year 3 achieve an increase in the footfall recorded by local businesses from visitors combining the use of the site's facilities with visits to local businesses (year 0 surveys recording the reasons behind customers visits will need to be undertaken to set a baseline and appropriate target).</p> <p>At present the site is not well managed. Currently there is a limited walking trails through the site with several unofficial bike trails going through the woodland. It is proposed to enhance and extend the existing walking trails and then formalise the bike trails. There is anecdotal demand for mountain biking in the borough as there is currently no formal provision for this activity within the borough.</p> <p>The delivery of the project will improve the current facilities at Cairn Wood by creating better trails for walkers and new trails for mountain bikers. The project will enable the people in Ards and North Down as well as other visitors to feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment as well as enjoying good health and wellbeing. It will also help tackle rural poverty by giving free access to an outdoor leisure facility and help reduce social isolation.</p>
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6.	Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit and how they may benefit.	All section 75 categories have the potential to benefit from this provision as there will be a vast improvement to current facilities and many new facilities that may be used by all Section 75 dimensions at Cairn Wood.
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7.	Factors which could contribute-to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the	If the development does not proceed as intended due to financial constraints or no
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				Christian (including Christian related)		
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%)	

Source: [Religion or religion brought up in. Census 2011, NISRA](#)

Political
Opinion

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

Data:

Council Election results

The most recent local council election (2nd May 2019) showed:

	Eligible Electo rate	Votes Polled (% Turnou t)	Elected Candidate										
			DUP	Sinn Féin	UUP	SDLP	Alliance	Independent	TUV	Green	PUP	Aontu	CCIA
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 Peninsul a (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 Donagha dee (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>										
		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%)	6089 (0%)	2345 (0%)	1271 (0%)	6014 (0%)	3654 (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%)	11 (0%)	9 (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	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%)	10 (0%)	1 (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	<p>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.</p> <p>ANDBC has the highest % population of older people in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>See table below</p> <p>Data:</p> <p>Age Groups (Numbers with % in brackets)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>0-15</th> <th>16-39</th> <th>40-64</th> <th>65+</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>385,200 (21%)</td> <td>583,116 (31%)</td> <td>591,481 (32%)</td> <td>291,824 (16%)</td> <td>1,851,621 (100%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards and North Down Borough Council</td> <td>29,801 (19%)</td> <td>43,239 (27%)</td> <td>54,094 (34%)</td> <td>31,663 (20%)</td> <td>158,797 (100%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Sources: Demography and Methodology Branch, NISRA World Health Organization</p>		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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Marital Status	<p>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.</p> <p>See table below</p>
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	<p>Data: Marital Status (All aged 16+) (Numbers with % in brackets)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)</th> <th>Married</th> <th>In a registered same-sex civil partnership</th> <th>legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)</th> <th>Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved</th> <th>Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1,431,540 (100%)</td> <td>517,393 (36%)</td> <td>68,081 (48%)</td> <td>1,243 (0%)</td> <td>56,911 (4%)</td> <td>78,074 (5%)</td> <td>97,088 (7%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards and North Down Borough Council</td> <td>126,945 (100%)</td> <td>36,730 (29%)</td> <td>67,866 (53%)</td> <td>12,303 (0%)</td> <td>4,328 (3%)</td> <td>8,548 (7%)</td> <td>9,350 (7%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Northern Ireland 2011 Census, Marital Status</p>		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%)	68,081 (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%)	12,303 (0%)	4,328 (3%)	8,548 (7%)	9,350 (7%)
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Sexual orientation	<p>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%).</p> <p>Source: Northern Ireland 2011 Census, Marital Status ONS 2015 Sexual Identity</p>																								
Men & Women generally	<p>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</p> <p>Data:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Males</th> <th>Females</th> <th>All</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>887,323 (49%)</td> <td>923,540 (51%)</td> <td>1,810,863 (100%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards and North Down Borough Council</td> <td>75,920 (48%)</td> <td>80,752 (52%)</td> <td>156,672(100%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Age Structure, Census 2011, NISRA Review of statistical classification and delineation of settlements, NISRA</p>		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%)												
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Disability	<p>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)</p>																								

	<p>which has lasted or expected to last at least 12 months. (This was similar to the Northern Ireland figure of 21%.)</p> <p>Disability Living Allowances, 2015</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2015 (Disability Living Allowance Recipients)</th> <th>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</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>209,280</td> <td>251,490</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards and North Down Borough Council</td> <td>13,840</td> <td>18,080</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ards Peninsula</td> <td>2,920</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangor Central</td> <td>2,250</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangor East and Donaghadee</td> <td>1,740</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangor West</td> <td>1,650</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Comber</td> <td>1,270</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Holywood and Clondeboye</td> <td>1,180</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newtownards</td> <td>2,840</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Northern Ireland Census 2011 Long-term health problem or disability by long-term problem or disability</p>		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	Holywood and Clondeboye	1,180	n/a	Newtownards	2,840	n/a
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Dependents	<p>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).</p> <p>Sources: Continuous Household Survey</p>																														

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	The development at Cairn Wood will provide open space for individuals who wish to use the facilities for recreational and
	Political Opinion	

Racial Group	leisure activities that will be developed on the site. Where possible they will be accessible and shared by all users and potential users. Signage will be used to indicate areas that are not suitable for users if there are issues with the location, gradient, interface with traffic areas etc and alternative arrangements will be indicated. Any activities will be inclusive of all potential users where this is possible.
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	All Section 75 categories have the potential to benefit from the range of activities the area will provide offering a breadth of choice for those of all ages, and those with disabilities as their needs will be considered throughout the planning and development stages.	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 breadth of users and potential users needs will be considered to ensure there is access to all to use the range of facilities and activities that are suitable for the area based on its location, topography and the conservation responsibilities within the area.	
	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	Major positive impact as it will provide a shared facility for all users and potential users where religious belief, political opinion and racial group will not restrict any user or potential user.	
	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 needs of all users and the Councils responsibilities will be considered throughout the development and delivery process.	
	Political Opinion		
Racial Group			

Additional Considerations

Multiple Identity Considerations	Details of Impact or potential impact (Positive/Negative)
<p>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.</p>	<p>The proposed scheme will provide access for disabled people and carers to areas where there will be walks and trails and other activities in a safe manner based on comments from all consultations.</p> <p>By creating a scheme that is accessible for all within the constraints of DDA compliance it will allow disabled people to feel inclusive of the project and any events and activities in the area/facility will be accommodating for disabled users where possible.</p>

Disability Discrimination Order (NI) 2006

Does this proposed policy provide an opportunity to:	Yes / No	Explain your reasoning:
<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 	Yes	<p>The proposed scheme will provide access for disabled people and carers to all areas of the facility and all activities in a comfortable and safe manner where possible.</p> <p>By creating a facility and activities that are accessible for all within the constraints of DDA compliance and the area itself it will allow disabled people to feel inclusive of the project.</p> <p>All public consultations will encourage participation from those with a disability and those representing those with a disability.</p>

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>	Complaints and comments received in relation to the consultation, work phase and access to and around the area and activities.
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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
	Please detail actions to be taken:

Screening assessment completed by:-

Name:
 Title: Project Officer
 Date: 12 September 2019
 Signature:

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:

Name:
 Title: Head of Performance
 Date: 12 September 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:	Project Officer	12 September 2019
Approved by:	Head of Performance	12 September 2019