

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E 29
2.	Policy Name	Freedom of the Borough Policy
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	New Policy
4.	Responsible Officer	Director of Organisational Development and Administration
5.	Description of policy to be screened	<p>This policy is to give clarification to Council on the application of The Local Government (Transitional, Incidental, Consequential and Supplemental Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 ("The Regulations") which states the conditions under which persons shall be admitted to the freedom of the borough.</p> <p>It specifies the criteria set by the Council for conferring the Freedom of the Borough Award on any person, group or organisation who is a current or former resident of the Borough or who have an established connection to the Borough.</p> <p>The policy also determines the maximum number of Freedoms of the Borough per Council term (except in exceptional circumstances).</p>
	Aims and expected outcomes the policy is expected to achieve?	<p>To ensure there is a clear procedure and criteria to provide Council with clarity when receiving the name of an individual, group or organisation for consideration to be granted Freedom of the Borough of Ards and North Down Council.</p>
6.	Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit and how they may benefit.	All Section 75 categories are expected to benefit as the policy ensures consistency of application

7.	Factors which could contribute to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the policy when being implemented.	If the policy is not applied in accordance with the regulations or criteria and conditions as agreed by the Council in their policy.
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8.	<p>The main stakeholders on which the policy will impact. For example, employees, potential service users and community groups.</p> <p>Consider the internal and external impacts (either actual or potential) and comment, or list, information where appropriate.</p>	<p>The Council, Council Elected Members, employees of Council, residents and ratepayers within the Borough, those visiting the Borough.</p> <p>Individuals, groups and organisations who have been conferred with Freedom of the Borough and those who are and may be considered to receive Freedom of the Borough.</p>
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9.	Please provide details of other policies which have a bearing on this one.	
<p>Policies: The Local Government (Transitional, Incidental, Consequential and Supplemental Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015</p> <p>E 15 Corporate Plan E 16 Good Relations Strategy and Action Plan</p>	<p>Owned by :</p> <p>Council</p>	

10.	Available evidence (quantitative and qualitative) considered as important to encourage completion in relation to :	
Religious Belief	<p>Evidence is available in relation to all previous recipients of the Freedom of the Borough award from each legacy Council.</p> <p>The information that is available will be on a range of Section 75 details but will not always be available for all 9 categories.</p> <p>The criteria ensures that the award is made on the merit for the achievement and that none of the Section 75 criteria will be considered.</p>	
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	<p>That a fair and consistent approach is made based on the criteria for recognition of the individual, group or organisation.</p> <p>The Section 75 dimensions are not relevant within the criteria and should not be considered.</p>
	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	<p>The criteria for the award of the Freedom of the Borough on an individual, group or organisation will not impact on equality of opportunity for any of the section 75 categories.</p>	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	<p>No as the criteria is fair and based on merit and contribution by those who meet the criteria to be selected.</p>	
	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 - the criteria is fair and based on merit and contribution by those who meet the criteria to be selected.	
	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)	This policy will impact on individuals based on their contribution and as such will be awarded to a range of individuals irrespective of their Section 75 dimensions.
	Where appropriate provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.	

	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	This policy will ensure that should an individual receiving the award have a known disability or anyone attending the award of the achievement who has a disability will have the opportunity to have any required reasonable adjustments put into place to ensure access to the event.

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>	To whom the award has been proposed to be made, to whom it has been made and the reason for the award
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I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision has been screened for:-

x	Equality of opportunity and good relations
x	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:-

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: Amanda Martin
 Title: Head of Administration
 Date:
 Signature: 8 May 2015

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:

Name: Wendy Monson
 Title: Director of Organisational Development and Administration
 Date:
 Signature: 8 May 2015

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	8 May 2015	
Approved by:	Director of Organisational Development and Administration	8 May 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?	
	Please indicate any ways in which you consider the policy positively promotes Human Rights	