

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy Screening Form

1.	Policy Reference (Equality use only)	E41
2.	Policy Name	Burial Charges and Boundary Change Considerations for opening or transfer of graves
3.	Existing / Revised / New Policy	New
4.	Responsible Officer	Head of Administration
5.	Description of policy to be screened	<p>The Local Government (Boundaries) Order (NI) 2012 redefined the local government boundaries in Northern Ireland, in anticipation of Local Government Reform, and the new boundaries have been effective from the 1 April 2015. The reconfiguration of Ards and North Down Borough Council resulted in a small portion of the former North Down area becoming part of the Belfast City Council area. Approximately 173 households are affected.</p> <p>The Council applies substantially different burial charges for residents and non-residents. Where a resident has been involuntarily affected by the boundary changes, and drawing from lessons arising from the boundary changes which were part of local government reorganisation in 1972, the Council has agreed to continue to apply the resident's fee to former residents of the affected addresses for the purposes of opening a grave or transferring a grave (provided the transfer is between existing residents and the above former residents) where the grave was purchased prior to 1 April 2015.</p> <p>The Council will apply the non-resident's fee for the future sale of graves in cemeteries within the Ards and North Down Borough to the residents whose addresses are now in the Belfast City Council area. They will be able to avail of the resident's charges for the purchase of graves in the Belfast City Council area.</p>

	Aims and Expected Outcomes – what is the Policy expected to achieve?	To ensure residents that were involuntarily affected by the Boundary changes of 2015 are not disadvantaged in the opening or transfer of the graves which they already are in possession of.
--	--	--

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 provides.
----	--	--

7.	Factors which could contribute to / detract from the intended aims / outcomes of the Policy when being implemented	If the policy is not implemented in the manner as intended
----	--	--

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>	The Council, Council employees, those who owned graves in the area that was formerly North Down Borough Council, Undertakers and residents of the legacy Council areas of Castlereagh Borough Council and North Down Borough Council
----	---	--

9.	Please provide details of other policies which have a bearing on this one.	
	E 12 Burial Rules	Owned by : Council

10.	Available evidence (quantitative and qualitative) considered as important to encourage completion in relation to :	
	Religious Belief	In the purchase of a Right of Burial the details on each relevant resident does not monitor them in relation to Section 75. However data on records may indicate marital status and gender.
	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	This data is not relevant to the purchase of a right of burial nor the transfer/sale/opening of a right of burial
	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		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 this policy will affect all who have a Right of Burial in the Borough at April 2015 in an equitable manner	
	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	This policy is not intended to promote Good Relations	
	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 all identified previous residents in the same manner	
	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	The policy ensures all those to whom the policy applies are treated in an equitable manner and information is made available in a range of formats where a need is identified and reasonable adjustments are made if requested

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>	Information on those transferring or selling or opening the Right of Burial in line with Council policy on monitoring service users
--	---	---

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:-

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: 2 September 2015
Signature:

Director/Head of Service decision approved by:

Name: Wendy Monson

Title: Director of Organisational Development and Administration

Date: 2 September 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?	
---	--

Monitoring Recommendation	
---------------------------	--

Approval and Authorisation		
Screened by :	Position/Job Title:	Date:
	Head of Administration	2 September 2015
Approved by:	Director of Organisational Development and Administration	2 September 2015