

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS

## Equality and Human Rights Screening Template



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

# DAERA Equality and Human Rights Screening Template

DAERA has a statutory duty to screen. This includes our strategies and plans, policies, legislative developments; and new ways of working such as – the introduction, change or end of an existing service, grant funding arrangement or facility. This screening template is designed to help business areas consider the likely equality and human rights impacts of their proposed decisions on different groups of customers, service users, staff and visitors.

Before carrying out an equality screening exercise it is important that you have received the necessary training first. To find out about the training needed, contact - [equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk). All screening exercises must be supported by evidence and cleared at Grade 3 level. The accompanying Screening Guidance note provides straightforward advice on how to carry out equality screening exercises. Detailed information about the Section 75 equality duties<sup>1</sup> and what they mean in practice is available on the Equality Commission's website.

The screening template has 4 sections to complete. These are:

**Section A** - asks you to provide details about the policy / decision that is being screened.

**Section B** - has 4 key questions that require you to outline the likely impacts on equality groups, and all supporting evidence.

**Section C** - has 4 key questions in relation to obligations under the Disability Discrimination Order and the Human Rights Act.

**Section D** - is the formal record of the screening decision.

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<sup>1</sup> ECNI 'Section 75 of the NI Act 1998: A Guide for Public Authorities' April 2010. [www.equalityni.org](http://www.equalityni.org)

# Section A

## Details about the policy / decision to be screened

**Title of policy / decision to be screened:-** PfG Air Quality Indicator Delivery Plan

**Brief description of policy / decision to be screened:-**

This delivery plan is new, and contains measures intended to bring about a reduction in monitored levels of nitrogen dioxide across monitoring locations in Northern Ireland.

**Aims and objectives of the policy / decision to be screened:-**

The delivery plan aims to reduce nitrogen dioxide in ambient air in Northern Ireland. The nitrogen dioxide recorded by monitoring stations comes predominantly from road transport emissions. Therefore, many measures in the delivery plan are related to reducing traffic congestion or to promoting sustainable transport measures. There are also measures that seek to shape policy on air quality – such as development of an NI Air Quality Forum, a new NI Air Quality Strategy and new Air Quality Policy and Planning guidance.

## **On whom will the policy / decision impact?**

Consider the internal and external impacts (both actual or potential)

- Staff YES. New duties in carrying out LAQM review measures and monitoring.
- service users
- rural community – YES. Policy focuses on transport and public transport.
- other public sector organizations YES. Policy involves buy in from councils.
- voluntary / community groups / trade unions POSSIBLE.
- others, please specify

## **Are there linkages to other NI Departments / NDPBs?**

**Yes – many of the measures in the Delivery Plan are measures that will be carried out by Department for Infrastructure – for example, measures aimed at increasing the uptake of sustainable transport (cycling, walking), public transport (Belfast Rapid Transit, Transport Hub), road schemes to reduce congestion (e.g. York Street Interchange).**

## Section B

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? What is the level of impact?

| Section 75 category     | Details of likely impact  | Level of impact? Minor/Major/None |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Religious belief        | Impacts could be felt across the population <i>as a whole</i> , for example if measures are implemented that discourage private car usage and encourage the uptake of alternative travel means instead. However, there would not be any impacts felt disproportionately by this sector. | None                              |
| Political opinion       | As for 'Religious belief'.  | None                              |
| Racial group            | As for 'Religious belief'.  | None                              |
| Age                     | As above. Though there is potential impact on this sector in particular, as it relates to policies that could have impacts on individuals' travel. These transport measures are the responsibility of DfI and whatever EQIAs they carry out on these policies and measures will apply.  | Minor                             |
| Marital status          | As for 'Religious belief'.  | None                              |
| Sexual orientation      | As for 'Religious belief'.  | None                              |
| Men and women generally | As for 'Religious belief'.  | None                              |

|            |  |       |
|------------|--|-------|
| Disability | As above. Though there is potential impact on this sector in particular, as it relates to policies that could have impacts on individuals' travel. These transport measures are the responsibility of Dfl and whatever EQIAs they carry out on these policies and measures will apply. | Minor |
| Dependants | As for 'Religious belief'.   | None  |

**2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?**

| <b>Section 75 category</b> | <b>If Yes, provide details</b>  | <b>If No, provide reasons</b> |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Religious belief</b>    | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |
| <b>Political opinion</b>   | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |
| <b>Racial group</b>        | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |
| <b>Age</b>                 | The transport policies/measures cited in this delivery plan belong to Dfl and should fall under Dfl's own EQIA for this sector. |                               |
| <b>Marital status</b>      | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |
| <b>Sexual orientation</b>  | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |
| <b>Men and women</b>       | No impact identified.   | N/A                           |

|                   |   |     |
|-------------------|---|-----|
| <b>generally</b>  |   |     |
| <b>Disability</b> | The transport policies/measures cited in this delivery plan belong to Dfl and should fall under Dfl's own EQIA for this sector. |     |
| <b>Dependants</b> | No impact identified.   | N/A |

**3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? What is the level of impact?**

| <b>Good relations category</b> | <b>Likely impact?</b>   | <b>Level of impact? Minor/Major/None</b> |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Religious belief</b>        | Impacts of policy potentially felt by population as a whole, and not by any particular part of this grouping. | None                                     |
| <b>Political opinion</b>       | Impacts of policy potentially felt by population as a whole, and not by any particular part of this grouping. | None                                     |
| <b>Racial group</b>            | Impacts of policy potentially felt by population as a whole, and not by any particular part of this grouping. | None                                     |

**4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

| <b>Good relations category</b> | <b>If Yes, provide details</b> | <b>If No, provide reasons</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Religious belief               | No impact identified.          | N/A                           |
| Political opinion              | No impact identified.          | N/A                           |
| Racial group                   | No impact identified.          | N/A                           |

### **Available evidence**

What evidence / information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Set out all evidence below along with details of the different groups you have met and / or consulted with to help inform your screening assessment.

| <b>Section 75 category</b> | <b>Details of evidence / information and engagement</b> |
|----------------------------|---|
| Religious belief           | <b>None.</b>  |
| Political opinion          | <b>None.</b>  |
| Racial group               | <b>None.</b>  |
| Age                        | <b>None.</b>  |
| Marital status             | <b>None.</b>  |
| Sexual orientation         | <b>None.</b>  |



|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Men & women generally | None. |
| Disability            | None. |
| Dependants            | None. |

**No evidence held? Outline how you will obtain it:**

**N/A**

## Section C

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the [Disability Discrimination Order](#) and [Human Rights Act](#) (insert links) Questions 5 -9 relate to these two areas.

### Consideration of Disability Duties

5. Does this proposed policy / decision provide an opportunity for DAERA to better **promote positive attitudes** towards disabled people?

**Explain your assessment in full**

**To an extent, yes: although the measures in question (relating to transport policy and actions) are predominantly those of Department for Infrastructure and should be subject to their own EQIA processes.**

6. Does this proposed policy / decision provide an opportunity to actively **increase the participation** by disabled people in public life?

**Explain your assessment in full**

**To an extent, yes: although the measures in question (relating to transport policy and actions) are predominantly those of Department for Infrastructure and should be subject to their own EQIA processes.**

## Consideration of Human Rights

7. The Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998 brings the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and it applies in N Ireland. Indicate below (place an X in the appropriate box) any potential *adverse impacts* that the policy / decision may have in relation to human rights issues.

|   |                                 |                          |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Right to Life   | <b>Article 2</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment                | <b>Article 3</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prohibition of slavery and forced labour                              | <b>Article 4</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to liberty and security   | <b>Article 5</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to a fair and public trial                                      | <b>Article 6</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to no punishment without law                                    | <b>Article 7</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence | <b>Article 8</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion                  | <b>Article 9</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to freedom of expression  | <b>Article 10</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association                 | <b>Article 11</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to marry and to found a family                                  | <b>Article 12</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The prohibition of discrimination                                     | <b>Article 14</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions                   | <b>Protocol 1<br/>Article 1</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to education  | <b>Protocol 1<br/>Article 2</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Right to free and secret elections                                    | <b>Protocol 1<br/>Article 3</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Consideration of Human Rights (cont)

**8. Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified**

N/A

**9. Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights**

N/A

## Monitoring Arrangements

Section 75 places a requirement on DAERA to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services etc; and to help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity.

Outline what data you will collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy / decision on equality, good relations and disability duties.

| <b>Equality</b> | <b>Good Relations</b> | <b>Disability Duties</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| N/A             |                       |                          |
|                 |                       |                          |

# Section D

## Formal Record of Screening Decision

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>Title of Proposed Policy / Decision being screened</b></p> <p>PfG Air Quality Indicator Delivery Plan</p> |
|---|

I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision has been screened for –

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| X <input type="checkbox"/> | equality of opportunity and good relations |
| X <input type="checkbox"/> | disabilities duties; and                   |
| X <input type="checkbox"/> | human rights issues                        |

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

\*place an X in the appropriate box below

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>*<u>Screened In</u></b> – Necessary to conduct a full EQIA |
|--------------------------|---|

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| X <input type="checkbox"/> | <p><b>*<u>Screened Out</u></b> – No EQIA necessary (no impacts)</p> <p>Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note that a 'screened out' decision <b>must</b> be accompanied by a sound rationale and relevant empirical evidence to show the basis upon which a screened out decision has been reached.</li> </ul> <p>Measures in this delivery plan to improve air quality focus broadly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Setting up an air quality forum for councils and departments – no impacts</li> <li>- Reviewing air quality policy / guidance / planning guidance – these will be subjected to their own EQIA Screening Assessment during development</li> <li>- Transport-related measures, such as those which promote sustainable transport, public transport – these measures have been</li> </ul> |
|----------------------------|--|

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>proposed and will be carried out by Dfl - they will be subject to Dfl's own EQIA screening procedures.</p> <p>Overall, the policy is likely to have a neutral impact on equality, good relationships and poverty &amp; social inclusion.</p> |
|--|---|

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <p><b>* <u>Screened Out - Mitigating Actions</u> (minor impacts)</b></p> <p>Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe clearly the mitigating actions and / or policy changes that will now be introduced</li><li>• Explain how these actions will address the inequalities:</li></ul> |
|--------------------------|--|

### Formal Record of Screening Decision (cont)

#### Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -

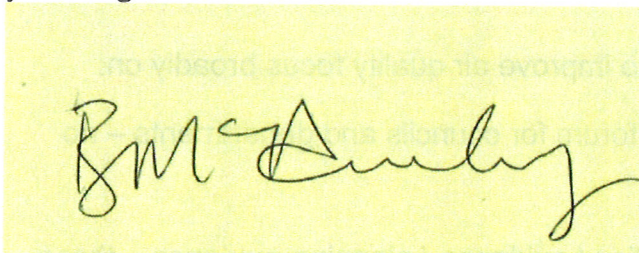
Name: Barry McAuley

Grade: DP Env Policy Advisor

Date: 16-11-16

Branch: Air & Environmental Quality

Signature: please insert a scanned image of your signature below



#### Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3 or above) -

Name: David Small

Grade: 3

Date: 29/11/2016

Branch: EMFG

Signature: please insert a scanned image of your signature below



Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the TRIM container below as soon as possible after completion and forward the TRIM link to Equality Branch at [equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equalitybranch@daera-ni.gov.uk). The screening form will be placed on the DAERA website and a link provided to the Department's Section 75 consultees.



Strategic Management DARD - Equality Promotion & Implementation - Equality Schemes - Equality Screening of Departmental Policies.tr5



For more information about equality screening, contact –

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Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast BT4 3SB  
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