

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

Policy Information

Name of the policy	Gaming and Amusement Policy
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	Revised / reviewed
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<p>The overall aim of the Gaming and Amusement policy is to serve as a guide for Elected Members, Council officers, applicants and the wider public in consideration of applications for, and the awarding of, amusement permits in the Newry Mourne and Down Council area.</p> <p>The policy outlines matters which may be taken into account in determining the award of an amusement permit. It has been developed to introduce greater clarity, transparency and consistency to the decision making process.</p> <p>The key objectives of this policy can be largely linked to the Council's overarching strategic goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations in the Newry Mourne and Down area by making it a better place in which to live, work, visit and invest.</p> <p>Against this background, the interrelated key policy objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. promote the retail vibrancy and regeneration of Newry Mourne and Down; 2. enhance the tourism and cultural appeal of Newry Mourne and Down by protecting its image and built heritage; 3. support and safeguard residential communities in Newry Mourne and Down; 4. protect children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling; 5. respect the need to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?	The policy will indirectly positively impact upon children and young people and vulnerable adults.
If so, explain how.	<p>One of the five designated criteria when assessing the suitability of a location for a proposed amusement arcade shall be, "Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people."</p> <p>The Council will not grant amusement permits in locations near schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people, including children's</p>

	care homes and hostels for the homeless. 'Near' shall be interpreted as not within 200metres of such premises.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	Fintan Quinn, Head of Licensing & Enforcement
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		X
If yes, are they Financial		
If yes, are they Legislative		
If yes, and they are Other please specify:		

Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

	Yes	No
Staff		
Service users		
Other public sector organisations		
Voluntary/community/trade unions		
Other, please specify:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants seeking amusement permits • The community in general impacted by the decision 	

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they? Who owns them?	<p>In carrying out the licensing function under the Order, Council will aim to permit the use of premises for gambling as long as it is considered to be: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with any relevant Guidance issued by the Department. • In accordance with this Statement of Policy and • Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives
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Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities																					
Religious belief	<table border="1" data-bbox="411 506 1394 779"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 506 587 607">LGD</th> <th data-bbox="592 506 751 607">All usual residents</th> <th data-bbox="756 506 916 607">Catholic</th> <th data-bbox="920 506 1096 607">Protestant and other Christian</th> <th data-bbox="1101 506 1260 607">Other religions</th> <th data-bbox="1265 506 1394 607">None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 613 587 680">Northern Ireland</td> <td data-bbox="592 613 751 680">1,810,863</td> <td data-bbox="756 613 916 680">817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 613 1096 680">875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 613 1260 680">16,592 (0.92%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 613 1394 680">101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 687 587 779">Newry, Mourne & Down</td> <td data-bbox="592 687 751 779">169,211</td> <td data-bbox="756 687 916 779">122,544 (72.42%)</td> <td data-bbox="920 687 1096 779">40,273 (23.8%)</td> <td data-bbox="1101 687 1260 779">861 (0.5%)</td> <td data-bbox="1265 687 1394 779">5533 (3.3%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="411 786 1257 846">(Source: Census Data 2011 - Religion or Religion Brought Up In: KS212NI).</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None	Northern Ireland	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)	Newry, Mourne & Down	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)			
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Political opinion	<p data-bbox="384 920 1415 981">Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1016 1415 1055">The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="384 1090 979 1285"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1090 858 1128">Sinn Féin</td> <td data-bbox="858 1090 979 1128">20 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1128 858 1167">SDLP</td> <td data-bbox="858 1128 979 1167">8 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1167 858 1205">Democratic Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1167 979 1205">5 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1205 858 1243">Independents</td> <td data-bbox="858 1205 979 1243">2 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1243 858 1281">Ulster Unionist</td> <td data-bbox="858 1243 979 1281">1 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1281 858 1317">Alliance</td> <td data-bbox="858 1281 979 1317">5 seat</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sinn Féin	20 seats	SDLP	8 seats	Democratic Unionist	5 seats	Independents	2 seats	Ulster Unionist	1 seats	Alliance	5 seat									
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Racial group	<p data-bbox="384 1323 1415 1429">According to the 2011 Census, 1.8% (32,400) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups; this is more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8%).</p> <p data-bbox="384 1464 1415 1525">The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p data-bbox="384 1561 1415 1621">The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2011) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="384 1657 1415 1718">Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD Area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 1724 1383 2031"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 1724 858 1830">Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD</th> <th data-bbox="858 1724 1086 1830">Number</th> <th data-bbox="1086 1724 1383 1830">Percentage %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1830 858 1868">English</td> <td data-bbox="858 1830 1086 1868">156794</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1830 1383 1868">97.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1868 858 1906">Polish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1868 1086 1906">2100</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1868 1383 1906">1.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1906 858 1944">Lithuanian</td> <td data-bbox="858 1906 1086 1944">836</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1906 1383 1944">0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1944 858 1982">Irish</td> <td data-bbox="858 1944 1086 1982">367</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1944 1383 1982">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1982 858 2020">Portuguese</td> <td data-bbox="858 1982 1086 2020">86</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1982 1383 2020">0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 2020 858 2058">Slovak</td> <td data-bbox="858 2020 1086 2058">134</td> <td data-bbox="1086 2020 1383 2058">0.08</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD	Number	Percentage %	English	156794	97.15	Polish	2100	1.18	Lithuanian	836	0.47	Irish	367	0.24	Portuguese	86	0.05	Slovak	134	0.08
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	(never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years		(35.14%)
	Married: Aged 16+ years	65255	680831 (47.56%)
	In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	102	1243 (0.09%)
	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	4697	56911 (3.98%)
	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	6271	78074 (5.45%)
	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	8408	97088 (6.78%)
Sexual orientation	<p>Analysis of the Census 2011 indicates that between 2% and 10% of the population may be lesbian, gay or bisexual.</p> <p>There are no official statistics in relation to the number of gay, lesbian or bisexual people in Northern Ireland. However, research conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5% - 7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered</p>		

	and transvestite) (LGBT). This is a sizeable proportion of the population here in Northern Ireland.															
Men and women generally	<p>The gender profile for the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>887323</td> <td>923540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</td> <td>83866</td> <td>85345</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	LGD	Male	Female	Northern Ireland	887323	923540	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345						
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Disability	<p>According to the 2011 Census 19.62% of people in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1810863</td> <td>215232 (11.89%)</td> <td>159414 (8.8%)</td> <td>1436217 (79.31%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down</td> <td>171533</td> <td>19579 (11.4%)</td> <td>14102 (8.22%)</td> <td>135530 (79.01%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population in Northern Ireland has a disability. The incidence of disability is higher in Northern Ireland than any other part of the UK • 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss • 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sign Language (ISL) • In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with significant visual impairment • 52,000 people with learning disabilities <p>(Source: Disability Action)</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited	Northern Ireland	1810863	215232 (11.89%)	159414 (8.8%)	1436217 (79.31%)	Newry, Mourne and Down	171533	19579 (11.4%)	14102 (8.22%)	135530 (79.01%)
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Dependants	<p>Persons with dependents may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and / or a dependent older person.</p> <p>There are 61,998 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 37.5% of which have dependents. With regard to these figures, dependents are defined as those aged 0-15 years or those aged 16-18 years who are in full-time education and living with their parents or grandparents. Similar to the regional trend, the proportion of households with dependents in the District has declined from 50% in 1981 to 37.5% in 2011.</p> <p>There are 5,466 lone parent households with dependent children in Newry,</p>															

	<p>Mourne and Down which equates to almost 9% of number of total households in the District and is the fourth highest in Northern Ireland, after Belfast (17,036), Derry and Strabane (6,337) and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon (6,337). Half of the parents in lone parent household in Newry, Mourne and Down are unemployed, almost a quarter are in full time employment and over a quarter are in part time employment. 89% of the parents in lone parent households are female compared to 11% who are male.</p> <p>In 2012, the teenage conception rate was 1.02 per 1,000 mothers, which is the third lowest in N.Ireland before Lisburn and Castlereagh and Fermanagh and Omagh.</p>
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Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	<p>As noted, the key objectives of this policy can be largely linked to the Council's overarching strategic goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations in the Newry Mourne and Down area by making it a better place in which to live, work, visit and invest.</p> <p>Against this background, the interrelated key policy objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. promote the retail vibrancy and regeneration of Newry Mourne and Down; 2. enhance the tourism and cultural appeal of Newry Mourne and Down by protecting its image and built heritage; 3. support and safeguard residential communities in Newry Mourne and Down; 4. protect children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling; 5. respect the need to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder <p>Policy objectives 3, 4 and 5 are aspects which seek to meet needs, experiences and priorities related to children and young people, and vulnerable adults.</p> <p>It should also be noted, one of the five designated criteria when assessing the suitability of a location for a proposed amusement arcade shall be, "Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people."</p>
Political opinion	
Racial group	
Age	
Marital status	
Sexual orientation	
Men and women generally	
Disability	
Dependants	

	<p>The Council will not grant amusement permits in locations near schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people, including children’s care homes and hostels for the homeless.</p> <p>‘Near’ shall be interpreted as not within 200metres of such premises.</p>
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Screening Questions

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

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief Political opinion Racial group Age Marital status Sexual orientation Men and women generally Disability Dependants	<p>Specific policy objectives to support and safeguard residential communities in Newry Mourne and Down; protect children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling; respect the need to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder; are aspects which seek to meet needs, experiences and priorities related to children and young people, and vulnerable adults.</p> <p>In addition, as noted one of the five designated criteria when assessing the suitability of a location for a proposed amusement arcade shall be, “Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people.”</p> <p>The Council will not grant amusement permits in locations near schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people, including children’s care homes and hostels for the homeless.</p> <p>‘Near’ shall be interpreted as not within 200metres of such premises.</p>	Minor

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

Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide details
Religious belief		<p>No.</p> <p>As noted the policy has sought to mitigate adverse impact wherein one of the five designated criteria when assessing the suitability of a location for a proposed amusement arcade shall be, "Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people."</p> <p>The Council will not grant amusement permits in locations near schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people, including children's care homes and hostels for the homeless.</p> <p>'Near' shall be interpreted as not within 200metres of such premises.</p>
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

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

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	It is not anticipated that the policy will have an adverse impact upon good relations for any of the Section 75 categories.	None
Political opinion		
Racial group		

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

Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide details
Religious belief		<p>No.</p> <p>As noted, from the information available it is not anticipated that the policy will have an adverse impact upon good relation for the three Section 75 categories.</p>
Political opinion		
Racial group		

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

N/A

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should (please underline one):

1. **Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)**
2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)
3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time
4. Be subject to an EQIA

If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:

The outcome of the equality screening is that the Gaming and Amusement Policy not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

Three of the specific policy objectives are to support and safeguard residential communities in Newry Mourne and Down; protect children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling; respect the need to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder. These are objectives which seek to meet needs, experiences and priorities related to children and young people, and vulnerable adults.

As noted the policy has sought to mitigate adverse impact, as far as reasonably possible, wherein one of the five designated criteria when assessing the suitability of a location for a proposed amusement arcade shall be, "Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people." Under this policy Council will not grant amusement permits in locations near schools, youth centres and residential institutions for vulnerable people, including children's care homes and hostels for the homeless. 'Near' shall be interpreted as not within 200metres of such premises.

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy?
Yes / No. If No, please explain why

If 3. or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

Timetabling and prioritising EQIA

If 3. or 4, is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? NO

If YES, please provide details:

Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority's functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: _____

Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

The policy will be reviewed in line with the Council's agreed policy review cycle i.e. every four years (as per Council's Equality Scheme commitment 4.31), or sooner as necessary, to ensure that it remains up-to-date with legislative advancements etc.

Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Paula Hughes	Senior Licensing Officer	28/06/2024
Approved by:		
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	30/6/24

Note: The completed policy screening template, signed off by the appropriate policy lead within the Council, and approved by the senior manager responsible for the policy, should be forwarded to the Head of Corporate Policy who will arrange for it to be included in the Council's Quarterly Report on Screening and made available on the Council's website.