

DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

SECTION 75 EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY SCREENING ANALYSIS FORM

The purpose of this form is to help you to consider whether a new policy (either internal or external) or legislation will require a full equality impact assessment (EQIA). Those policies identified as having significant implications for equality of opportunity must be subject to full EQIA.

The form will provide a record of the factors taken into account if a policy is screened out, or excluded for EQIA. It will provide a basis for quarterly consultation on the outcome of the screening exercise, and will be referenced in the biannual review of progress made to the Minister and in the Annual Report to the Equality Commission.

Further advice on completion of this form and the screening process including relevant contact information can be accessed via the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Intranet site.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

When considering the impact of this policy you should also consider if there would be any Human Rights implications. Guidance is at:

- <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/human-rights-and-public-authorities>

Should this be appropriate you will need to complete a Human Rights Impact Assessment. A template is at:

- <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/human-rights-impact-assessment-proforma>

Don't forget to Rural Proof.

Part 1. Policy scoping

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy, being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

Public authorities should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

Information about the policy

Name of the policy A1 Junctions Phase 2 Road Improvement Scheme.
Is this an existing, revised or a new policy? New
What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes) The upgrade of the A1 aims to improve road safety for all road users who travel the route. The A1 scheme objectives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improve safety for all road users- Provide a standard of route appropriate to its strategic function- Deliver on aims and objectives in a timely, affordable manner- Improve journey times and journey time reliability.
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? The scheme will provide a benefit to all those who use the A1 including anyone in any Section 75 category. If so, explain how. See "Intended aims/outcomes" above.
Who initiated or wrote the policy? Strategic Roads Improvement Team, Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads.
Who owns and who implements the policy? Strategic Roads Improvement Team, DfI Roads.
Background The A1 road is an all-purpose dual carriageway and forms part of the strategically important principal north-south arterial route linking the capital cities

and principal gateway ports of Belfast and Dublin. It is identified within the Trans-European Transport Network Priority Project 13 and is classified as a Key Transport Corridor within the Regional Strategic Transport Network.

The A1 also acts as the key link between the towns and villages that lie within the corridor and, as well as being the primary road linking these towns and villages to Belfast, it provides a key link for communities east and west of the route corridor. As such it is considered to have economic and social importance both regionally and locally.

DfI Roads is developing the A1 Junctions Phase 2 proposal (A1J2) which is the current phase of an on-going improvement strategy for the corridor between Hillsborough Roundabout and Loughbrickland, and follows on from the A1 Junctions scheme (Phase 1) completed in 2010, which provided four Compact Grade Separated Junctions.

The section of the A1 under consideration in the proposed development is a 25.2 km long stretch of all-purpose dual carriageway, extending from the Dublin Road Junction at Loughbrickland in the south to the Hillsborough Roundabout in the north. This section of dual carriageway has undergone staged development over a number of decades since 1971.

Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?

If yes, are they

financial

legislative

other, please specify _____

Main stakeholders affected

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

staff

service users

other public sector organisations

voluntary/community/trade unions

other, please specify: Public/Road Users

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

- what are they?

None

- who owns them?

N/A

Available evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

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

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/ information
Religious belief	The A1 is a key transport corridor between the towns and villages that lie along it linking these to Belfast and also providing a key link for communities both east and west of the route corridor. As such it is considered to have economic and social importance both regionally and locally. The A1 Junctions Phase 2 (A1J2) Road Improvement Scheme will provide a benefit to all those who use the A1 including the Section 75 categories.
Political opinion	As above.
Racial group	As above.
Age	As above.
Marital status	As above.
Sexual orientation	As above.
Men and women generally	As above.
Disability	As above.
Dependants	As above.

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>The upgrade of the A1 aims to improve road safety for all road users who travel the route. The scheme's objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve safety for all road users • Provide a standard of route appropriate to its strategic function • Deliver on aims and objectives in a timely, affordable manner • Improve journey times and journey time reliability. <p>The A1J2 scheme will therefore provide a benefit to all road users who travel the A1 route.</p> <p>There are no specific needs, experiences and priorities identified in this S75 category.</p>
Political opinion	As Above.
Racial group	As Above.
Age	As Above.
Marital status	As Above.
Sexual orientation	As Above.
Men and women generally	As Above.
Disability	As Above.
Dependants	As Above.

Part 2. Screening questions

1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? minor/major/none		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief	<p>The A1J2 upgrade scheme aims to improve road safety for all road users who travel the A1 route.</p> <p>The A1 is a key transport corridor between the towns and villages that lie along it linking these to Belfast, and also providing a key link for communities both east and west of the route corridor. As such it is considered to have economic and social importance both regionally and locally.</p>	None.
Political opinion	As above.	
Racial group	As above.	
Age	As above.	
Marital status	As above.	
Sexual orientation	As above.	
Men and women generally	As above.	
Disability	As above.	
Dependants	As above.	

2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?		
Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		<p>The A1 is a key transport corridor between the towns and villages that lie along it linking these to Belfast and also providing a key link for communities both east and west of the route.</p> <p>A1J2 improvement works will benefit all road users who travel the A1 route. There is no opportunity to promote equal opportunity for specific categories.</p>
Political opinion		As above.
Racial group		As above.
Age		As above.
Marital status		As above.
Sexual orientation		As above.
Men and women generally		As above.
Disability		As above.
Dependants		As above.

3 To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? minor/major/none		
Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief	<p>The A1 is a key transport corridor between the towns and villages that lie along it linking these to Belfast, and also provides a key link for communities both east and west of the route corridor.</p> <p>As such the A1 is considered to have economic and social importance both regionally and locally.</p> <p>A1J2 improvement works will benefit all road users who travel the A1 route.</p>	
Political opinion	As above.	
Racial group		The policy is unlikely to specifically impact on good relations between people in this S75 category

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 reasons
Religious belief		This policy/decision is unlikely to provide opportunities to better promote good relations between people in this category.
Political opinion		As above.
Racial group		As above.

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*).

No specific potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities

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

N/A

Part 3. Screening decision

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

N/A

If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment the public authority should consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced.

N/A

If the decision is to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

All public authorities' equality schemes must state the authority's arrangements for assessing and consulting on the likely impact of policies adopted or proposed to be adopted by the authority on the promotion of equality of opportunity. The Commission recommends screening and equality impact assessment as the tools to be utilised for such assessments. Further advice on equality impact assessment may be found in a separate Commission publication: Practical Guidance on Equality Impact Assessment.

Mitigation

When the public authority concludes that the likely impact is 'minor' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, the public authority may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?

If so, give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

No, the policy/decision could not be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

Timetabling and prioritising

Factors to be considered in timetabling and prioritising policies for equality impact assessment.

If the policy has been '**screened in**' for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

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 equality impact assessment.

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 equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the public authority in timetabling. Details of the Public Authority's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the quarterly Screening Report.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?

No.

If yes, please provide details

Part 4. Monitoring

Public authorities should consider the guidance contained in the Commission's Monitoring Guidance for Use by Public Authorities (July 2007).

The Commission recommends that where the policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, the public authority should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (See Benefits, P.9-10, paras 2.13 – 2.20 of the Monitoring Guidance).

Effective monitoring will help the public authority identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the public authority to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Part 5 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title:	Date:
Brian McCarron	SO – Southern Division Lands Team	15/2/2019
Approved by:		
Liam McEvoy	PPTO – Southern Division SRI Team Manager	25/2/2019

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy, made easily accessible on the public authority's website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

For Equality Team Completion:

Date received:	9 July 2019
Amendments requested?	No.
Date returned to Business Area:	-
Date final version received:	-
Date placed on S75 Screening Webpage:	8 August 2019.