



Department for

Communities

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Section 75 Screening Form

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

Historic Environment Policy for Northern Ireland

Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

~~Existing/Revised/~~ New

This is a new policy. In July 2024 Minister for Communities Gordon Lyons released a statement setting out his intention to provide, for the first time, a comprehensive collection of culture-related policies under the heading of 'Heritage, Culture & Creativity'. Northern Ireland's Historic Environment Policy is one of the policies contained within a Heritage, Culture & Creativity (HCC) Programme.

What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)

Heritage delivers:

- economic and social regeneration
- net zero and Sustainable Development Goals
- health and well-being
- learning and developing skills.¹

Whilst protective Historic Environment related legislation has been in place since 1973, there has never been an Historic Environment Policy in Northern Ireland which considers how to maximise on its potential to ‘deliver’ on the benefits from its protection.

Recent statistics² have indicated a continuing and accelerating decline in the condition of the historic environment, despite protection. This loss of a finite resource means that potential to ‘deliver’ is also lost.

There is therefore a Policy gap – there is a need for a single overarching plan to continue the protection of the historic environment but also to instigate better care of the historic environment in the knowledge that if cared for, the potential for people to benefit from the historic environment can be further realised. This is a circular relationship – the more people benefit, the more they will care, the more they will benefit, and so on.

The vision for the Policy is: ***‘Our People. Our Past. Our Place: an inclusive and valued historic environment that delivers for Northern Ireland.’***

In addition, the policy will draw on the key sustainable development goals identified in the Culture, Arts & Heritage Taskforce ‘Investing in Creative Delivery’ report. The report reflected the importance of collaborative working; the ‘Strategic Investment Goals’ recommended in the report were: ***‘Strengthening, Connecting and Innovating’***.

Historic Environment goals have been identified and refined through sectoral engagement work undertaken by the Culture, Arts & Heritage Taskforce, and

¹ [NI Heritage Delivers 2026 published | Heritage Delivers](#)

² [Survey on the Condition of Listed Buildings | Department for Communities](#)

through further extensive collaboration and engagement with local and central government as well as statutory heritage bodies.

HE Policy Goals are:

1. Strengthening

The Historic Environment in Northern Ireland is in decline.

Goal - A well- cared for historic environment where best practice is universal.

2. Connecting

When people connect in and to historic places, they want to visit, live in and look after those places - and they thrive.

Goal - Thriving places - where the unique value of heritage is understood and enjoyed.

3. Innovating

The Historic environment is not always considered essential to people's needs.

Goal - A flourishing historic environment sector which is protected, sustained, accessed and used to its full potential.

The three priority themes underpin the current DFC '*Supporting People, Building Communities and Shaping Places*' Strategy.

The current aim is for the policy to be ready for public consultation in summer 2026.

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?

Yes

If Yes, explain how.

Under the objective ‘**Connecting**’, Historic Environment (HE) Policy seeks to achieve better connection between people and places – this includes both physical and non-physical/ access to places and information (for example digital images and records about those places). The policy will aim to support initiatives linked to diversity and inclusion. The policy will also seek to ensure access to the historic environment for children and young people, and to support skills development and career pathways.

Listed places of worship make up nearly 10% of listed buildings in Northern Ireland, which includes buildings associated with all faiths including for example Christian Churches, Synagogues and Temples. HE policy wishes to highlight the benefits that these heritage buildings bring to people and places. This might benefit Places of Worship in that their perceived social and economic value may increase.

In the public consultation phase, there will be a further opportunity for representatives of S75 groups to input to ensure the policy is fully inclusive.

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

This is a new policy which is part of the Heritage, Culture & Creativity Programme as set out by the Minister in his Statement to the Assembly in July 2024. The policy author is the Historic Environment Division of the Department for Communities.

Who owns and who implements the policy?

The Department for Communities.

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

Level of sectoral and cross-local and central government adoption/participation

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

Sectoral heritage organisations, public and private owners of historic assets, the education and skills sectors

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they and who owns them?

Regional Development Strategy ³
Strategic Planning Policy Statement⁴
The Environmental Improvement Plan for Northern Ireland 2024⁵
Programme for Government 2024-2027⁶ – NI Executive
The Heritage, Culture and Creativity Programme (HCC)
The Green Growth Strategy⁷
Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland 2022)⁸
Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Plans⁹ (NICCAP)
New Decade, New Approach – NI Executive
UK High Level Marine Objectives 2008
UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS)¹⁰
Marine Plan for Northern Ireland (once adopted)¹¹
Rating Policy - Department of Finance
Draft ‘Circular Economy’ Strategy (2023)
The Draft Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland 2050 (ISNI 2050)
Architecture and Built Environment Policy NI Northern Ireland Building Regulations
Children and Young People’s Strategy 2020-2030 – NI Executive
Draft Tourism Strategy for NI – 10-year plan – Department for Economy
International Relations Strategy – The Executive Office
NI Anti-Poverty Strategy
Housing Strategy – Department for Communities
Northern Ireland Peatland Strategy 2022-2040
Archaeology 2030
The Protocol for the Care of the Government’s Historic Estate
The Adaptive Re-use of Existing Assets - SIB¹²
City and Growth Deals – Invest NI
Shaping Sustainable Places – Department for Communities
UK Forestry Standard (UKFS)
UN Sustainable Development Goals
Energy Strategy – Department for the Economy
Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 – Department of Health

³ [Regional Development Strategy 2035 | Department for Infrastructure](#)

⁴ [The Strategic Planning Policy Statement | Department for Infrastructure](#)

⁵ [Environmental Improvement Plan for Northern Ireland 2024 | www.the-ies.org](#)

⁶ [Programme for Government 2024-2027 ‘Our Plan: Doing What Matters Most’ | The Northern Ireland Executive](#)

⁷ [A Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland - Balancing our climate, environment and economy | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

⁸ [Climate Change Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2022](#)

⁹ [Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

¹⁰ [UK marine policy statement - GOV.UK](#)

¹¹ [Marine Plan for Northern Ireland | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

¹² [AREA-Report-2024.pdf](#)

Enriched Landscapes – Landscapes NI
TransformED NI: Transforming teaching and learning: a strategy for
Educational Excellence in Northern Ireland¹³
Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation – A New Framework |
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

¹³ [TransformED NI: Transforming teaching and learning: a strategy for Educational Excellence in Northern Ireland | Department of Education](#)

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 Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest, the same percentage as in 2023/24. A higher proportion of adults from the Protestant community had visited a place of historic interest within the previous year (70%) than those from the Catholic community (57%). Secondary analysis of the Continual Household Survey in a previous year (2023/24) was carried out at the request of HED, to understand if this discrepancy was influenced by age difference. Further analysis by age and religion shows that across almost all the age groups (except for the 45-55 age group) adults from the Protestant community were consistently more likely to visit historic sites than those from the Catholic community. The Northern Ireland Good Relations Indicators 2023 Report notes that the proportion of respondents who think the culture and traditions of Catholic and Protestant communities add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society has significantly decreased since 2013 (by 5 percentage points (2023: 70%; 2013: 75%) and 9 percentage points (2023: 65%; 2013: 74%) respectively. The proportion who think this in relation to

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
	Minority Ethnic communities has significantly increased by 6 percentage points (2023: 65%; 2013: 59%).
Political opinion	There is currently no statistical data available relating to political opinion and the historic environment in Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey: 2023 describes the general spread of political opinion in Northern Ireland, however this is not directly related to historic environment.
Racial group	There is currently no statistical data available relating to racial group status and the historic environment in Northern Ireland. <u>Census 2021 NISRA Statistical bulletin - Ethnic group</u> - minority ethnic groups account for 3.4% of the usually resident population, however this is not directly related to historic environment. The <u>Northern Ireland Good Relations Indicators 2023 Report</u> notes that the proportion of respondents who think the culture and traditions of Catholic and Protestant communities add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society has significantly decreased since 2013 (by 5 percentage points (2023: 70%; 2013: 75%) and 9 percentage points (2023: 65%; 2013: 74%) respectively. The proportion who think this in relation to Minority Ethnic communities has significantly increased by 6 percentage points (2023: 65%; 2013: 59%).
Age	The Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest. There was a difference when analysed by age. The proportion of adults visiting a place of historic interest increased from those aged 16-24 (62%)

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
	to those aged 35-44 (70%) before dropping for adults aged 65 and over (58%).
Marital status	The Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest. Of those, 72% were married or co-habiting.
Sexual orientation	There is currently no statistical data available relating to sexual orientation and the historic environment in Northern Ireland.
Men and women generally	The Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest, the same percentage as the 2023/24 figure. There was no difference in the proportions of men and women who had visited a place of historic interest within the previous year (64% and 65% respectively).
Disability	The Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest. Of those, adults with a disability were less likely to have visited a place of historic interest than those without a disability (56% and 67% respectively).
Dependants	The Continuous Household Survey 2024-25 included questions on engagement with heritage. In 2024/25, 64% of adults in Northern Ireland had visited a place of historic interest. Adults with dependants were more likely to have visited a place of historic interest (69%) compared to adults who do not have dependants (60%). The Equality Commission NI's Key Inequalities in Employment in Northern Ireland Statement notes that women with dependents experience a lower employment rate and higher economic inactivity rate, and that lone parents with dependents experience barriers to their

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
	participation in employment, however this is not directly related to historic environment.

Note to reader - If you are aware of and would like the Department to take into account any further evidence or information relevant to this policy, please send this to culturepolicy@communities-ni.gov.uk

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	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. As part of research into ‘value’, further research may be undertaken to understand the difference in numbers of visits to heritage venues between Catholics and Protestants. Considerations may include a specific Ecclesiastical Heritage Strategy, work to understand and prevent the closure of historic places of worship and cross denominational networks like the Places of Worship Forum.
Political opinion	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Considerations include ensuring that heritage places are safe and welcoming neutral spaces, free from anything that may cause intimidation or cause people to feel unsafe. Consideration should be given to connecting people to historic places by increasing understanding of and encouragement of personal interpretation of historic

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
	places, which can contribute to 'pride of place' and good relations. Better cared for environments and volunteering have been shown to have the potential to foster good relations. Activities and programmes should be open to all and be conducted in a non-partisan manner.
Racial group	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Considerations include connecting people to historic places by increasing understanding whilst being cognisant of addressing language barriers, underrepresentation, ensuring venues are safe and welcoming spaces for everyone.
Age	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Considerations for older people include transport issues, economic barriers, health issues, loneliness and isolation, and IT barriers. Considerations for younger people include career opportunities and pathways, economic barriers, transport issues and confidence/anxiety issues. Consideration for children include poverty, transport issues, and ensuring access to historic places and interpretive learning opportunities in early years learning.

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Marital status	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Considerations may include economic barriers and childcare issues relating to single parents, and provision of child/family friendly events for example through European Heritage Open Days.
Sexual orientation	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Visibility, representation, inclusion, education, training, and awareness should all be considered. There is also a need to create safe environments for everyone.
Men and women generally	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. For women consideration should be given to issues around equal pay for women, childcare and other caring responsibilities, underrepresentation in the heritage skills sector, and representation in more senior decision-making roles.
Disability	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Access is a major consideration including physical access to historic places, inclusive services such as provision of sign language/interpreters and large print materials; and the provision of autism friendly spaces and activities.

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
	Visibility, representation, inclusion, education, training, and awareness also need to be considered. Feedback from a Disability Focus Group arranged by the CAH Taskforce in May 2023 also highlighted that there are issues with access to work, difficulties with the application processes to access grant funding, negative perceptions around the quality of work produced by d/deaf and disabled people, and a reliance on token gestures to meet their needs.
Dependants	The policy is intended to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, and to remove any barriers to engagement with the historic environment. Considerations may include economic barriers and the opening hours of venues and timings of activities/events to allow those with dependents to attend/engage.

Part 2. Screening questions

Introduction

In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, the public authority should consider its answers to the questions 1-4 which are given on pages 66-68 of this Guide.

If the public authority's conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then the public authority may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, a public authority should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

If the public authority's conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the public authority's conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories and/or good relations categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

- measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
- the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are

concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;

- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

Taking into account the evidence presented above, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations for those affected by this policy, in any way, for each of the equality and good relations categories, by applying the screening questions given overleaf and indicate the level of impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

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	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people relating to their religious beliefs. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these. By creating the policy there are better opportunities to better promote good relations and understanding of ecclesiastical heritage.	None
Political opinion	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people due to their political opinion. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these. By creating the policy there are better opportunities to better promote good relations through better quality environments and access to personal interpretation and understanding of historic places.	None
Racial group	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people of different racial groups. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where	None

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
	there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	
Age	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people due to their age. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None
Marital status	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people due to their marital status. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None
Sexual orientation	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people due to their sexual orientation. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None
Men and women generally	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on men and women generally. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Disability	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people relating to disability. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None
Dependants	We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people with dependents. Any impacts of this policy should be positive. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.	None

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	Yes – the Places of Worship forum is a network of all denominations and beliefs to come together to celebrate, better understand and address the challenges around ecclesiastical heritage.	
Political opinion	Yes – opportunities like community ownership in areas of deprivation, volunteering and the caring for and creation of	

Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
	quality environments have been shown to have a positive impact on pride of place and good relations. The policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Racial group	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Age	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Marital status	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	

Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Sexual orientation	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Men and women generally	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Disability	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	
Dependants	Yes - the policy will seek to promote equality of opportunity. An Action Plan will support the implementation of the policy. Any actions identified, will be implemented and progress monitored.	

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	The Places of Worship forum is a network of all denominations and beliefs who come together to celebrate, better understand and address the challenges around ecclesiastical heritage. Understanding and interpretation of historic places of worship and associated events through arts and creativity can provide common ground for people of different religious beliefs. Through storytelling, art, music and drama we can create better understanding and empathy for others, and as such the policy aims to have a positive impact on good relations.	None
Political opinion	Opportunities like community ownership in areas of deprivation, volunteering and the caring for and creation of quality environments have been shown to have a positive impact on pride of place and good relations. Understanding and interpretation of historic places and associated events through arts and creativity can provide common ground for people of different political opinions. Through storytelling, art, music and drama we can create better understanding and empathy for others, and as such the policy aims to	None

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
	have a positive impact on good relations.	
Racial group	Historic places can provide common ground for people of different racial groups. Understanding and interpretation of historic places and associated events through storytelling, art, music and drama we can create better understanding and empathy for others, and as such the policy aims to have a positive impact on good relations.	None

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		The Places of Worship forum is a network of all denominations and beliefs who come together to celebrate, better understand and address the challenges around ecclesiastical heritage.

Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Political opinion		Access to historic places and information about those places creates neutral spaces for people to interpret as individuals and engage with their own interpretation. Programming heritage activities and events creates opportunities to better promote good relations.
Racial group		Access to historic places and information about those places for personal interpretation, creates neutral spaces for everyone to engage with. Programming heritage activities and events creates opportunities to better promote good relations.

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).

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

There do not appear to be any adverse impacts for each S75 category and the evidence available does not indicate a person with multiple identities would be negatively impacted either. Any impacts of this policy should be positive including those with multiple identities. Where there are real or perceived barriers, the policy will seek to address these.

Part 3. 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**
2. **Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)**
3. **Be subject to an EQIA**

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

We do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people relating to any of the Section 75 groups, any impacts of this policy should be positive and therefore an EQIA is not required.

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

N/A

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.

N/A - we do not expect there to be any adverse impact on people relating to any of the section 75 groups, any impacts of this policy should be positive.

Part 4. 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.

You 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, then you should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (See Benefits, P.9-10, paras 2.13 – 2.20 of the Monitoring Guidance).

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

This is a new policy which is still under development, and action plans/monitoring arrangements are not yet finalised.

It is noted that the equity of access to the historic environment is monitored annually by the Continuous Household Survey, however gaps in monitoring information relating to racial, marital, and sexual status with regard to the historic environment exist. These will be flagged to NISRA for consideration for inclusion going forward, to allow monitoring for any changes over time.

Part 5 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Natalie O'Rourke	SPTO Architect	21/10/25
Approved by:		
Manus Deery	(Director, HED)	20/10/25

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.