

Consultation on the Proposals for the Review of the Tenant Participation Strategy 2015-2020

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Ministerial Foreword

I am pleased to present this consultation on proposals to review and update the Tenant Participation Strategy for social housing in Northern Ireland.

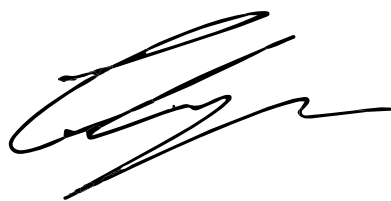
Good quality social housing is about more than providing homes; it is about supporting strong, inclusive communities, where tenants' voices strongly inform the services they receive, and the decisions that affect their lives. The original Tenant Participation Strategy for 2015-2020 set an important framework for strengthening relationships between tenants, social landlords and government, and for promoting participation across the sector.

Since that time, the Strategy has been extended, and while many of its principles remain relevant, it is right that we now take the opportunity to reflect on what has worked well, what has changed, and where we need to go further. The housing environment continues to evolve, as do expectations about transparency, accountability and the way in which people want to engage. Listening to tenants, involving them in service design and delivery and learning from their experience continues to be our approach.

This consultation sets out proposals to refresh the Strategy so that it remains fit for purpose and supports more meaningful, inclusive and effective engagement between tenants and social landlords. It builds on early engagement with tenants, representative bodies and housing providers, and is informed by experience in other jurisdictions.

I am clear that the voices of tenants are central to this process. I encourage tenants, landlords, voluntary and community organisations and all other interested parties to consider the proposals carefully and to share their views. Your feedback will help shape the future direction of tenant participation and engagement in social housing and ensure that the revised Strategy reflects the needs and aspirations of those it is intended to serve.

I look forward to hearing your views.



Gordon Lyons MLA
Minister for Communities

1. Introduction

This section provides information on the consultation and how you can respond to it.

The Consultation

This public consultation sets out proposals to be considered for a revised Tenant Participation Strategy in social housing and seeks your views. It is important that all interested parties are given the opportunity to engage with the Department and to provide essential feedback. This will ensure a comprehensive review process where all feedback is considered, to identify issues and potential solutions.

What is the Tenant Participation Strategy?

The Tenant Participation Strategy 2015-2020¹ was published in January 2016 and explored how social landlords and tenants could work together to improve services. It set out what social landlords should do to give tenants the opportunity and choice to participate in the decisions that affect them and outlined how the government could help. It aimed to challenge all social housing landlords to be consistent and to increase the extent and effectiveness of their tenant participation services in Northern Ireland.

The Strategy also encouraged and supported tenants to become involved in one or more of the participation options available to them and provided them with the opportunity to develop their skills so that they could

progress to a higher level of participation if this is something that they wanted to do.

Why change is necessary

Through early stakeholder engagement it was found that the Tenant Participation Strategy was still effective and suitable, and as a result no major changes were identified as necessary. The feedback highlighted that the aims of the Tenant Participation Strategy have been well received, with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and Registered Housing Associations (RHAs) across NI publishing their own strategies relating to tenant participation and engagement and giving tenants a say in the decisions that affect them. Many RHAs now have tenant board members, or tenant scrutiny panels, which enable tenants to be central to the decision-making processes, but also have different levels of involvement which gives tenants the opportunity to be involved at a level that they feel comfortable with. This means that all tenants can have the opportunity to be involved and heard.

Supporting Communities NI introduced their Tenant Participation Accreditation framework to evaluate the extent to which landlords engage tenants and residents in their services. Since the framework was launched in December 2019, 6 Registered Housing Associations have achieved an award, with Choice Housing becoming the first to achieve the Platinum Award in 2026.

¹ A tenant participation strategy for Northern Ireland: 2015 - 2020 | Department for Communities

At present, the original Tenant Participation Strategy has been subject to an ongoing extension since 2020. While the original Strategy is still relevant, it does need to be updated to reflect what has been learned, and to continue to provide encouragement and support to social landlords and tenants to work together and participate in decision-making processes.

What is covered?

This consultation deals with proposals for a revised Tenant Participation Strategy. This Strategy sets out ways in which the Department and its partners can encourage tenant participation services within the social housing sector in Northern Ireland. The primary aim is to increase tenant involvement in the delivery of social housing services and the decisions that are made about these services.

How to respond to this consultation

The consultation period runs from **12 October 2026 to 7 December 2026**. This document sets out the Department's proposals for inclusion and amendments into a revised Tenant Participation Strategy.

Details on how to respond are set out as follows.

Online

You can access an online survey at:
<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/review-of-the-tenant-participation-strategy>

By email

You can request an electronic copy of the consultation response form by emailing **socialhousingsustainability@communities-ni.gov.uk**. You can also send us your response to this email address.

If you have any queries about this document or require a copy in a different format you can contact us by e-mail at: **socialhousingsustainability@communities-ni.gov.uk**.

What happens after the consultation closes

Following the end of the consultation period, the Department will publish the responses in summary form. Unless respondents indicate otherwise, all responses, including personal information, may be disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998. If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please tell us, but be aware that we cannot guarantee confidentiality. We will process your personal data in accordance with our legal obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

2. The Review

This section looks at the previous Tenant Participation Strategy and our proposals to review and enhance the Strategy going forward.

Background to the current Tenant Participation Strategy

In January 2016, the Department (Department for Social Development at that time) launched A Tenant Participation Strategy for Northern Ireland: 2015 to 2020. The Strategy set out ways in which the Department and its partners would introduce tenant participation services within the social housing sector in Northern Ireland. The primary aim was to increase tenant involvement in the delivery of social housing services and the decisions that are made about these services.

The Strategy and the Action Plan that accompanied it were due to run for a five-year period, from 2015 to 2020. Progress was due to be reviewed at a midway point and then again at the end of the five years. For several reasons, the midway review was not carried out and the planned review at the end of the five-year period was subject to delay.

It must be noted, however, that although the midway review was not carried out, the Department was continuously involved with the oversight and the implementation of the strategy. In 2020, a final review of the Tenant Participation Strategy was due, and recommendations were to be made on the way forward. Due to resourcing pressures and more pressing priorities, a decision was made in February 2021 to pause the work on the review and to extend the existing Strategy.

Commitments

In the 2015-2020 Strategy the Department made a series of commitments. These are laid out below with updates.

We will work with stakeholders to develop independent tenant support. We will make a strong case for government funds for this.	Delivered	Supporting Communities Northern Ireland (SCNI) was appointed as the Independent Tenant Organisation (ITO) in February 2017. The Department operates a Service Level Agreement with the Independent Tenant Organisation to support delivery and implementation of the Tenant Participation Strategy, funding to support administration, travel and subsistence are provided.
We will provide guidance on setting up and maintaining tenant panels or community groups at a local level; effective tenant involvement in governance and board membership and developing tenant-based surveys.	Delivered	As set out in the agreement between the Department and the Independent Tenant Organisation the responsibility for this commitment rests with the ITO. Having sought advice and input from the Department, the guidance, Developing and Maintaining a Tenant Participation Strategy Guidance Notes , was published by SCNI in June 2017.
We will seek funding to support local tenants' organisations (for example, for training, to set up panels, to undertake projects) and to develop a tenant participation support programme.	Delivered	The Department provides funding for the Housing Policy Panel. This work is supported by Registered Housing Associations for their own tenant groups.
We will bring in regulation to support this strategy. Landlords will be assessed and monitored to make sure they are in line with the standard set out in regulation.	Delivered	The Department's Housing Regulation Branch (HRB) published its Regulatory Framework in 2017. The Framework consists of three standards, one of which is the Consumer Standard. The Consumer standard was amended in 2024 to strengthen the specific outcomes and expectations in relation to tenant participation ²
We will provide social landlords with guidance on the new regulatory standard for tenant participation.	Delivered	The Department published amended guidance in May 2018 on how it regulates Registered Housing Associations. As above, this includes the Consumer Standard, desired outcome and guidance on how to achieve the outcomes.
The Board of Management of the Housing Executive will be accountable to Minister for ensuring delivery against the strategic expectations outlined in this strategy.	Delivered	NIHE is a non-departmental public body over which the Department has the power to exercise control in different areas of its activities. The Department works closely with NIHE on these matters. NIHE has a proven track record in engaging with and involving its tenants. They have their own Community Involvement and Cohesion Strategy and run the Housing Community Network and the Central Housing Forum, which aim to ensure that local communities are more involved, better informed and can contribute to enhanced decision-making in relation to housing policy and how it affects them.
We will establish an advocate for tenants. This advocate will monitor the delivery of this strategy	Delivered	The Independent Tenant Organisation had the role of chair of the Housing Policy Panel (HPP) until October 2022, when a tenant member was elected as chair and tenant advocate.
We will work with the housing sector to establish a housing policy panel for Northern Ireland. This will represent social housing tenants in the development of departmental policies that are relevant to their interests.	Delivered	Supporting Communities Northern Ireland, in its role as the Independent Tenant Organisation, established a housing policy panel, the inaugural meeting was held in September 2017. At present meetings continue to take place five times per year. A Departmental liaison attends all meetings and provides a regular update on the work of housing teams.
We will at the appropriate point in the implementation of this strategy, bring forward proposals to potentially introduce into Northern Ireland the "right to manage" and the "right to transfer" and an equivalent to the "community cashback" initiatives of England and Wales.	Delivered	Tenant empowerment has progressed with a different focus. In respect of introducing schemes such as the "right to manage" for example, no further consideration was progressed, as issues and concerns remain around the readiness and desire of the sector here to assume additional responsibilities. However, tenants have been empowered in a range of other ways. There are now representatives of many different housing associations on the Housing Policy Panel, and some housing associations now have a tenant representative on their Board or have tenant scrutiny panels.

² The Regulatory Framework for Registered Housing Associations in Northern Ireland

Previous stakeholder engagement

In preparation for this public consultation, the Department has engaged with key stakeholder groups involving both tenants and social housing landlords, including Supporting Communities NI, the Housing Policy Panel, which was established by the original Tenant Participation Strategy, and the Tenant Participation Practitioners Network (TPPN). This engagement has been useful in identifying where the original Strategy was still working, and areas where change and improvement could be beneficial.

Current position in Northern Ireland

The current Strategy has been implemented by the sector and is working well with feedback showing that all RHAs now have their own tenant participation strategies. Examples of tenant participation and engagement initiatives from a number of different RHAs are outlined in the following case studies.

Case Study 1

Tenant Engagement: SignVideo for Tenants with Hearing Loss³

Arbour Housing have introduced SignVideo for tenants who are deaf or have hearing loss, as well as Video Remote Interpreting. This can help tenants communicate with the team at Arbour, including through phone calls, in-person meetings and with those visiting their properties, including tradespeople. One of the aims of tenant engagement is for it to be accessible to all, and the addition of this scheme helps to remove barriers to engagement for this group of tenants.

³ Arbour-Newsletter_Spring2026_Digital_150dpi.pdf

⁴ Provided by Supporting Communities NI

Case Study 2

Good Practice in Tenant Engagement: Co-Design and Community Ownership⁴

Effective tenant engagement goes beyond consultation by giving residents genuine influence over decisions and supporting them to lead change in their communities.

Apex Housing Association involved tenants from the outset in designing a new community hub on a large social housing estate. Residents co-designed a welcoming café-style space that encourages people to connect, access support and participate in community activities.

To promote community ownership, Apex partnered with a local community organisation, which employed local tenants to manage the hub. Apex also supported the organisation to secure initial funding, helping staff and volunteers build the skills and capacity needed for long-term success. This investment subsequently helped attract almost £500,000 in National Lottery funding.

The hub now serves as a focal point for the community, hosting local groups, supporting families, reducing low-level anti-social behaviour and creating employment opportunities for local residents. The organisation is now progressing towards becoming a fully independent, tenant-led enterprise.

This example demonstrates how co-design, community ownership and investment in local capacity can strengthen communities, improve services and create lasting social and economic benefits.

Case Study 3

Tenant Engagement in Procurement: Shaping Future Maintenance Services⁵

As part of the procurement process for its new Measured Term Contract, Woven Housing Association engaged tenants to help shape future maintenance services. Tenants shared their experiences and identified key priorities, including service quality, communication, reliability, timeliness and customer care.

This feedback directly informed the contract specification and evaluation criteria, ensuring that tenant priorities were reflected in the contractor selection process.

The initiative demonstrates Woven's commitment to meaningful tenant engagement by involving residents in decisions that affect their homes and helping to ensure services are designed around customer needs and expectations.

Case Study 4

Housing Executive at the heart of the festival⁶

A vibrant intergenerational celebration supported by the Housing Executive has brought delight to many Outer North/Ballyarnett residents.

The Heart of the Community Festival, hosted by Friends of St Brigid's Association in Derry/Londonderry, and St Brigid's College, received £6,480 from the Housing Executive's Community Cohesion fund.

Families of all ages enjoyed amusements, a kids' farm, balloon modelling, music,

and a delicious BBQ set within a lively atmosphere of togetherness.

The NIHE strives to improve intergenerational relations through events like this by encouraging social engagement, and growing mutual respect and communication between young people and older residents. Festivals such as this can leave residents with a renewed sense of belonging and pride in their neighbourhood.

Further to the examples above, the Tenant Participation Accreditation Scheme was launched in 2019 by Supporting Communities NI (SCNI). Since then, 6 Registered Housing Associations have gained awards – two bronze, two silver and recently the first platinum awards, the first to Choice Housing and subsequently to Radius, for their tenant participation activities. According to SCNI, accreditation can help landlords raise the bar for tenant participation and exceed the minimum standards as set out in the Tenant Participation Strategy NI, and acts as a benchmark against other landlords in Northern Ireland, Ireland and across the UK.

Registered Housing Associations (RHAs) in Northern Ireland are required under the Regulatory Framework outcomes to report and provide evidence on tenant participation as part of their Regulatory Standards Annual Returns, and all have their own Tenant Participation strategies.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)'s Community Involvement and Cohesion Strategy 2024-2029 was co-designed and will be co-delivered with the Housing Community Network (HCN) and

⁵ Provided by Supporting Communities NI

⁶ Housing Executive at the heart of the festival - Northern Ireland Housing Executive

members of the Central Housing Forum (CHF). The HCN was established in 1982 to ensure that local communities are more involved, better informed and can contribute to enhanced decision-making in relation to housing policy and how it affects them. The CHF has representatives from each of the Area Housing Community Networks as well as a representative from underrepresented groups, which are the Disability Forum, the Rural Residents Forum and the Northern Ireland Youth Forum. It promotes active, meaningful and equal partnership with the Housing Executive to enable, engage and empower communities and to give tenants, residents and leaseholders a real say in making their neighbourhoods better places in which to live.

Tenant participation and engagement in other jurisdictions

England introduced the Transparency, Influence and Accountability (TIA) Standard in 2024 under the Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023. It is legally binding on all registered social landlords in England and is a mandatory regulatory standard enforced by the Regulator of Social Housing. The TIA standard requires landlords to give tenants clear influence over decisions, provide timely, accessible information, offer meaningful engagement opportunities, demonstrate how tenant views affect outcomes and publish and act on Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs).

TPAS National Tenant Engagement Standards (2024)⁷ is also widely used by Councils and housing associations across England. It provides a practical framework for tenant participation and covers areas such as inclusion, scrutiny, co-production and feedback. They also offer training

courses which are aligned to the National Tenant Engagement Standards.

In **Scotland**, tenant participation is embedded in primary legislation through the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 and the Scottish Social Housing Charter (SSHC). All social landlords are required to actively develop and support tenant participation and have a Tenant Participation Strategy. They are also required to consult with tenants on housing policies, services and changes, as well as support Registered Tenant Organisations. The SSHC sets out national outcomes and standards that all social landlords must achieve. It is reviewed periodically and is currently in force following the 2022 revision. Outcome 3 requires landlords to ensure that tenants are offered a range of opportunities to participate, and that participation is accessible and meaningful. It also enforces that tenants can influence their landlord's decisions, and that landlords support tenant scrutiny.

TIS (Tenants Information Service) and TPAS Scotland provide national guidance on tenant participation and the Scottish Government's "Guide to Successful Tenant Participation" is the key national guidance document, explicitly aligned to legislation and the Charter.

Wales places a legal requirement on social landlords to have a tenant participation strategy and actively develop and support tenant participation and involvement in decision-making through the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. The Regulatory Framework for Welsh Registered Social Landlords requires Housing Associations to demonstrate that tenants are listened to and involved in shaping services and that their feedback helps to influence

⁷ Tpas engagement standards - 16 September 2024.pdf

decisions. This framework also requires that performance information is shared for tenant scrutiny, and that engagement is fair, inclusive and accessible to everyone.

TPAS Wales is part-funded by the Welsh Government and supports tenants and landlords to improve participation offering training, scrutiny support and engagement reviews for social landlords.

In **Ireland** the Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030 Action plan supports community sustainability and tenant wellbeing but does not set out a dedicated

participation framework. Expectations for tenant involvement are increasingly driven through regulation of Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs). AHBs are now required to demonstrate structured tenant engagement through tenancy management standards and published tenant engagement strategies. The Housing Agency issues good practice guidance for local authorities and promotes rightsbased tenant participation. The Irish Tenant Engagement Network (ITEN) provides sectorled leadership by developing shared principles and evidence based frameworks for tenant engagement across housing providers.

3. Proposals to Review and Enhance the Tenant Participation Strategy

The vision for the renewed Tenant Participation and Engagement Strategy is:

“to create inclusive, transparent and meaningful engagement, where tenants feel are heard, valued, and empowered to shape the services and places where they live”.

Proposal 1 – Rename the Strategy to shift the focus to tenant engagement and inclusion

We propose to change the name of the Strategy from the Tenant Participation Strategy to the Tenant Participation and Engagement Strategy.

Renaming the Strategy from Tenant Participation Strategy to Tenant Participation and Engagement Strategy better reflects the aim of the Strategy to build meaningful, ongoing partnerships with tenants rather than focusing on one off involvement activities. ‘Participation’ can imply that tenants are invited to contribute to existing plans and already established programmes, whereas ‘engagement’ emphasises the need for continuous dialogue, and the active inclusion of tenants to inform decision-making.

Proposal 2 – Ensure a longer-term commitment to tenant participation and engagement by mainstreaming the Strategy with an extended timeframe

We propose extending the time frame of the Strategy from 5 years to 10 years.

The original Tenant Participation Strategy ran for a 5-year period, with a planned mid-point review. We propose extending the time frame of the revised Strategy to a 10-year period, with periodic reviews. This would allow for a longer-term plan for social landlords and tenants but still allowing the Action Plan to be updated on a regular and timely basis. A review in year 9 would help provide early feedback and engagement for the Department to begin planning for a refresh of the Strategy in year 10.

Proposal 3 - Refresh and update the Principles of Tenant Participation and Engagement to ensure they are relevant to best practice.

We propose changes to the original 10 principles of tenant participation, to keep these up to date, relevant and in line with best practice.

The Tenant Participation Strategy 2015-2020 set out 10 principles of good participation in Northern Ireland based on:

- what social landlords should do,
- how tenants' capacity for greater participation would be developed and supported and
- what government would do to lead the development.

The measures outlined in the Strategy apply to all providers of social housing in Northern Ireland and their tenants, but they do not apply to landlords in the private rented sector. The Strategy does not replace any existing legal duties that apply to landlords.

The original principles for tenant participation are listed below:

1. Tenant participation comes from and promotes a culture of mutual trust, respect and partnership between tenants, board members and staff at all levels. It exists when all these interests work together towards a common goal of better housing conditions and housing services.
2. Tenant participation is a continuous process. Participants share information, ideas and influence. They work towards

a common understanding of problems and a consensus on solutions.

3. Good tenant participation is about sharing information. All participants need to have all the information available to consider issues properly. That information needs to be clear, timely and accessible. Information must be in a form that all participants can understand.
4. Decision-making processes should be open, clear and accountable.
5. Tenant representatives should have enough time to consider issues properly. They should have the opportunity to work out a common view before meeting landlord representatives.
6. The landlord must recognise the independence of tenants' organisations.
7. Good working relations evolve gradually so must be flexible to adapt to local circumstances.
8. Tenants' organisations need adequate resources for organisation, training and support.
9. Tenant participation in rural areas must suit the particular circumstances and needs of rural tenants.
10. Tenant participation must meet the requirements of legislation on equality and Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

Feedback from the early engagement that the Department had with key stakeholders has suggested that the Principles could be updated to reduce duplication, improve clarity, and sharpen focus. Some of the Principles repeat similar ideas around information sharing, suggesting the

need for consolidation. There is also a view that the emphasis on a “common understanding” should be reconsidered in favour of a more practical, solutions-focused approach, recognising that tenants may not always share the same perspectives.

We propose that the principles are amended to the following:

Revised Principles for Tenant Participation and Engagement

1. Tenant participation and engagement come from, and promote, a culture of mutual trust, respect and partnership between tenants, board members and staff at all levels. It exists when all these interests work together towards a common goal of better housing conditions and services.
2. Tenant engagement is an ongoing process where participants share ideas, perspectives and information in a clear, timely and accessible way. The focus is on enabling meaningful involvement and identifying practical solutions, rather than requiring uniform views or full consensus.
3. Decision-making processes should be open, clear and accountable to all participants, with transparency about how decisions are made and allowing input from tenants where the decision will directly affect them.
4. Tenant representatives should have sufficient time and support to consider issues and develop informed views before engaging with landlords.

5. Effective participation develops over time, it should remain flexible to reflect local needs and circumstances and ensure accessibility for all.
6. The independence of tenants’ organisations must be recognised and respected, and they should be supported with adequate resources, training and skill development to enable them to participate effectively.
7. Tenant participation in rural areas must suit the particular circumstances and needs of rural tenants.
8. Tenant participation must meet the requirements of legislation on equality and Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

Proposal 4 – To encourage active engagement with representative groups across the wider housing sector

We support the principle of encouraging and further developing some cross-tenure working for the Housing Policy Panel. Over the life of the revised Tenant Participation and Engagement Strategy, we propose supporting the Housing Policy Panel to engage with comparable bodies for the private rented sector, such as Renters’ Voice and Housing Rights.

Proposal 5 – To encourage the sharing of information with tenants in an accessible way

The previous Tenant Participation Strategy made a commitment to bring in regulation to support the strategy. This is seen in the Consumer Standard which forms part of the regulatory returns that the RHAs submit to the Department each year. RHAs also regularly carry out tenant satisfaction surveys that measure service quality, property conditions, and complaint handling.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive have their own Community Involvement and Cohesion Strategy, and the action plan for this is regularly reviewed and updated. They conduct surveys such as the Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey and an annual Housing Community Network survey to measure tenant satisfaction and participation levels, living conditions and attitudes towards housing services. The Department and the NIHE also have regular Oversight Meetings. Minutes and presentations from the Central Housing Forum are included in papers which are received from the Tenant and Customer Services Committee for these meetings.

We want to gauge tenant views on tenant participation, and the way in which social housing providers communicate with them with regards to tenant participation.

What are the potential impacts?

This section considers why change is necessary.

Reviewing the Northern Ireland Tenant Participation Strategy is important to ensure it remains effective, relevant, and fit for purpose in a changing housing and policy environment. The original Tenant Participation Strategy has been subject to extension since 2020. Reviewing the Tenant Participation Strategy will continue to strengthen how tenants influence decisions about housing services, policies, and priorities. Clearer structures, wider engagement methods (digital, local forums, targeted outreach), and better feedback loops can ensure tenants feel heard and see tangible outcomes from participation. It will encourage co-design and co-production between the tenants and landlords, leading to increased trust, community cohesion and stronger tenant engagement.

Not reviewing the Tenant Participation Strategy could lead to it becoming outdated and ineffective. Tenant engagement could decline in quality, relevance, and impact, becoming less inclusive and less influential. Over time this could weaken trust between tenants and landlords and there could be a decline in service improvement and accountability. Ultimately, this could lead to the value of tenant participation being undermined altogether.

Human rights and impact assessments

Human Rights

The Department believes that the proposals set out in the draft Strategy are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998.

Equality

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires each public authority, when carrying out its functions in relation to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between nine categories of persons, namely

- between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
- between men and women generally;
- between persons with a disability and persons without; and
- between persons with dependants and persons without.

Without prejudice to its obligations above, the public authority must also have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

The Department considers that the draft Strategy does not contain proposals that would have any adverse impact on the categories of person in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. A screening exercise identified potential minor positive impacts for all Section 75 groups.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment

The Department considers that the proposed amendments in the draft Strategy will have a minor positive impact on social tenants living in rural areas.

Available in alternative formats.

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