



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle
**Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin**

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Destrìck Cooncil

Equality Screening and Rural Needs, Climate & Privacy Impact Assessment

Safeguarding Children and Young People (Policy and Procedures)

March 2025

Please remember to send this document to equality@derrystrabane.com once completed

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Part One: Policy Scoping

1. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Equality Screening under Section 75 Act and Rural Needs Impact Assessment under Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Screening of a revised Safeguarding Children and Young People policy and procedures.

2. Please tick as appropriate

New Policy

Revised Policy

Corporate Policy

Departmental Policy

If Departmental, please specify which department

Corporate Policy

2b. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Question 1 above relates to.

	Policy	Strategy	Plan
Developing a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designing a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivering a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3a. Please describe the aims of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people who use Council's facilities and services through actively promoting awareness of the Council's safeguarding duty, implementing good practice and complying with robust procedures which outline what action staff and other relevant partners should take when concerned about potential harm or abuse.

3b. Are there any associated objectives of the policy? If so, what are they?

- To ensure that employees, volunteers and elected members are aware of Council's duty to safeguard children and young people.
- To aid employees, volunteers, and elected members to respond sensitively and seriously to anyone who discloses information about abuse and be confident and able to take appropriate action swiftly, regardless of whom the allegation is about.
- To promote the general welfare and well-being of children and young people within council facilities and services.
- To develop and implement effective procedures for recording and responding to complaints of alleged or suspected child or young person abuse.

4. Are there any Section75 groups which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how

This policy applies to all individuals under the age of 18. Young people (age) are expected to benefit.

5. Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Corporate Designated Safeguarding Officer Team

6. Who is responsible for the implementation of the policy?

Please see Section 4.2 of the policy which outlines the roles and responsibilities of a range of duty bearers including; Chief Executive, the Corporate Designated Safeguarding Officer team; Directors, Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer; Responsible Persons/Line Managers, Lone Workers, Elected Members and Hirers of Council facilities.

7. 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

N/A

8. Who are the internal/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

Elected Members, Hirers, Contractors

9. Is this policy associated with any other Council Policy(s)?

Yes

No

If yes, please state the related policy(s) below.

- DCSDC Customer Service Charter
- DCSDC Code of Conduct
- DCSDC Employee Disciplinary Procedures
- DCSDC Policy for the Purchase of Supplies & Services, Panel of Contractors

10. How does the policy contribute towards the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives?

This policy is closely aligned with the wellbeing pillar within the Council's Performance Improvement Plan 2024/25 which includes objectives in respect of health and social wellbeing, as well as with Children and Young People.

11. How does the Council interface with other bodies in relation to the implementation of this policy?

Council will liaise with a range of agencies and key organisations including: The Western Health and Social Care Trust, the Police Service of Northern Ireland, the Safeguarding Board NI, Local Area Safeguarding Partnerships, the Local Government Safeguarding Network and Leisurewatch.

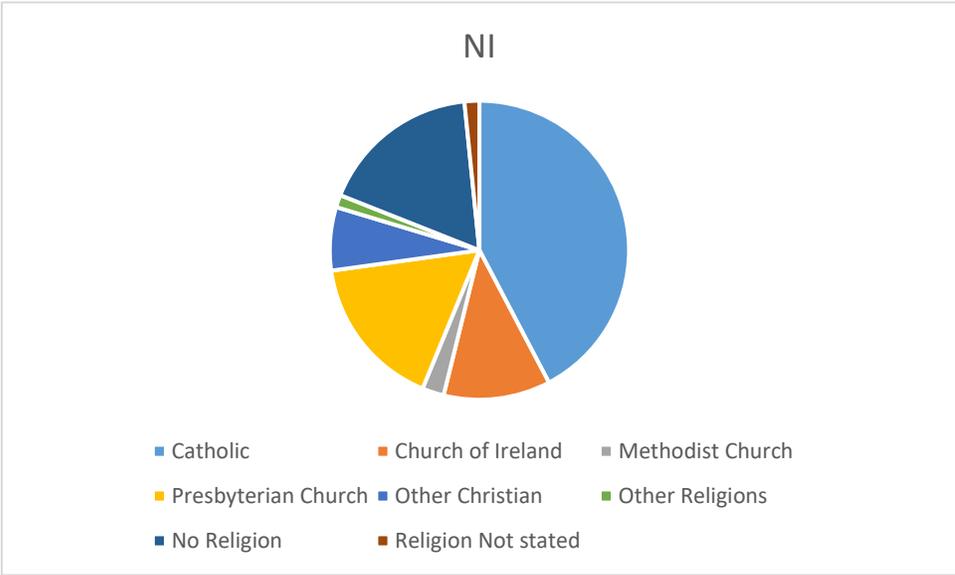
Part Two: Equality Screening

2.1 Available evidence

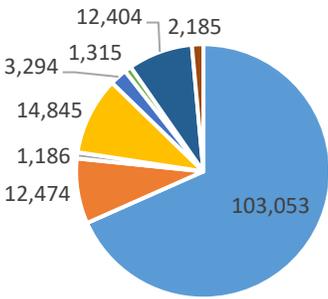
Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

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

In reviewing this policy, we have considered the following information; including analysis of previous safeguarding incident reports; the bi-annual Safeguarding Working Group; and consultation across our services.

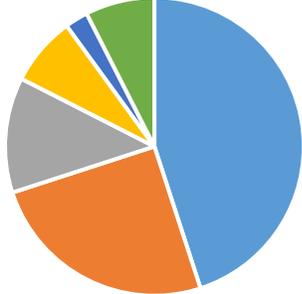
Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information																		
Religious belief	<p>According to data from the Census 2021 the breakdown detailing the religious belief profile of residents as a proportion of the whole population in the Derry City and Strabane District Council, compared to Northern Ireland is as follows¹:</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Religious Belief Profile Data (Estimated from Chart)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Religion</th> <th>Color</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Catholic</td> <td>Light Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Church of Ireland</td> <td>Orange</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Methodist Church</td> <td>Grey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Presbyterian Church</td> <td>Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Christian</td> <td>Dark Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Religions</td> <td>Green</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No Religion</td> <td>Dark Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion Not stated</td> <td>Brown</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Religion	Color	Catholic	Light Blue	Church of Ireland	Orange	Methodist Church	Grey	Presbyterian Church	Yellow	Other Christian	Dark Blue	Other Religions	Green	No Religion	Dark Blue	Religion Not stated	Brown
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¹ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-main-statistics-religion-tables>

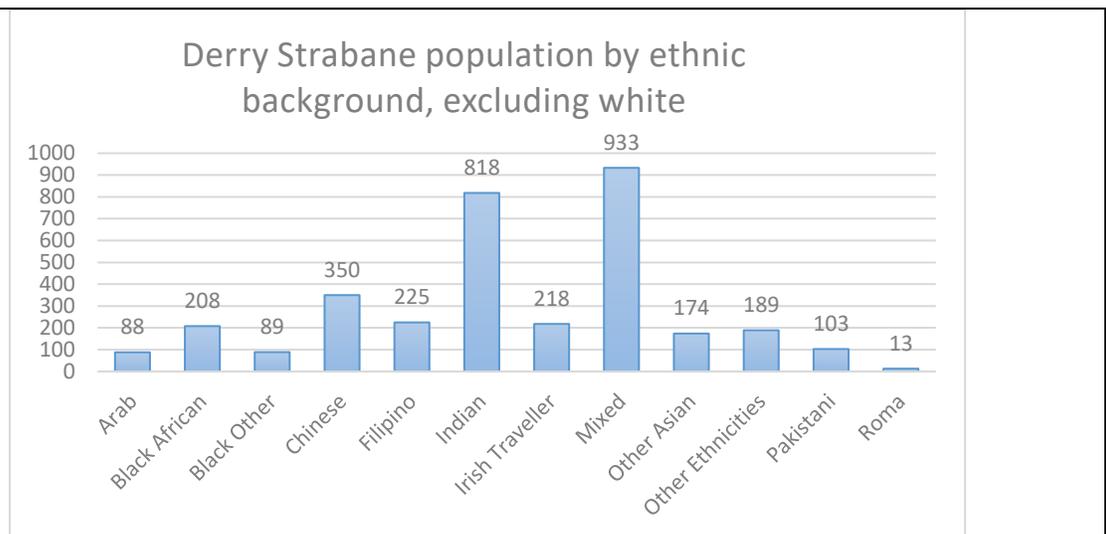
	<p style="text-align: center;">Derry Strabane</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Religion</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Catholic</td> <td>103,053</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Church of Ireland</td> <td>12,474</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Presbyterian Church</td> <td>14,845</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No Religion</td> <td>12,404</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Christian</td> <td>3,294</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion Not stated</td> <td>1,315</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Methodist Church</td> <td>2,185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Religions</td> <td>1,186</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p> ■ Catholic ■ Church of Ireland ■ Methodist Church ■ Presbyterian Church ■ Other Christian ■ Other Religions ■ No Religion ■ Religion Not stated </p>	Religion	Count	Catholic	103,053	Church of Ireland	12,474	Presbyterian Church	14,845	No Religion	12,404	Other Christian	3,294	Religion Not stated	1,315	Methodist Church	2,185	Other Religions	1,186
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<p>Political opinion</p>	<p>Following the 2023 elections, the political makeup of the Council’s elected members was as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sinn Féin</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SDLP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DUP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UUP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IND</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PBP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sinn Féin	18	SDLP	10*	DUP	5	UUP	3	IND	3	PBP	1						
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“Certain practices linked to faith, beliefs or culture, may put children at risk of abuse. People working with faith groups or communities should be aware of, identify and appropriately respond to any child protection concerns linked to culture, faith and belief.²”

² <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/faith-communities/#skip-to-content> (accessed 25/03/25)

	<p style="text-align: center;">Derry and Strabane political party breakdown 2023</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"> ■ Sinn Féin ■ SDLP ■ Democratic Unionist ■ Ulster Unionist ■ People Before Profit ■ Independent </p> <p>*Further to the election, two members of the SDLP became independent members in May 2024.</p> <p>We don't hold data on the political opinion of children/young people who use our services.</p>
<p>Racial group</p>	<p>According to the Census 2021 statistics³ the total population of the Council area is 150,757. The majority of the population – 147,349 (97.74%) - is White. The ethnic profile of non-White residents of the Council area is as follows:</p>

³ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-bulk-download>



The following evidence around race and safeguarding is relevant to this policy:

- a) "Adultification is a form of bias where children from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities are perceived as being more 'streetwise', more 'grown up', less innocent and less vulnerable than other children. This particularly affects Black children, who might be viewed primarily as a threat rather than as a child who needs support (Davis 2022; Davis and Marsh, 2020; Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality, 2019).
- b) Having conscious or unconscious bias can lead to professionals not taking child protection concerns about children from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities as seriously as they might do for children from other communities. Professionals might dismiss certain behaviours or practices as being part of that community's culture and as a result not take the necessary protective action (IICSA, 2020).
- c) Some practitioners might worry about being perceived as culturally insensitive or racist if they raise concerns about children in Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities. This can also lead to them ignoring child protection concerns (IICSA, 2020; SCRA, 2017).
- d) When [such] child protection concerns are overlooked or dismissed, this can lead to children and young people feeling isolated and undervalued.

- e) Feelings of being isolated from their community or from wider society can also make children more vulnerable to safeguarding and child protection concerns, such as going missing or being exploited (Davis, Allan and Hunter, 2024).
- f) The risk of being cut off from family and support networks can deter children from asking for help (IICSA, 2020).
- g) Some communities place high importance on female honour, linked to virginity and marriage. Girls who have been sexually abused might worry that family and community members would consider them to be “damaged”, or that they will be blamed for behaving in a way that is perceived to be immodest or provocative.
- h) Boys might feel ashamed if their culture places value on male strength, or has a strong belief that only girls experience sexual abuse. Some adults who experienced sexual abuse in childhood have reported that they felt unable to speak out about their experiences because they felt they needed to uphold their family’s honour (IICSA, 2020).
- i) Children may also be worried that speaking out about abuse will result in their community’s reputation being damaged. This may be because they have experienced racist stereotyping in the past (IICSA, 2020), or because there is a strong sense of honour in their community (Community Care, 2020a).
- j) In any community, people might believe that problems should be dealt with in the community or their families. This can make people less likely to report concerns about abuse to child protection services and feel wary about bringing in ‘outsiders’ such as the police.
- k) Not all communities have the language to describe sexual abuse or the language they use might not distinguish between consensual sexual activity and abuse.
- l) Some communities may have different perceptions of what constitutes child abuse. Children may not realise they are being abused, for example if they are growing up in a culture that routinely uses physical punishment. Or they may feel that there is

	<p>no point in speaking out because the adults around them are unlikely to stop the abuse.”⁴</p>																																								
<p>Age</p>	<p>According to Census 2021 data the age profile of the Derry and Strabane LGD area ⁵ is as follows:</p> <div data-bbox="467 552 1507 1640"> <table border="1"> <caption>Derry and Strabane population by five year age bands</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Band</th> <th>Population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>0-4 years</td><td>9291</td></tr> <tr><td>5-9 years</td><td>10270</td></tr> <tr><td>10-14 years</td><td>10417</td></tr> <tr><td>15-19 years</td><td>9322</td></tr> <tr><td>20-24 years</td><td>8750</td></tr> <tr><td>25-29 years</td><td>8941</td></tr> <tr><td>30-34 years</td><td>9833</td></tr> <tr><td>35-39 years</td><td>9987</td></tr> <tr><td>40-44 years</td><td>9759</td></tr> <tr><td>45-49 years</td><td>9798</td></tr> <tr><td>50-54 years</td><td>10730</td></tr> <tr><td>55-59 years</td><td>10656</td></tr> <tr><td>60-64 years</td><td>8845</td></tr> <tr><td>65-69 years</td><td>7440</td></tr> <tr><td>70-74 years</td><td>6515</td></tr> <tr><td>75 -79 years</td><td>4734</td></tr> <tr><td>80-84 years</td><td>3100</td></tr> <tr><td>85-89 years</td><td>1673</td></tr> <tr><td>90+ years</td><td>695</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Age Band	Population	0-4 years	9291	5-9 years	10270	10-14 years	10417	15-19 years	9322	20-24 years	8750	25-29 years	8941	30-34 years	9833	35-39 years	9987	40-44 years	9759	45-49 years	9798	50-54 years	10730	55-59 years	10656	60-64 years	8845	65-69 years	7440	70-74 years	6515	75 -79 years	4734	80-84 years	3100	85-89 years	1673	90+ years	695
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⁴ <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/children-from-black-asian-minoritised-ethnic-communities#skip-to-content> (accessed 24/03/25)

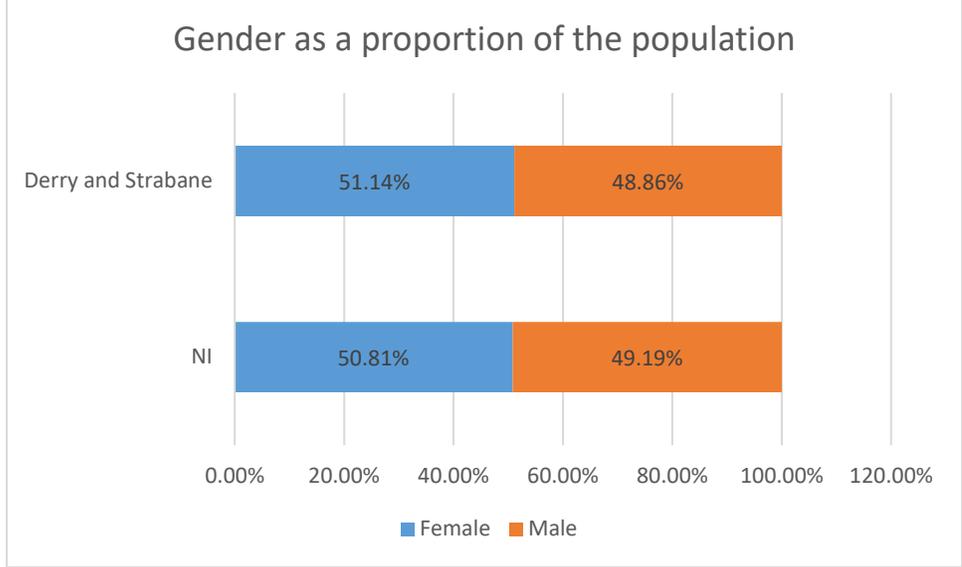
⁵ Ibid

	<p>The graph above shows the population of children and young people, which totals fewer than 39,300 people. .</p>																					
<p>Marital status</p>	<p>The table below illustrates the marital status profile of the Derry and Strabane LGD:</p> <div data-bbox="467 506 1528 1178" data-label="Figure"> <table border="1"> <caption>Marital Status of those aged 16+, as proportion of the population</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Marital Status</th> <th>NI (%)</th> <th>Derry and Strabane (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership</td> <td>~6</td> <td>~5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved</td> <td>~6</td> <td>~5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership)</td> <td>~4</td> <td>~5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In a registered civil partnership</td> <td>~0.5</td> <td>~0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Married</td> <td>~45</td> <td>~40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single (never married or never registered a civil partnership)</td> <td>~38</td> <td>~40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>We don't hold data on the marital status of young people who use our services.</p>	Marital Status	NI (%)	Derry and Strabane (%)	Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership	~6	~5	Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	~6	~5	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership)	~4	~5	In a registered civil partnership	~0.5	~0.5	Married	~45	~40	Single (never married or never registered a civil partnership)	~38	~40
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<p>Sexual orientation</p>	<p>Analysis of the Census 2021 indicates that, of those aged 16 years and over 2.1% identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or other. A further 7.6% did not state their sexual orientation. 90.3% said they were straight or heterosexual.⁶</p> <p>The following information is relevant to young people and sexual orientation, in respect of safeguarding:</p>																					

⁶ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/system/files/statistics/census-2021-main-statistics-for-northern-ireland-phase-3-statistical-bulletin-sexual-orientation.pdf> (accessed 11/07/23)

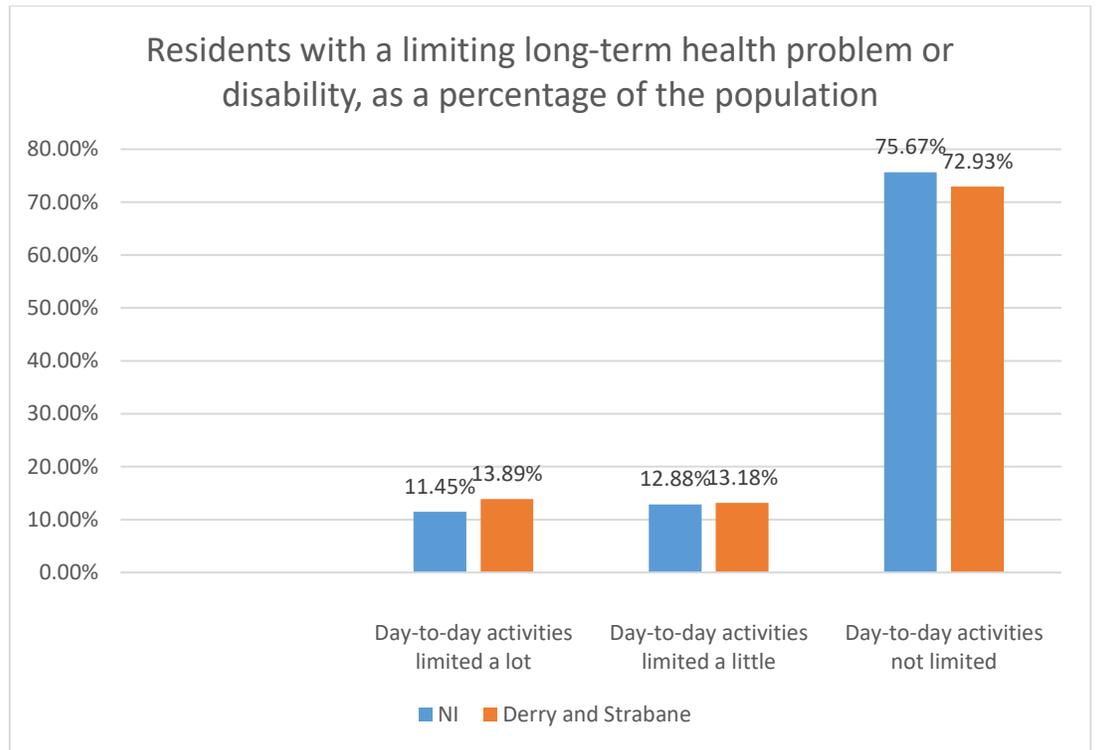
- “LGBTQ+ relationships are underrepresented in educational resources and the media (Barnardo’s and Fox, 2016). This means there are fewer examples of relevant, healthy relationships available to LGBTQ+ young people. If LGBTQ+ young people are not taught about healthy and unhealthy relationships, it might be easier for an abuser to groom them into believing an abusive relationship is normal.
- If LGBTQ+ young people are unable to get information about sex and relationships from school or family, they might seek advice and support from people in adult spaces, such as gay clubs. This is particularly true of young people who live in rural areas or in communities where their gender identity or sexuality is not accepted. Adult spaces don’t have the same safeguarding and child protection measures in place as spaces specifically for children. Children might be pressured or coerced into doing something they don’t want to do, particularly if they are already isolated and don’t have anywhere else to turn for support (Barnardo’s and Fox, 2016).
- The adults around a child can sometimes assume that it’s normal for LGBTQ+ young people to have sex at a younger age as part of exploring their identity. This means the adults might not consider being involved in underage sexual activity as a possible sign of abuse, and do not take appropriate action to protect the child. Similarly, professionals might not always consider the possibility that an adult woman is sexually exploiting a girl (Barnardo’s and Fox, 2016).
- if an LGBTQ+ child or young person hasn’t come out, or feels that their gender identity or sexuality needs to be kept secret, perpetrators can take advantage of this to prevent the child from telling anyone about the relationship or to coerce them”⁷

⁷ <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/lgbtq-children-young-people/#skip-to-content> (accessed 24/03/25)

<p>Men and women generally</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gender as a proportion of the population</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="462 260 1424 827"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Female (%)</th> <th>Male (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Derry and Strabane</td> <td>51.14%</td> <td>48.86%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NI</td> <td>50.81%</td> <td>49.19%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The following information is relevant in relation to females and safeguarding:</p> <p>“Violence against women and girls (VAWG) in all its forms – including but not limited to harassment, stalking, rape, sexual assault, murder, honour-based abuse, coercive control... While men and boys also suffer from many of these forms of abuse, they disproportionately affect women. ”⁸</p>	Area	Female (%)	Male (%)	Derry and Strabane	51.14%	48.86%	NI	50.81%	49.19%
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<p>Disability</p>	<p>According to statistics for Census day 2021 the health profile of the Council area was as follows⁹:</p>									

⁸ <https://www.npcc.police.uk/our-work/violence-against-women-and-girls/> (accessed 24/03/25)

⁹ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-main-statistics-health-disability-and-unpaid-care-tables>



“Research evidence suggests that disabled children are more vulnerable to abuse than non- disabled children. A large scale American study that examined records of over 40,000 children found that disabled children were 3.4 times more likely to be abused or neglected than non-disabled children.

Disabled children were 3.8 times more likely to be neglected, 3.8 times more likely to be physically abused, 3.1 times more likely to be sexually abused and 3.9 times more likely to be emotionally abused.

Overall, the study concluded that 31% of disabled children had been abused, compared to a prevalence rate of 9% among the nondisabled child population.

Smaller scale studies in the US have also reported significant levels of abuse of deaf children and children with Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome.

Research in the UK has been limited but a number of studies have indicated similar levels of abuse and neglect to that found in the US. Higher levels of maltreatment of disabled young people than their non-

	<p>disabled peers were found in a study of 3000 young people aged 18 –24. In relation to sexual abuse by people who were known to the child but not family members 22% of disabled young people reported experiencing sexual abuse compared to 15% of the sample as a whole. ¹⁰</p>																												
Dependant	<p>According to statistics for Census day 2021 the caring profile for the Council area was as follows:¹¹</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">All Usual Residents aged 5 and over</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>All usual residents aged 5 and over</th> <th>Provide no unpaid care</th> <th>Provide 1-19 hrs unpaid care per week</th> <th>Provide 20-34 hrs unpaid care per week</th> <th>Provide 35-49 hrs unpaid care per week</th> <th>Provide 50+ hrs unpaid care per week</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1,789,348</td> <td>1,567,135 87.58%</td> <td>100,777 5.63%</td> <td>24,636 1.38%</td> <td>28,109 1.57%</td> <td>68,691 3.84%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Derry City & Strabane</td> <td>141,465</td> <td>123,487 87.29%</td> <td>7,135 5.04%</td> <td>2,178 1.54%</td> <td>2,608 1.84%</td> <td>6,057 4.28%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>We do not hold data on whether our service users have dependants.</p>	All Usual Residents aged 5 and over								All usual residents aged 5 and over	Provide no unpaid care	Provide 1-19 hrs unpaid care per week	Provide 20-34 hrs unpaid care per week	Provide 35-49 hrs unpaid care per week	Provide 50+ hrs unpaid care per week	Northern Ireland	1,789,348	1,567,135 87.58%	100,777 5.63%	24,636 1.38%	28,109 1.57%	68,691 3.84%	Derry City & Strabane	141,465	123,487 87.29%	7,135 5.04%	2,178 1.54%	2,608 1.84%	6,057 4.28%
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¹⁰ Safeguarding Disabled Children Practice Guidance, The Children’s Society, 2009. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-disabled-children-practice-guidance>), accessed 25/03/25

¹¹ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-main-statistics-health-disability-and-msD01unpaid-care-tables> – Table msD17

2.2 Equality 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	People working with faith groups or communities should be aware of, identify and appropriately respond to any child protection concerns linked to culture, faith and belief.
Political opinion	We do not have any data or evidence to identify any particular needs, experiences or priorities of this group.
Racial group	This Safeguarding policy : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • includes an equality statement with a commitment to anti-discriminatory practice • recognises the increased vulnerability of children from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities to abuse and neglect, and the barriers they may face in accessing help • recognises that extra safeguards may be needed to keep children from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities safe from abuse."¹²
Age	There may be a requirement to communicate the policy in an age-appropriate or child-friendly format.
Marital status	Since we don't collect or hold data on this category We can not identify any particular needs, experiences or priorities of this group.

¹² <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/children-from-black-asian-minoritised-ethnic-communities> (accessed 24/03/25)

Sexual orientation	This safeguarding and child protection policy recognises the additional risks and vulnerability factors for LGBTQ+ children and young people. ¹³
Men and women generally	Women and girls are disproportionately affected by abuse.
Disability	Children and young people with disabilities are likely to be affected disproportionately by abuse. Some children/young people with certain disabilities may be more vulnerable and in need of the protections offered in the Safeguarding policy. There may be a requirement to communicate the policy in alternative formats in order to facilitate people with a learning disability, or with a visual impairment. There may also be additional issues to be explored in the implementation phase.
Dependants	We can not identify any particular needs, experiences or priorities of this group.

2.3 Screening questions

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	None identified	None
Political opinion	None identified	None
Racial group	The information supplied above can inform staff and help address unconscious bias. This has the potential to increase equality of opportunity for Black, Asian and	Minor, positive

¹³ <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/lgbtq-children-young-people> (accessed 24/03/25)

	minoritised ethnic communities to use our services safely. . There may be an opportunity to communicate the policy to a range of audiences by providing the information in a range of alternative formats and/or languages where requested.	
Age	This policy is designed to protect our service users under the age of 18, who may be more vulnerable than adults, in respect of safeguarding. It therefore positively impacts young people under the age of 18 in terms of equality of opportunity of accessing our services safely.	Major positive
Marital status	None identified	None
Sexual orientation	By being cognisant of the additional risks and vulnerability factors for LGBTQIA+ children and young people, this policy may increase equality of opportunity for these customers to access our services safely.	Minor, positive
Men & women generally	Females under the age of 18 stand to benefit most, dependent on their uptake of our services.	Minor, positive
Disability	This policy will apply to all individuals who engage with Council staff and services irrespective of their S75 category or categories. Some children/young people with certain disabilities may be more vulnerable and in need of the protections offered in the Safeguarding policy. The policy makes reference to disability within the section detailing 'Types of Abuse', e.g. Discriminatory abuse on grounds of disability. Any impacts are determined to be positive.	Minor, positive
Dependants	None identified	None

2.4 Equality of Opportunity

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	Dissemination of the information contained in this screening across leisure, visitor attractions and to staff who make home visits as part of their role will increase awareness in the organisation.	
Political opinion		Not relevant
Racial group	Dissemination of the information contained in this screening across leisure, visitor attractions and to staff who make home visits as part of their role will increase awareness in the organisation.	
Age		Not relevant
Marital status		Not relevant
Sexual orientation	Dissemination of the information contained in this screening across leisure, visitor attractions and to staff who make home visits as part of their role will increase awareness in the organisation.	
Men & women generally	Dissemination of the information contained in this screening across leisure, visitor attractions and to staff who make home visits as part of their role will increase awareness in the organisation.	
Disability	Dissemination of the information contained in this screening across leisure, visitor attractions and to staff who make home visits as part of their role will increase awareness in the organisation.	
Dependants		Not relevant

2.5 Good Relations

Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between Section 75 equality categories through tackling prejudice and/or promoting understanding?

Yes No

If Yes, the policy will be considered by a Designated Working Group

Section 75 category	
Religious belief	
Political opinion	
Racial group	

2.6 Disability Duties

4. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would promote positive attitudes towards people with a disability?

Yes **No**

If Yes, provide details of opportunities identified (including details of consultation with relevant stakeholders)

--

5. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would encourage the participation of people with a disability in public life?

Yes

No

If Yes, provide details of opportunities identified (including details of consultation with relevant stakeholders)

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 are many examples of intersectionality. To give one example “Black girls might experience adultification, racism and sexism at the same time. Practitioners’ biases and perceptions of the way different characteristics interact can affect the way they assess the risk to a child. This in turn will have an impact on the support that is put in place to help keep the child safe.”¹⁴

¹⁴ <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/children-from-black-asian-minoritised-ethnic-communities> (accessed 25/03/25)

2.7 Screening Decision

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

No potential adverse impacts have been identified. Any impacts which have been identified are considered to be potentially positive.

If the decision is **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. Please provide details

Not required.

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

2.8 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.

2.9 Monitoring Arrangements

Provide details of the monitoring arrangements that will be in place to ensure that there are no adverse impacts as a result of the implementation of this policy.

This policy will be subject to a review every three years or earlier if required. The policy will be kept under review by the Corporate Designated Safeguarding Team which will report on progress under the quarterly performance review arrangements. A Safeguarding Working Group will meet at least twice annually to provide additional assurance and to allow for the identification of gaps. Please also see Section 9 within the policy – ‘Monitoring and Evaluation’.

Part Three: Rural Needs Impact Assessment

3.1 Which definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?	
Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A definition of 'rural' is not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used	
Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'	

3.2 Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

3.2a Is the policy, strategy, plan or public service intended to impact upon people in rural areas?	
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If the response is No go to Section 3.2e	
3.2b. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is intended to impact on people in rural areas	
The policy applies to children/young people who engage with our services regardless of whether they live in urban or rural locations.	

3.2c. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is intended to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it will impact people in rural areas differently

3.2d. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is intended to impact on

- Rural Businesses
- Rural Tourism
- Rural Housing
- Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas
- Education or Training in Rural Areas
- Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas
- Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas
- Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas
- Poverty in Rural Areas
- Deprivation in Rural Areas
- Rural Crime or Community Safety
- Rural Development

Other (please state)

Corporate Council Policy – applies to all Council facilities, programmes and activities.

(If the response to Section 3.2a was yes go to 3.3a)

3.2e Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is not intended to impact on people in rural areas

3.3 Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3.3a Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?												
<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If the response is No Go to Section 3.3e</p>												
3.3b. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources we used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas												
<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Consultation with Rural Stakeholders</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Consultation with Other Organisations</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Published Statistics</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research Papers</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surveys or Questionnaires</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Publications</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Consultation with Rural Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultation with Other Organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Published Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Surveys or Questionnaires		Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Published Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>											
Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>											
Surveys or Questionnaires												
Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>											

Other Methods or Information Sources (include details)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>	
3.3c Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.	
<div style="background-color: #e6f2ff; height: 60px;"></div>	
3.3d. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?	
<div style="background-color: #e6f2ff; height: 60px;"></div>	
(If the response to Section 3.3a was Yes go to Section 3. 4a)	
3.3e. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?	
<div style="background-color: #e6f2ff; height: 60px;"></div>	
No specific rural needs identified during policy development/revision.	

3.4 – Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3.4a. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas identified by the Public Authority.
Not applicable.

3.5 – Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

3.5a. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revision of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes

No

If the response is No go to Section 3.5c

3.5b. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revision of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified

3.5c. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revision of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has not been influenced by the rural needs identified

Not required as the safeguarding duty will be actioned for all communities irrespective of urban/rural location.

Part Four: Climate Change Screening

4.1 What impact will the policy/proposal/plan have on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions?

- Beneficial impact (Reduce emissions)
- A mixed impact (Good & Bad)
- Negative impact (Harmful / increase emissions)
- No impacts / Not applicable
- Don't know

4.2 Does the policy/proposal/plan consider initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, e.g. sustainable transport, zero waste circular economy principles, renewable and efficient energy, and green infrastructure?

Yes (please explain)

- No
- Not applicable

4.3 Will the policy/proposal/plan be impacted by the effects of climate change e.g. flooding, sea level rise, heat stress, poor air quality, and habitat and biodiversity loss?

- Impacted
- A mixed impact (Good & Bad)
- Not Impacted
- Not applicable

Don't know

4.4 What impact will the policy/proposal/ plan have on the resilience to the adverse effects of climate change, e.g. flooding, sea level rise, heat stress, poor air quality, and habitat and biodiversity loss?

Beneficial impact (Improve resilience)

A mixed impact (Good & Bad)

Negative impact (Harmful / reduce resilience)

No impacts / Not applicable

Don't know

4.5 Does the policy/proposal/ plan consider initiatives to reduce the adverse effects of climate change, e.g. avoid construction in flood risk areas, emergency and resilience planning measures, green infrastructure?

Yes (please explain)

No

Not applicable

4.6 Does the policy/proposal /plan require further detailed assessment e.g. whole life carbon assessment, climate change risk analysis?

Yes (please explain)

No

Not applicable

Part Five: Privacy impact assessment screening questions

These questions are intended to help decide whether a PIA is necessary. Answering 'yes' to any of these questions is an indication that a PIA would be a useful exercise.

- Will the project involve the collection of new information about individuals?
- Will the project compel individuals to provide information about themselves?
- Will information about individuals be disclosed to organisations or people who have not previously had routine access to the information?
- Are you using information about individuals for a purpose it is not currently used for, or in a way it is not currently used?
- Does the project involve you using new technology which might be perceived as being privacy intrusive? For example, the use of biometrics or facial recognition.
- Will the project result in you making decisions or taking action against individuals in ways which can have a significant impact on them?
- Is the information about individuals of a kind particularly likely to raise privacy concerns or expectations? For example, health records, criminal records or other information that people would consider to be particularly private
- Will the project require you to contact individuals in ways which they may find intrusive?

Part Six - Approval and authorisation**Conclusions**

(Details to be reflected in the relevant committee report.)

- The policy has been screened out for equality impact assessment.
- The development, adoption, implementation or revision of the policy or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has not been influenced by the rural needs identified in the impact assessment.
- The policy does not require further detailed assessment in terms of climate change and adaption
- The policy requires further assessment in terms of data protection / privacy

Screening / impact assessment completed by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Hollie Carroll	Corporate Designated Safeguarding Officer	March 2025
Rachel McCay	Corporate Designated Safeguarding Officer	March 2025
Pól Ó Frighil	Corporate Designated Safeguarding Officer	March 2025
Approved by:		
.2Ellen Cavanagh	Lead Democratic Services Officer	26 March 2025

Note: A copy of this questionnaire, 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.