Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Destrìck Cooncil

Integrated Impact Assessment

Equality Screening and Rural Needs, Climate & Privacy Impact Assessment

Entertainments Licence Policy

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

Contents

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.**

Entertainments Licence Policy

2. **Please tick as appropriate**

New Policy ☒   Revised Policy ☐

Corporate Policy ☐   Departmental Policy ☐

If Departmental, please specify which department

Health and Communities

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

	Policy	**Strategy**	**Plan**
Developing a	☒	☐	☐
Adopting a	☐	☐	☐
Implementing a	☐	☐	☐
Revising a	☐	☐	☐
Designing a Public Service	☐	☐	☐
Delivering a Public Service	☐	☐	☐

3a. Please describe the aims of the policy

This policy has been prepared to ensure that all staff involved in determining applications for entertainments licences are aware of the process to be followed. This will facilitate consistency in our approach to applications. It is designed to ensure a fair, transparent process that maximises efficiency and minimises unnecessary delays to the application process. It is based on best practice for similar types of application and adherence to the procedure will reduce the risk of challenges to our decisions, complaints to the ombudsman or judicial reviews on legal grounds.

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

By providing a framework for the management of entertainments licensing applications, the policy will: promote consistency in decision-making processes; assist in ensuring that applications are dealt with as quickly and fairly as possible; provide clarity and transparency in Council's decision-making process and give prospective applicants an early indication as to what is required and whether their application is likely to be granted or not; ensure that Council meets its legal obligations in relation to the administration of the licensing regime

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

5. Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Head of Health and Community Wellbeing

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

Principal EHO (Licensing and SAG)

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

The policy's effectiveness will be dependent on licence applicants being aware of the policy and complying with it. It will also require adequate staff resource to implement and enforce it.

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

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

Yes   ☒   No ☐

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

Enforcement Policy
Scheme of Delegation

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

This policy document has been produced to consolidate and develop earlier decisions and resolutions that have been made to regulate and improve entertainment licensing in our District. Derry City and Strabane District Council strives for continuous improvement in the provision of the service thereby linking with the strategic theme of the Corporate Plan 2024/25 and Improvement Plan 2024/25 which also represents our priority outcomes as a Council for the next year. It reflects the Council led priorities set out in the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan. Our desired outcome is to address the need for safety and wellbeing by putting local people and visitors first, thereby contributing to the Council's vision of being "a strong, vibrant, safe and inclusive community where people work together to improve the quality of life for all".

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

Council is required to consult with Police Service for Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service in relation to all applications for entertainments licences. In addition, Council is required to send copies of all entertainments licences granted to these organisations.

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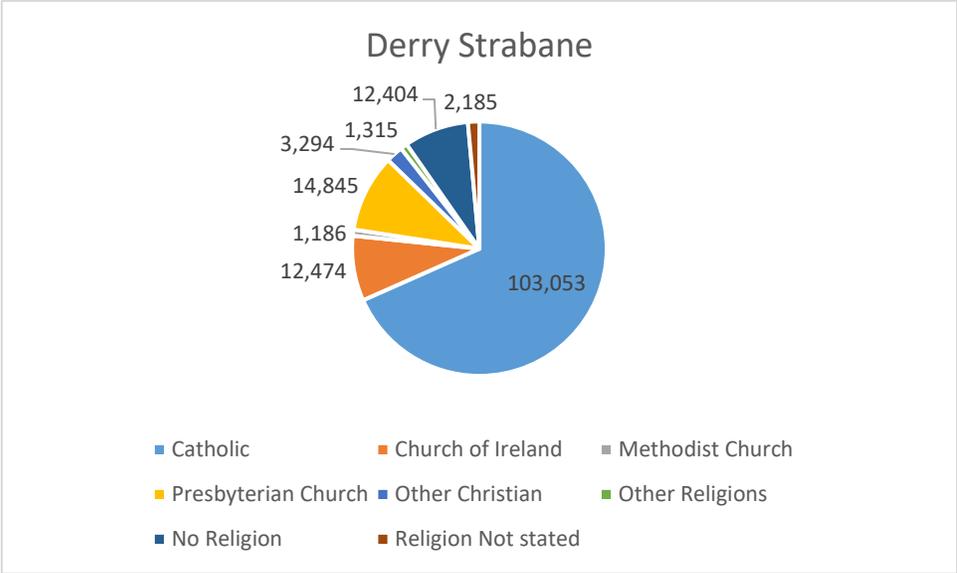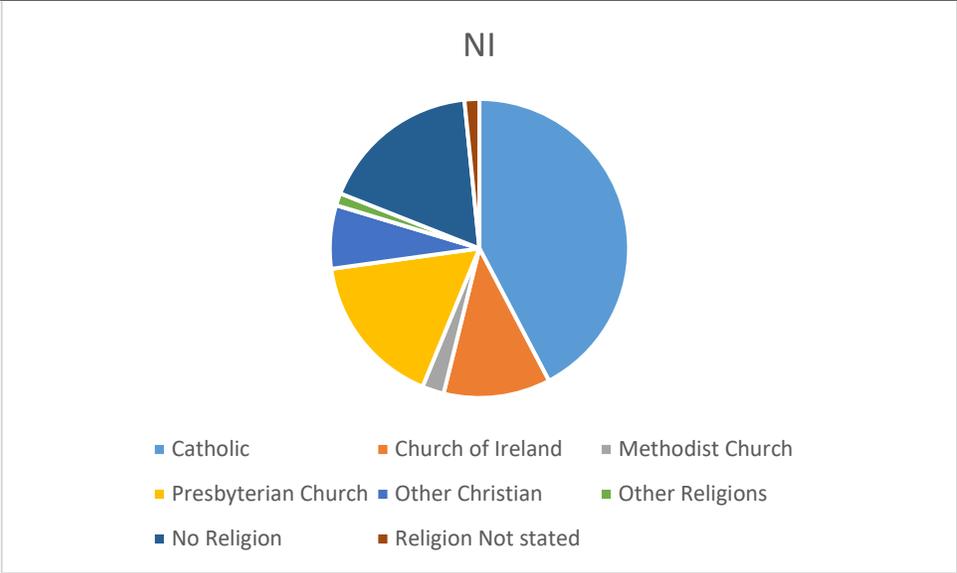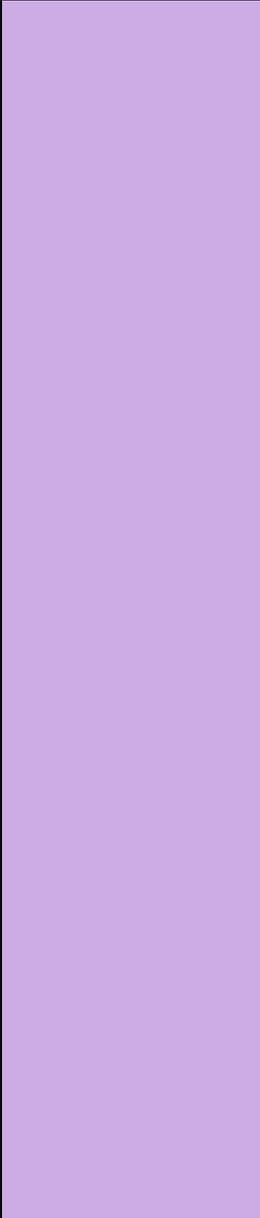
What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories. **Please add policy relevant information.**

During the period April to November 2024, the number of premises with entertainments licences may be summarised as follows:

- Premises with indoor entertainments licences that have been granted: 94
- Applications for indoor entertainments licences currently being processed: 52
- Occasional entertainments licences granted for events: 10

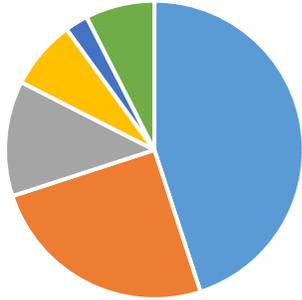| Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
Religious belief	**According to data from the Census 2021 the breakdown detailing the religious belief profile of residents as a proportion of the whole population in the Derry City and Strabane District Council, compared to Northern Ireland is as follows[1]:**

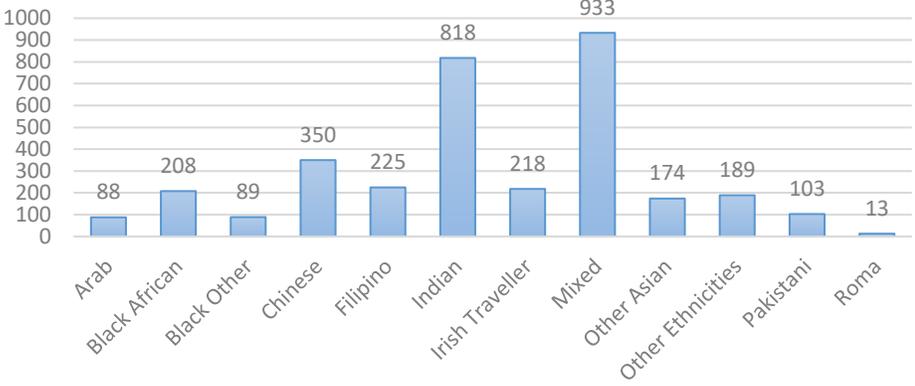[1] https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-main-statistics-religion-tables

NI

- Catholic
- Church of Ireland
- Methodist Church
- Presbyterian Church
- Other Christian
- Other Religions
- No Religion
- Religion Not stated

Derry Strabane

12,404 — 2,185
3,294 — 1,315
14,845
1,186
12,474
103,053

- Catholic
- Church of Ireland
- Methodist Church
- Presbyterian Church
- Other Christian
- Other Religions
- No Religion
- Religion Not stated

Political opinion

Following the 2023 elections, the political makeup of the Council's elected members was as follows:

Sinn Féin	**18**
SDLP	**10***
DUP	**5**
UUP	**3**
IND	**3**

PBP	1

Derry and Strabane political party breakdown 2023

- Sinn Féin
- SDLP
- Democratic Unionist
- Ulster Unionist
- People Before Profit
- Independent

*Further to the election, two members of the SDLP became independent members in May 2024.

Racial group

According to the Census 2021 statistics[2] 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:

---

[2] https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/census-2021-bulk-download

	Derry Strabane population by ethnic background, excluding white Arab 88, Black African 208, Black Other 89, Chinese 350, Filipino 225, Indian 818, Irish Traveller 218, Mixed 933, Other Asian 174, Other Ethnicities 189, Pakistani 103, Roma 13
Age	**According to Census 2021 data the age profile of the Derry and Strabane LGD area [3] is as follows:**

	Derry and Strabane population by five year age bands

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

In the Multiple Deprivation Measure Report 2017 it shows that almost 16% of the population in the Council area have an equivalised income of 60% below than the NI median – of these households there are 21% in which there are children aged 15 and under living and 5.4% households where there are people aged 65 years and older living.

Marital status	**The table below illustrates the marital status profile of the Derry and Strabane LGD:**

	Martial Status of those aged 16+, as proportion of the population Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership) In a registered civil partnership Married Single (never married or never registered a civil partnership) 0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50% ■ NI ■ Derry and Strabane
Sexual orientation	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.[4] The Rainbow Project have provided a number of qualitative contextual reasons why they believe studies, especially the census, aren't fully reflective of actual figures. These include: 1. Bisexual people, who are believed to be the largest part of the LGBTQIA+ community, are more likely to report as heterosexual, particularly those in opposite sex relationships, due to societal bi-erasure and biphobia. 2. Bisexual people are also more likely to end up in an opposite sex relationship in general due to societal homophobia, making their chances of the above even higher.

---

[4] 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)

3. In more rural locations, and over the past 10+ years in particular with housing issues, more and more young adults are living with family for longer or moving back in. They may not be out to family, or may be out but just not accepted, therefore filling out the same form together forces them to closet themselves and record as heterosexual.
4. Covid-19 had a major impact on the LGBTQIA+ community, safety and isolation issues became much more significantly higher, and with many people being forced to move back in with family people who may have been out among their independent life, just not with family, where forced back into the closet.
5. Older adults who are LGBTQIA+ are much less likely to correctly report on forms as past societal expectations forced many to marry into a heterosexual relationship.
6. Safety is a big factor, people are terrified how data is used and LGBTQIA+ people are more likely to lie on forms for self-preservation, older adults in particular.
7. Housing concerns become a big factor in this. Although it is illegal for a landlord to evict a tenant on the grounds of them being LGB, even those out, may "act straight" around landlords, employers and other officials including census and other demographics forms.
8. Fear of hate crime towards LGBTQIA+ people drives some to mis-report for self-preservation.
9. Trust – there can be a lack of trust among LGBTQIA+ people on how census data is used.

Men and women generally	Gender as a proportion of the population
Disability	**According to statistics for Census day 2021 the health profile of the Council area was as follows[5]:**

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

Dependant	**According to statistics for Census day 2021 the caring profile for the Council area was as follows:[6]**

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%

Results for Census 2021 in Northern Ireland show that 52 children aged 5 years provide 1 or more hours of unpaid care per week.

The proportion of carers in Northern Ireland is similar to the proportion of carers in Derry and Strabane. Carers are counted from age 5+. Results for Census 2021 in Northern Ireland show that 52 children aged 5 years provide 1 or more hours of unpaid care per week.

---

[6] 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	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Political opinion	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Racial group	Persons whose first language is not English may require information translated into a language that they understand – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Age	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Marital status	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Sexual orientation	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Men and women generally	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted
Disability	Blind persons and those visually impaired may require the policy provided in an understandable format – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted

Dependants	None – the policy will protect everyone within this category by ensuring that entertainments licensing applications are properly assessed prior to a licence being granted

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
Political opinion		None
Racial group	Persons whose first language is not English may be dissuaded from applying for a licence or may have a licence application rejected or refused if they fail to understand the requirements of the policy. It will be important that where necessary the policy is made available in the requested language, in accordance with Council's policy	Minor
Age		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men & women generally		None
Disability	Persons who have visual impairment or who are blind may require the policy to be provided in an understandable format for persons who are blind – considered unlikely	Minor
Dependants		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		
Political opinion		
Racial group	Provision of information in other languages	
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men & women generally		
Disability	Provision of information in understandable format for persons who are blind	
Dependants		

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
Part of the entertainments licensing process involves securing the provision of facilities for the disabled

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
By securing the provision of facilities for the disabled, such persons may be encouraged to attend entertainments venues

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.

None

2.7 Screening Decision

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

> This policy will benefit persons from all sections of society, including those within the Section 75 categories, both:
>
> applicants for entertainments licences (for whom the policy will clarify what they need to do to make a successful application); and
>
> those attending entertainments venues (who can be reassured that applications have been properly assessed prior to the licence being granted)

If the decision **is <u>not</u> 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

> Those persons who may require the policy and related documents to be provided in other languages and/or in other formats, e.g. in large print or braille, should be accommodated.

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

> **N/A**

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.

> Council currently has facilities for providing documents in other languages and has an easy to read plan which facilitates accessing copies of documents in large print or braille.

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.

> Implementation of the policy will be subject to ongoing monitoring, having regard in particular to any applications that are rejected or refused to determine any underlying reasons related to the policy.

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)   ☒ Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below)   ☐ A definition of 'rural' is not applicable   ☐
Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used
N/A
Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'
N/A

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   ☒   **No** ☐   **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 will be applied uniformly throughout the district, including premises in rural areas

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

N/A

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)

(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?

Yes   ☐   No   ☒

If the response is No Go to Section 3.3e

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

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders   ☐

Consultation with Other Organisations   ☐

Published Statistics   ☐

Research Papers   ☐
Surveys or Questionnaires

Other Publications	☐
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details)	☐

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.
3.3d. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?
(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??**
Entertainments licensing is a statutory function, whose purpose is to protect the safety and welfare of persons visiting licensed premises and to prevent undue noise disturbance to those residing in the vicinity. The statutory framework imposes requirements on both applicants and councils in relation to what is required. The social and economic needs of people in rural areas are not relevant to the policy.

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 relevant

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
The licensing regime is governed by a statutory framework, in relation to which the social and economic needs of people in rural areas are irrelevant.

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 Choose an item.has been screened Choose an item. for equality impact assessment.

- The development, adoption, implementation or revision of the Choose an item. or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has Choose an item. influenced by the rural needs identified in the impact assessment.

- The Choose an item. Choose an item. further detailed assessment in terms of climate change and adaption

- The Choose an item. Choose an item. further assessment in terms of data protection / privacy

Screening / impact assessment completed by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Paul Rafferty	PEHO	28/11/24
Approved by:		
Seamus Donaghy	Head of Service	28/11/24

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.