



Regulating Bonfires on Council Land

DRAFT Policy on Regulating Bonfires on Council Land

1. Preamble

1.1 Purpose

This policy is to assist the Council to comply with its duties under the Health and Safety at Work (NI) Order and control risk to members of the public accessing Council Land.

The Council recognises that bonfires are seen as an expression of cultural identity within communities and is committed to working with communities in order to find and agree alternative and safe methods of cultural expression.

1.2 Background

The legacy Councils of Derry City, Strabane District and Omagh District Councils had previously commissioned research into bonfires within their respective districts based on a community survey and a wider audit of good practice.

This survey informed a report entitled "Burning Issues" was funded by Peace III under Strategic Priority 1: Moving Towards Acceptance of Cultural Identity and Inclusive Celebration which recommended the development of protocols around flags and celebrations, bonfires and other community safety issues.

Community buy-in is crucial to the development of any meaningful solution. To be sustainable any actions that are contemplated must be led by local people.

Partnering with the emergency services, housing executive and other statutory bodies will be important though engagement with local communities including young people involved with building bonfires will be critical in delivering a successful outcome.

The "Burning Issues" report shows that this is a process which takes time, and can only move at the pace the local communities and in particular those involved in building bonfires want to move it at.

There has been some success in recent years with a reduced number of bonfires across the City and District.

Alternatives to bonfires along with responsible bonfire management have led to a reduction in crime; fewer call outs for the emergency services and a reduction in clean-up costs for Council, and other agencies. In addition other environmental and health benefits have arisen through this process.

Engaging with communities has been shown to work in bringing about cultural changes in approaches to bonfires and there are now many tools and programmes available to assist local representatives in this change process.

These relate to raising awareness and understanding amongst young people of the hazards and risks associated with bonfires. A range of education and awareness programmes have been developed with the emergency services and other Councils to inform young people of health and safety risks and encourage family friendly events as alternatives to bonfires

2. Scope

The policy relates to the management of bonfires on Council land.

The policy relates to all those involved with the organisation and delivery of bonfires on Council land.

The policy does not cover fireworks or any other outdoor event on Council land.

3. Definitions

Bonfire: Burning of materials in the open.

4. Policy Statement

4.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The control of bonfires on Council Land will be continuously reviewed by the Council's Member led bonfire working group who will consider appropriate responses in line with changing circumstances with the aim of ensuring public safety on Council land.

Responsible Directorates –

Health & Communities; Environment and Regeneration

4.2 General Principles

Council has committed to the following:

1. Council aims to reduce the number of bonfires that are located on Council lands and to implement an action plan (Appendix 1), which includes working with communities to move away from bonfire celebrations to a more family friendly inclusive event or festival.
2. Set up a Member led, multi departmental working group to take a strategic overview on the impact of bonfires in the Council area and review policy on an annual basis.
3. To engage with, provide guidance and direction to those participating in building bonfires in their communities so as to ensure that bonfires are safe and present limited risk.
4. Set up educational interventions to demonstrate the social and environmental impacts associated with bonfires and highlight the benefits and advantages of a more inclusive alternative celebration.
5. Develop protocols to ensure that if material is collected for a bonfire, no toxic or hazardous material is stored or placed on the bonfire.
6. Where bonfires are on council land and where communities are not in support of a bonfire taking place and/or the organiser(s) are not adhering to safety/environmental requirements, the Council should take steps to prevent the fire. In doing so Council will undertake a Health and Safety risk assessment with regard to the removal of materials to ensure the protection of staff contractors and the public.
7. Develop bonfire management conditions and guidance, which sets out the minimum requirements for a safe, well managed bonfire/event. A proposed bonfire on Council land would only be considered when the event organiser demonstrates that the event will be managed safely and conditions relating to collection/type of materials to be burned, site/public safety, emblems/flags etc. will be achieved.
8. This policy relates to bonfires on Council land, however Council will endeavour to encourage all other landowners to adopt a similar approach and to develop and implement similar policies and practices.

5. Legal & Policy Framework

Public Bodies have statutory responsibilities if bonfires are constructed on their land. Derry City and Strabane District Council is committing to ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and wellbeing of its employees and others (contractors, visitors and members of the public) in accordance with best practice including all relevant statutory requirements and associated codes of practice and guidance. (Derry City & Strabane District Council Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy Ref: CORP01/15).

There is risk of serious or fatal injury being caused to someone, either during the building process or when the bonfires are lit. In addition the burning of plastic, rubber or painted material not only creates an unpleasant smell but also produces a range of poisonous compounds with the potential to cause harmful health effects and smoke which may cause problems for asthmatics, bronchitis sufferers, people with heart conditions and children.

The Council has a further responsibility under air quality legislation to manage this.

This policy is to assist the Council to comply with its statutory duties with respect to:

1. Public liability and Health and Safety to control risk to employees and others (contractors, visitors and members of the public) accessing Council land.
2. Good Relations and Community Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Protection (Air Quality), Public Health. The Council recognises that bonfires are seen as an expression of cultural identity within communities and is committed to working with communities in order to find and agree alternative and safe methods of cultural expression and inclusive celebration through mutual agreement.

5.1 Linkage to Corporate Plan

5.1.1 Complements Corporate Objectives to:

1. Promote Healthy Communities
2. Protect our Environment and deliver physical regeneration

The policy will link with the Councils Strategic Community Plan 2016-2030

6. Impact Assessment

6.1 Screening and Equality Impact Assessment

Screening questionnaire attached to document.

6.2 Impact on staff and financial resources

Resourced from within existing Departmental budgets.

6.3 Sustainable development

This policy supports Councils commitment to sustainable development.

6.4 Other impacts

Positive Impacts associated with implementation of the Policy:

1. Support good relations through the implementation of the Policy.
2. May be a reduction of bonfires in communities across the Council Area.
3. Bonfires would be more effectively regulated and managed.
4. Reduced level of sectarianism around bonfires and the burning of flags, emblems, and other materials that could offend.
5. Better communication between communities, statutory organisations, community organisations and community leaders.
6. The implementation of alternatives to bonfires would have a positive impact through providing more family friendly, safer events and community festivals that offer a method of cultural celebration.

May also be negative impacts for good relations through the implementation of the Policy:

1. Potential perception within communities that Council is trying to erode cultural celebrations.
2. Potential for communities that have moved away from bonfire celebrations to perceive that Council are assisting communities with bonfires and this could possibly increase the number of bonfires.

7. Implementation

A proposed bonfire on Council land would only be considered when the event organiser demonstrates that the event will be managed safely and conditions relating to collection/type of materials to be burned, site/public safety, emblems/flags etc. will be achieved.

Responsibility for implementation of this policy will sit with Health and Communities and Environment and Regeneration Directorates.

Support and Advice

(Relevant Contact Officer to be confirmed)

7.1 Procedures

This policy will be supported by the actions outlined in the action plan (appendix2), which Council is committed to implementing in full.

Following the adoption of this Policy the working group will develop the following Guidelines and Forms:

- Bonfire Management Conditions
- Guidance for well-managed Bonfires

7.2 Communication Strategy

The contents of this policy and the positive messaging around it will be conveyed by our Communications team via a number of media platforms to include press, social media and radio.

7.3 Risk Management

If the Policy is not implemented the Council may experience one or more of the following risks:

Reputational

Risk to Public Safety and associated Liability due to risks to Health and Safety.

Impact to environment due to deposits of waste including hazardous waste materials on land including areas used for recreation and sport.

Health Impact due to pollutants emitted to air from the burning of waste material.

Increased anti-social behaviour and disruption to services

Implementation of the policy and associated action plan will help mitigate these risks.

8. Monitoring, review and evaluation

The control of bonfires on Council land will be continuously reviewed by the Councils bonfire working group who will consider appropriate responses in line with changing circumstances with the aim of ensuring public safety on Council land.

The policy will be reviewed annually unless more frequent review deemed necessary.

9. Acknowledgements

9.1

Burning Issues Report, NIHE Bonfire Policy 2016, The Housing Executive's Community Cohesion Strategy 2015-2010, NIEA approach to bonfires



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

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

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Destrìck Cooncil

Statutory Equality Duties

Screening Of Policy for Regulating Bonfires on Council Land

Screening of New Policies

Introduction and Guidance Notes

1.1 Section 75 of the Northern Ireland 1998 (“The Act”) requires the Council in carrying out its functions, powers and duties to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:

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

1.2 In addition, without prejudice to its obligations above, the Council shall in carrying out its functions, powers and duties have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group. The Council supports the principles of good relations: equity, respecting diversity and interdependence, and the development of relationships built on trust and respect.

1.3 As stated in its Equality Scheme, the Council intends to screen all of its policies (formal and informal), functions and roles in order to determine which would require a fuller equality analysis in the form of an impact assessment.

1.4 This questionnaire is aimed at providing a standardised, systematic approach to the screening exercise. A summary of this document will be made available to the Council’s consultees and the general public, via the Council’s web-site and in other formats, (upon request). This document may also be produced, in full, as part of consultations regarding Equality Impact Assessments.

1.5 When the Council is considering a new policy, it will determine whether the policy has the potential to have significant implications for equality of opportunity and/or good relations and if so will conduct a full impact assessment.

1.6 Where due limited quantitative and/or qualitative research data, it is not possible to establish the ‘significance’ of the equality impact, policies which score positively against any of the screening criteria should be designated for detailed impact assessment.

Part 1: Policy Scoping

1. Name of Policy: **Regulating Bonfires on Council Land**

2. Please tick as appropriate

New Policy

Revised Policy

Corporate Policy

Departmental Policy

If Departmental, please specify which department; **Health and Community Directorate**

3a. Please describe the aims of the policy:

1. This policy is to assist the Council to comply with its duties under the HSW Order and control risk to members of the public accessing Council property.

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

- 1. Reduced number of bonfires.**
- 2. Promote responsible bonfire management and alternatives to bonfires**
- 3. Engaging with communities to work in bringing about cultural changes**

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

This policy will be applied universally

5. Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Member led Internal Bonfire Working Group

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

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 (Environment)

Good Relations

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

This order helps to enable Council to meet its corporate objectives, in particular to:

- 1. Protect the environment and deliver physical regeneration.**
- 2. Promote healthy communities**

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

Council will interface with partner organisations through the implementation of the Action Plan.

Available evidence

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

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

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information																		
Religious belief	<p>The breakdown detailing the religious profile of the residents of the new Council area is as follows</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="475 723 1517 987"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Catholic</th> <th>Protestant and other Christian</th> <th>Other religions</th> <th>None</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1,810,863</td> <td>817,385 (45.14%)</td> <td>875,717 (48.36%)</td> <td>16,592 (0.92%)</td> <td>101,169 (5.59%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Derry & Strabane</td> <td>147,720</td> <td>106,600 (72.16%)</td> <td>37,527 (25.40%)</td> <td>940 (0.64%)</td> <td>2,653 (1.80%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Bonfires are normally burnt in July and August and deemed to reflect cultural celebrations relevant to the two main communities in Northern Ireland, Protestant and Catholic respectively.</p>	LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant and other Christian	Other religions	None	Northern Ireland	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)	Derry & Strabane	147,720	106,600 (72.16%)	37,527 (25.40%)	940 (0.64%)	2,653 (1.80%)
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Political opinion	<p>The political opinion of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="815 1285 1225 1464"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sinn Féin</td> <td>16 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SDLP</td> <td>8 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Democratic Unionist</td> <td>7 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independents</td> <td>7 seats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulster Unionist</td> <td>2 seats</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of the political opinion of people within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.</p> <p>Religious belief and Political Opinion are closely aligned therefore for the purposes of this screening the findings for religious belief may be viewed as a proxy indicator of political opinion.</p>	Sinn Féin	16 seats	SDLP	8 seats	Democratic Unionist	7 seats	Independents	7 seats	Ulster Unionist	2 seats								
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Age	<p data-bbox="470 862 1492 929">The age profile of the Derry and Strabane LGD area at Census Day 2011 is as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="671 985 1359 1630"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Profile</th> <th>NI</th> <th>Derry and Strabane</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>0-4</td><td>124382</td><td>10259</td></tr> <tr><td>5-7</td><td>67662</td><td>5653</td></tr> <tr><td>8-9</td><td>43625</td><td>3858</td></tr> <tr><td>10-14</td><td>119034</td><td>10904</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>24620</td><td>2363</td></tr> <tr><td>16-17</td><td>51440</td><td>4729</td></tr> <tr><td>18-19</td><td>50181</td><td>4443</td></tr> <tr><td>20-24</td><td>126013</td><td>10399</td></tr> <tr><td>25-29</td><td>124099</td><td>10481</td></tr> <tr><td>30-44</td><td>373947</td><td>30635</td></tr> <tr><td>45-59</td><td>347850</td><td>28082</td></tr> <tr><td>60-64</td><td>94290</td><td>7475</td></tr> <tr><td>65-74</td><td>145600</td><td>10775</td></tr> <tr><td>75-84</td><td>86724</td><td>5876</td></tr> <tr><td>85-89</td><td>21165</td><td>1217</td></tr> <tr><td>90+</td><td>10231</td><td>571</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="470 1675 1548 1818">The elderly and young often feel intimidated by some of the anti-social behaviour associated with bonfires. Elderly, particularly those living on their own may feel particularly vulnerable therefore the proposed out-workings of this policy would have a positive impact on this grouping.</p>	Age Profile	NI	Derry and Strabane	0-4	124382	10259	5-7	67662	5653	8-9	43625	3858	10-14	119034	10904	15	24620	2363	16-17	51440	4729	18-19	50181	4443	20-24	126013	10399	25-29	124099	10481	30-44	373947	30635	45-59	347850	28082	60-64	94290	7475	65-74	145600	10775	75-84	86724	5876	85-89	21165	1217	90+	10231	571
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	All usual residents: Aged 16+ years	83663	1431540									
	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	46326 (40.39%)	517393 (36.14%)									
	Married: Aged 16+ years	49218 (42.92%)	680831 (47.56%)									
	In a registered same-sex civil p'ship: Aged 16+ years	93 (0.08%)	1243 (0.09%)									
	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil p'ship): Aged 16+ years	5886 (5.13%)	56911 (3.98%)									
	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved:	6179 (5.39%)	78074 (5.45%)									
	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	6981 (6.09%)	97088 (6.78%)									
	<p>This policy will be applied universally regardless of this section 75 categorisation and therefore it is not anticipated that this policy will have a differential impact on this grouping</p>											
Sexual orientation	<p>Analysis of the Census 2011 indicates that between 2% and 10% of the population may be lesbian, gay or bisexual.</p> <p>There are no official statistics in relation to the number of gay, lesbian or bisexual people in Northern Ireland. However, research conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5% - 7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestites) (LGBT). This is a sizeable proportion of the population here in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This policy will be applied universally regardless of this section 75 categorisation and therefore it is not anticipated that this policy will have a differential impact on this grouping</p>											
Men and women generally	<p>The gender profile for the Derry and Strabane LGD is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>887323</td> <td>923540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Derry and Strabane LGD</td> <td>72475</td> <td>75245</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			LGD	Male	Female	Northern Ireland	887323	923540	Derry and Strabane LGD	72475	75245
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Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the 2011 Census 22.95% of people in the Derry and Strabane LGD have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities; 					
	LGD	All usual residents	Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Day-to-day activities limited a little	Day-to-day activities not limited	
Northern Ireland	1810863	215232 (11.89%)	159414 (8.8%)	1436217 (79.31%)		
Derry and Strabane	147720	20710 (14.02%)	13193 (8.93%)	113817 (77.05%)		
	<p>The elderly and disabled often feel intimidated by some of the anti-social behaviour associated with bonfires. Those living on their own may feel particularly vulnerable therefore the proposed out-workings of this policy would have a positive impact on this grouping.</p>					
Dependant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the 2011 Census 37.65% of households in the Derry and Strabane LGD have a dependants as compared to the Northern Ireland average of 33.85% households; 					
		All households	Married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children	Cohabiting couple: Dependent children	Lone parent: Dependent children	Other household types: With dependent children
	Northern Ireland	703275	138677 (19.72%)	16186 (2.3%)	64228 (9.13%)	18980 (2.7%)
Derry and Strabane	55596	10370 (18.65%)	1097 (1.97%)	7284 (13.1%)	2187 (3.93%)	
	<p>This policy will be applied universally regardless of this section 75 categorisation and therefore it is not anticipated that this policy will have a differential impact on this grouping</p>					

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
Political opinion	None
Racial group	DC&SDC is home to increasingly diverse society and there are potentially people whose first language may not be English. Council Officers may need to make arrangements to translate relevant information if requested
Age	None
Marital status	None
Sexual orientation	None
Men and women generally	None
Disability	<p>Officers must ensure that all those involved in bonfire celebrations must have an understanding of their obligations in relation to Council's policy and health and safety requirements.</p> <p>Officers may need to make special arrangements, which could include providing information in an Easy Read/Plain English format.</p>
Dependants	None

Part 2: Screening questions

Introduction

In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, the public authority should consider its answers to the questions 1-4.

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

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

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

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

In favour of a 'major' impact

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

In favour of 'minor' impact

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

In favour of none

The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.

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

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

Screening questions

1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? minor/major/none		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious belief	Reduction in number of bonfires may initially be deemed to have an adverse impact on this grouping however the mitigation of providing alternative celebrations aims to reduce this impact	Minor
Political opinion	As above	Minor
Racial group		None
Age	The elderly and young often feel intimidated by some of the anti-social behaviour associated with bonfires. Elderly, particularly those living on their own may feel particularly vulnerable therefore the proposed out-workings of this policy would have a positive impact on this grouping.	Minor - Positive
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally		None
Disability	People with a disability may feel particularly vulnerable therefore the proposed out-workings of this policy would have a positive impact on this grouping.	Minor - Positive
Dependants		None

2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?		
Section 75 category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
Religious belief		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Political opinion		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Racial group		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Age		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Marital status		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Sexual orientation		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Men and women generally		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Disability		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category
Dependants		No- This policy will be applied universally regardless of S75 category

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

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief	Member led cross party working group will ensure that the needs of all affected groupings will be considered and mitigated against as far as possible	Minor - positive
Political opinion	Member led cross party working group will ensure that the needs of all affected groupings will be considered and mitigated against as far as possible	Minor - positive
Racial group		None
Age		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally		None
Disability		None
Dependants		None

1. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would promote positive attitudes towards people with a disability?	
If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
	No – this policy is applied universally and therefore would have no influence in encouraging the positive attitudes towards people with a disability.
2. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would encourage the participation of people with a disability in public life?	
If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
	No – this order would have no influence in encouraging the participation of people with a disability in public life.

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.

Part 3. Screening decision

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

**The primary aim of this policy is to assist the Council to comply with its duties under the Health and Safety at Work (NI) Order and control risk to members of the public accessing Council Land.
However, the Council recognises that bonfires are seen as an expression of cultural identity within the two main communities in Northern Ireland, Protestant (Unionist/Loyalist) and Catholic (Nationalist/Republican) respectively and is committed to working with communities in order to find and agree alternative and safe methods of cultural expression. This will be facilitated through a member led cross party working group which ensures the considerations of all communities are taken on board.**

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

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

Part 4: 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.

A member led working group will ensure that the considerations of all affected groupings will be taken into account when determining actions that will facilitate appropriate celebrations of cultural identities.

Part 5 - Approval and authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Kay McIvor	Equality Officer	21.11.16
Approved by:		
Seamus Donaghy	Head of Health & Community Wellbeing	21.11.16

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