Appendix 2 - Template for Information to be Compiled

Information to be compiled by Public Authorities under Section 3(1)(a) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

(To be completed and included in public authorities' own annual reports and submitted to DAERA for inclusion in the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report).

Name of Public Authority: Derry City & Strabane District Council

Reporting Period: April 20 **23** to March 20 **24**

The following information should be compiled in respect of each policy, strategy and plan which has been developed, adopted, implemented or revised and each public service which has been designed or delivered by the public authority during the reporting period.

Description of the activity undertaken by the public authority which is subject to section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016[1].	*The rural policy area(s) which the activity relates to[2].*	*Describe how the public authority has had due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising the policy, strategy or plan or when designing or delivering the public service[3].*
Development of Be Active: A Physical Activity, Wellbeing and Sport Strategy	Other- Cross-cutting – Council strategy	In developing the Strategy, Council consulted widely with key stakeholders and the public. This included consultation with people in rural areas regarding their participation in sporting activities provided by the council, their views on council provision and their preferences and needs for future provision. Feedback from rural consultations has informed the final strategy and there is a commitment to monitor programmes and activity delivered under the strategy to ensure equitable provision for people in rural areas.
Implementation of a pilot for delivering Community Support Fund and Good Relations Funding via a consensual grant making	Other- Cross-cutting – Delivery of a Council funding	In developing this pilot funding model, Council has taken into account how previous funding programmes operated, feedback from Elected Members and the

process	programme	public. As the proposed new model will ensure equitable spread of funding across all council District Electoral Areas (DEAs), including those in more rural areas, it is considered that rural areas will benefit from the new model. However, the process will be externally evaluated after one year to ensure it is working as intended.
Review of Corporate Health & Safety Policy	Other-Internal – Council policy	No Rural Needs identified – this is primarily a policy that applies to staff and does not impact differently on staff who live or work in rural areas.
Update of Maternity Policy and Guidance for staff	Other- Internal – Council policy	No Rural Needs identified – this policy applies only to staff and will not apply differently to staff who live or work in rural areas.
Development of Disability Action Plan 2024-2026	Other-Cross-cutting Council Action Plan to meet statutory duty	In developing the Action Plan, Council consulted with disabled people, including people in rural areas to ensure their views are taken into account. The needs of rural people will also be considered when organising consultation meetings. When delivering actions, steps will be taken to encourage participation by disabled people from rural areas.
Development of Equality Action Plan 2024-2026	Other-Cross-cutting Council Action Plan	In developing the Action Plan, Council consulted widely, including with people in rural areas. In delivering actions, Council staff will take into account the needs of people in rural areas, for example, when organising meetings/events, in information provision and in providing access to services.
Development of Dual Language Street Naming Policy	Other- Cross-cutting Council Policy	This policy will cover requests for street and road names in the council area, including in rural areas. In developing the draft policy, there was input from Elected Members, including those representing rural areas. Following initial consultation with rural stakeholders, Council agreed to facilitate the use of dual language townland names on rural signs. The new policy recognises the importance of townland names for rural communities and has developed a policy which allows rural dwellers to request dual language road signage which includes the relevant

		townland name in which the road is situated. Further public consultation is planned before the Policy is finalised which will include rural communities.
Review of Community Centre Venue Fund application form	Other-Cross-cutting Council Policy	The Community Centre Venue Fund provides funding for Non-Council Owned Community Centres to deliver targeted programmes for residents, particularly in the rural areas of the Council area where there is little or no other Community Centre provision. A review of the fund for 2024/25 identified that a question on proximity to services was having a detrimental effect on areas which are designated rural but are close to urban areas. People in some rural areas were not accessing Council services that were 'within close proximity' due to lack of transport, etc, but rural groups were less successful in applications for funding for local provision. The review led to an amendment to the application form that will ensure that those groups in rural areas which are in close proximity to urban areas have a fairer chance of being successful in applying to the fund and removes an anomaly that previously existed in the application process.
Development of Performance Improvement Objectives for 2024/25	Other- Cross-cutting Council plan	Council has considered the need for equitable provision of sport and leisure/wellbeing activities for rural dwellers. It has also recognised the need to ensure that information is accessible to those who are not digitally connected.
		In business plans and council strategies that support the Performance Improvement Objectives, due consideration will be given to the different needs of people in rural areas and the need for equitable provision, as appropriate.
Revised Data Protection Policy	Other - Internal Council policy	No rural needs identified. This is a technical policy that sets out how Council will ensure compliance with Data Protection legislation.

Development of Mayoral Gifts and Hospitality Policy	Other- Internal Policy	This is a technical policy and therefore has no differential implications for any people in the rural areas as compared to people in urban areas
Development of Corporate & Improvement Plan 2023/24	Other – Improving wellbeing for users of Council Services	Performance improvement plan 2023/4 represents its priority outcomes as a Council for the next year. It reflects the Council led priorities set out in the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan and identifies actions that will be undertaken above and beyond the everyday working of Council services - This plan will aid Derry City and Strabane District Council mission to meet its commitment to work to: "Deliver improved social, economic and environmental outcomes for everyone." The four improvement objectives have positive benefits for rural communities. • To mitigate the impacts of cost of living and other price increases on the ratepayers of the district by reducing Council net costs for the 2023/24 financial year by £3.5m • To assist a return to healthy lifestyles through regrowing participation in high quality leisure, sports and physical activity • To create a greener, cleaner more attractive district • To deliver improved customer satisfaction by improving customer support services and processes
Development of Dog Control Enforcement Policy	Community Safety	The overall aim of the policy is to ensure consistency in enforcement of all dog related legislation regardless of the location of the owner however there is specific reference to dog attacks on livestock which would more likely have an impact on dog owners in the rural areas of

		the Council district - The policy will benefit everyone equally regardless of geographical location.
Implementation of Severance and Redundancy Policy	**Othe**r - Internal Policy for Council Staff	This is an internal policy for Council staff only
Development of Discretionary Policy	**Other** - Internal Policy for Council Staff	This is an internal policy for Council staff only
Development of Assets Illumination Policy	Other – Civic recognition /campaigns	The primary aim of this policy is to help promote public awareness of events and /or campaigns, the use of assets in high traffic areas is desirable. Within this policy, there is no reference to Council assets in the rural area however provision has been made for the illumination of a council asset in a rural location to meet community needs.
Implementation of Directorate Delivery Plans	Other -Internal – Council policy and plan	This is primarily an implementation plan arising out of the commitments set out in the Corporate and Improvement Plan.
Development of Guide to Mayoral Support Services and Civic Hospitality	Other-Internal – policy/operational guidance	No rural needs identified. This is an internal policy related to the Mayor's Office..
Development of Conflict of Interest Policy	Other - Internal Policy for Council Staff	No rural needs identified.This is an internal policy for Council staff only
Development of of Litter and Dog Foul Bin Policy	Other – operational policy	No rural needs identified. Litter & Dog Foul Bin Policy setting out operational arrangements for Council provided litter/dog bins throughout the City and District.
Development of Stall Hire Policy	Other – operational policy	No rural needs identified. Policy will ensure the implementation of a formal hire agreement and associated terms and conditions for both parties (council and the hirer) for each lending, including hire costs.

NOTES

1. This information should normally be contained in section 1B of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.

2. This information should normally be contained in section 2D of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.

3. The information contained in sections 3D, 4A & 5B of the RNIA Template should be considered when completing this section.