



**Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Screening of Policies  
in accordance with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998**

**1 December 2024 – 30 June 2025**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Policy Aim</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Screening outcome (including any mitigation or alternative policies considered)</b>
Assisted Additional Bin Collection Policy	<p>Through the Assisted Additional Bin Collection Policy, the Council aims to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide transparency in relation to the implementation of both services.</li><li>• Provide clarity in the criteria for each service.</li><li>• Provide clear guidelines for each service and what they entail.</li><li>• Provide clarity in the application process and the appeal process should an application be unsuccessful.</li><li>• Ensure compliance with GDPR and all relevant data protection legislation.</li></ul>	<p>The Assisted Bin Lift is where our refuse collection employees collect and return the household bin from an approved location within the external area of a resident's property. Each application is assessed on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Advice has recently been sought from the Council Health and Safety (H&amp;S) officers in relation to how steps are considered as part of the assessment to ensure consistency of approach and also to ensure that staff are not subject to unacceptable manual handling risks. The H&amp;S team has advised that the acceptable limit of steps in a property for a member of staff to manually handle a bin up or down is one step, no higher than a standard kerb.</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there should be no negative impact on any Section 75 Category in terms of the implementation of this policy.</p> <p>Each request will be considered on its own merit, with the procedures being applied in a consistent and fair manner.</p> <p>The policy will be made available to all office staff as well as being placed online.</p>
Vehicle Entry Charging to Gortin Glens Forest Park	<p>Financial provision has been made in the 2024-25 budget estimate for a targeted income generation of £65,000 from GGFP as agreed by Members. This estimate has</p>	<p>This is a pilot project for vehicular entry charging to Gortin Glen Forest Park (GGFP).</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA.</p> <p>Following Screening, it has been decided that charged</p>



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	been premised on the implementation of charged vehicle entry. The aim of this project is to realise the targeted income generation from GGFP as part of the Council's efforts to increase income generation. Income generation will become an integral part to the annual budget available to GGFP.		entry to Gortin Glens Forest Park should not be subject to an EQIA as the implementation of service should not have any adverse impact on any of the Section 75 category. The charged entry will be implemented consistently for all individuals, regardless of their Section 75 Category.
Heritage Plan 2024-2029	<p>The plan will be guided by the vision of the Corporate Plan. "Fermanagh and Omagh is a welcoming, shared and inclusive district, where people and places are healthy, safe, connected and prosperous; and where our outstanding natural, built and cultural heritage is cherished and sustainably managed".</p> <p>To bring our vision to life, the Heritage Plan will take concrete steps, rooted in the insights gathered from extensive consultations. These steps represent the core of our duties, all aimed at safeguarding and elevating our heritage. To achieve this, we've categorised these duties into four strategic objectives, each firmly in line with</p>	The Heritage Plan identifies priorities for action, establishes a structure for the management of heritage and at a Council level, increases awareness, appreciation, and enjoyment of heritage for all.	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA.</p> <p>Through the equality screening questionnaire, the Heritage Plan is not subject to an EQIA as it has been formulated to align with the council's Corporate Plan, there is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that the Heritage Plan will adversely impact on any Section 75 Group, and it will promote equality of opportunity making heritage more accessible to everyone.</p>



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	<p>the Council's unwavering dedication and approach. These objectives not only reflect our commitment to innovation and collaboration but also play pivotal roles in realising Council priorities. Here's how these strategic objectives break down:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. We will identify, explain and improve access to our natural, built and cultural heritage ensuring it is valued and conserved.</li><li>2. Develop &amp; promote our heritage assets to contribute to community wellbeing, economic regeneration and tourism within the district.</li><li>3. We will work in partnership to create opportunities for participation and awareness supporting greater inclusion and diversity to support people to learn, develop new skills, and explore cultural heritage.</li><li>4. Protecting the environment: supporting nature recovery and environmental sustainability. Supporting conservation, sustainability and regeneration.</li></ol>		

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<p>Adult Safeguarding Policy - For the Protection of Adults at Risk of Harm</p>	<p>The aim of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Adult Safeguarding Policy is to put in place, and improve upon existing, safeguarding arrangements for adults who are at risk of harm from abuse, exploitation and/or neglect.</p> <p>This policy not only demonstrates how the Council will meet its legal obligations, but will also act to reassure the public, service users, Elected Members, employees and individuals/organisations working on behalf of the Council on what they can expect Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to do to Safeguard Adults, who are at risk of harm.</p>	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (the Council) is committed to working in partnership with others to safeguard adults who are at risk from all forms of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation. The Council advocates that everyone has a right to live free from harm, to be safe and harm caused to adults who are at risk of abuse, exploitation and/or neglect is not acceptable.</p> <p>Through this policy, the Council aims to ensure that a holistic approach to safeguarding is embedded within all Council services, and that Elected Members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, grant-aided organisations, contractors and volunteers understand their role and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.</p> <p>This policy emphasises that safeguarding should be paramount to everyone and recognises the Council's responsibility with regards to safeguarding, and the protection of people as far as reasonably practicable.</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA</p> <p>No inequality issues have been identified. This policy sets out the Council's commitment to protecting all adults who are at risk from all forms of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation irrespective of Section 75 characteristics.</p>



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Child Safeguarding Policy – For the Protection of Children	<p>The aim of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Child Safeguarding Policy is to put in place and improve upon safeguarding arrangements for children to protect them from abuse, exploitation and/or neglect.</p> <p>This policy not only demonstrates how the Council will meet its legal obligations, but will also act to reassure the public, service users, Elected Members, employees and individuals/organisations working on behalf of the Council on what they can expect Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to do to safeguard children.</p>	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (the Council) is committed to working in partnership with others to safeguard children from all forms of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation. The Council advocates that everyone has a right to live free from harm, to be safe and harm caused to children is not acceptable.</p> <p>Through this policy, the Council aims to ensure that a holistic approach to safeguarding is embedded within all Council services, and that Elected Members, employees, casual workers, agency workers, grant-aided organisations, contractors and volunteers understand their role and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.</p> <p>This policy emphasises that safeguarding should be paramount to everyone and recognises the Council's responsibility with regards to safeguarding, and the protection of children as far as reasonably practicable.</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA.</p> <p>No inequality issues have been identified. This policy sets out the Council's commitment to protecting all children who are at risk from all forms of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation irrespective of Section 75 characteristics.</p>
Asset Acquisition and Disposal Policy (Review)	The aims of the policy are:	The Asset Acquisition and Disposal Policy sets out to inform Members, Officers and other interested parties as to the principles	Not be subject to an EQIA.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A transparent and consistent approach to the acquisition and disposal of Council owned land, buildings and facilities.</li><li>• To ensure maximum benefit from the effective acquisition or disposal of Council's assets.</li><li>• To uphold the principles of accountability, openness and objectivity.</li><li>• To ensure compliance with legal authority in respect of acquisition and holding of assets.</li><li>• To ensure there is an appropriate 'Challenge' process for the holding of assets.</li></ul>	and procedures by which the Council will acquire or dispose of land, buildings and facilities.	Following Screening, it is anticipated that the Assets Acquisition and Disposal Policy will have no adverse impacts on any Section 75 Category. The policy outlines the consistent approach that will be taken by the Council in relation to the acquisition and disposal of all assets (i.e. land, buildings and other facilities).
Performance Improvement Plan Year 2: Continuous Improvement 2024-2028 01 April 2025 – 31 March 2026	The aim of the Council's Performance Improvement Plan is to outline how the Council will fulfil its statutory duty to demonstrate continuous improvement against identified objectives. It sets out actions to achieve progress on four overarching Improvement Objectives and 13 related improvement actions. By maintaining a consistent approach, the Council can ensure the efficient use of resources, enhance service delivery, and support long-term community wellbeing, economic development, and environmental sustainability. This continuity also allows the Council to refine ongoing initiatives,	Each year, the Council is required under Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 to develop a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to support continuous improvement in service delivery. The Performance Improvement Plan Year 2: Continuous Improvement 2024-2028 covers the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and builds upon the progress made during Year 1, 2024/25. The Performance Improvement Objectives (IOs) included in this screening form the core of the 2025/26 PIP and are aligned with both the Council's Corporate Plan	Not be subject to an EQIA.  Following Screening, it is not anticipated that the Performance Improvement Plan 2025-2026 will have any adverse impacts on any Section 75 Category. The strategy should have minor (positive) impacts on all Section 75 categories, including traditionally harder to reach groups. The Performance Improvement Plan will be subject to a



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	leverage established partnerships, and respond effectively to evolving local needs while aligning with regional NI Executive department priorities, particularly when new funding streams become available.	<p>2024-2028 and the Community Plan. The four key priorities that guide these objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Climate Action</li><li>2. People &amp; Communities</li><li>3. Shared Prosperity</li><li>4. One Council</li></ol> <p>For Year 2, the Council has retained the four overarching improvement objectives initially set in Year 1 to maintain focus and drive long-term positive change, these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•We will prioritise the Council progressing towards Net Zero.</li><li>•We will work in partnership to tackle disadvantage and ensure our people have access to opportunities.</li><li>•We will work in partnership to achieve a more inclusive economy and promote shared prosperity across our district.</li><li>•We will seek to innovate and advance our governance and digital capabilities to improve service quality, effectiveness, and efficiency.</li></ul> <p>These objectives are further supported by 13 related improvement actions, ensuring continued progress and measurable</p>	<p>further period of open consultation with all stakeholders and consideration will be given to any mitigating measures which are highlighted during this process.</p> <p>The strategy will be implemented consistently for everyone, regardless of their Section 75 Grouping.</p>



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		outcomes. Retaining the IOs for 2025/26 allows for consistency, the completion of ongoing initiatives, and the ability to track improvements against long-term strategic goals.	
Equality Action Plan 2025 - 2028	<p>The aims of the policy are:</p> <p>Through this plan we aim to ensure that we put 'equality', 'diversity' and 'inclusion' at the centre of employment practice, service delivery and policy development. Implementing this plan will help to achieve the value and principle as outlined within the 'Fermanagh and Omagh 2030' Community Plan:</p> <p>'Equality, inclusivity and diversity are placed at the core of all of our services and actions, as we work towards achieving a shared future for all.'</p> <p>and the Council's cross-cutting Commitment as stated in the Corporate Plan 2024 -2028: 'Beyond a duty of compliance with our equality scheme, we aim to mainstream the promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations throughout the organisation, actively seeking out ways in which to enhance those opportunities and to build positive relations between and among the</p>	<p>This plan has been developed to address some of the equality issues relevant to the Council's functions. The Equality Commission recommended that Equality Schemes are accompanied by an Action Plan in order to improve outcomes for the section 75 groups.</p> <p>Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (the Act) requires public authorities, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and regard to the desirability of promoting good relations across a range of categories outlined in the Act.</p> <p>The Council is committed to effectively fulfilling Section 75 statutory duties across all our functions (including service provision, employment and procurement) through the effective implementation of the equality scheme and this equality action plan.</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA</p> <p>The Council has produced this action plan through its current service areas and resources available. Every action within the action plan will benefit Section 75 categories. It will help Section 75 categories to participate in community, health and wellbeing activities, gain support with training and employment, access and Council services and activities.</p>



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	<p>many diverse communities across our region.'</p> <p>Equality Action 2025-2028 Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for Section 75 Categories to participate in community, health and wellbeing activities.</li> <li>• Support Section 75 Categories with training and employment.</li> <li>• Ensure all Council services and activities promote equality of opportunity and meet statutory duties.</li> <li>• Ensure staff are continuously educated on Section 75 duties, and promote equality and good relations between staff.</li> </ul>	<p>The Equality Scheme sets out how Fermanagh and Omagh District Council proposes to fulfil the Section 75 statutory duties, and we commit to doing this through an equality action plan.</p>	
Draft Disability Action Plan 2025 - 2028	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to ensuring that all our residents and visitors have access to good quality services, including those with disabilities.</p> <p>To support this, we will continue to examine how inclusive our venues, services and projects are for people with disabilities, as well as taking action to implement the necessary support and improvements. We aim to make these improvements through meaningful engagement and consultation with people with disabilities, who have the</p>	<p>Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by Article 5 of the Disability Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 2006) requires Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, in carrying out its function, to give due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people, and</li> <li>•Encourage participation by disabled people in public life.</li> </ul> <p>These are collectively referred to as the 'Disability Duties'.</p>	<p>Not be subject to an EQIA.</p> <p>The draft Disability Action Plan has a positive impact on the groups identified.</p>



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	<p>lived experience and can provide the most effective feedback to the Council.</p> <p>The Disability Action Plan is a statement of commitment to the promotion of equality of opportunity for people with disabilities and how we will fulfil our statutory obligations in compliance with Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006).</p> <p>Through the plan we aim to ensure that we put 'disability', 'accessibility' and 'inclusion' at the centre of employment practice, service delivery and policy development.</p> <p>By successfully implementing this plan will help to achieve the vision as outlined within the 'Fermanagh and Omagh 2030' Community Plan: 'a welcoming, shared and inclusive Fermanagh and Omagh District, where people and places are healthy, safe, connected and prosperous, and where our outstanding natural built and cultural heritage is cherished and sustainably managed.'</p>	<p>The Disability Action Plan contains a series of actional measures outlining the Council's proposals for fulfilling its statutory obligations in compliance with Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the Disability Discriminations (Northern Ireland) Order 2006).</p>	



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	and the Council's mission as stated in the Corporate Plan 2024 -2028: 'To work in partnership to improve the lives and wellbeing of our communities and to provide the best quality experience for those who visit our district.'		

For more information, or for copies of the Screening Matrix, please contact Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Policy department via telephone on 0300 303 1777 or via email at [consultations@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:consultations@fermanaghomagh.com)