



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:

Reporting Period: April 20 to March 20

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 .
<p>Preparing and developing a local development plan draft Plan Strategy which sets out how the Fermanagh and Omagh District will change and grow over the period up to 2030. This will include a set of policies to guide development.</p>	<p>Rural Businesses, Rural Tourism, Rural Housing, Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas, Education or Training in Rural Areas, Broadband or Mobile Communication in Rural Areas, Transport Services, Infrastructure in Rural Areas,</p>	<p>After review of the topic papers and consultation with those in the community on the Preferred Options Paper (POP) the following key issues, related to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas were identified:</p> <p>1. Removal of Dispersed Rural Communities - Many representations showed concern that the Spatial Growth Strategy intended to remove the Dispersed Rural Community designation as per the Fermanagh Area Plan (2007). The view was that these somewhat isolated areas would suffer a disadvantage in regard to funding and that more flexibility needed to be applied to the non-farming rural dweller.</p>

Health or Social Care
Services in Rural
Areas,
Poverty in Rural
Areas,
Deprivation in Rural
Areas,
Rural Crime or
Community Safety,
Rural Development,
Agri-Environment

2. New Businesses in Rural Areas – Respondents felt there was not enough opportunity for the development of new businesses in rural areas. It was also viewed that attention was focused towards existing business parks and industrial parks and failed to provide for opportunities in other areas. In particular the lack of zoned industrial land within the small settlements results in the lack of opportunity for inward investment.

3. Housing Need in Rural Areas - In terms of housing, representations outlined the need for additional housing and the need for housing for the elderly. The main areas of housing needs range from affordable housing, supported housing and the supply of smaller homes within the housing stock to allow people to downsize.

4. Connectivity in Rural Areas - There were several comments relating to poor quality broadband/internet provision in a number of rural areas, particularly more remote parts of the Council area.

5. Transport in Rural Areas – There were concerns related to the lack of public transport access in remote rural areas.

6. Town Centre Decline – Vacancy rates of properties in the smaller towns and villages in the rural area are on the increase due to shop closures resulting in reduced local services and dereliction.

7. Tourism in Rural Areas – There was a need for more emphasis to be placed on the promotion of tourism development within the rural area. When promoting tourism development, consideration should also be given to the provision of accommodation to attract and facilitate visitors. As some of our assets are relatively remote it is necessary to provide adequate signage to areas of local interest.

8. Flooding – There was a need to address the problems associated with flooding in rural areas as there is insufficient protection of properties causing hardship and financial loss to the vulnerable.

9. Waste Sewerage in Rural Areas – Lack of sewage headroom provision within the small settlements of the rural area which restricts development potential and the needs of the local communities.

10. Mineral Development in Rural Areas – Many representations voiced concern around fracking (the unconventional hydrocarbon extraction) as it is considered to have a detrimental effect on human health for those living in the surrounding rural communities. Gold mining in the Sperrin AONB and the use of cyanide as a method of extraction was considered to pose a major risk to human health for those living in the surrounding rural communities.

11. Service Provision in Rural Areas – Issues raised around the running down of services in the rural areas such as education, health and community.

(i) Education – There has been closure of small rural schools leading to the decline of rural communities.

(ii) Health – The closure of medical services within the isolated rural communities causing the greater hardship.

(iii) Community – Closure of community facilities such as police stations leads to potential increase in rural crime, the closure of libraries and other such facilities have a detrimental knock-on effect for those living in the rural areas.

When preparing the policies for the Draft PS, the Council considered the needs of people in rural areas that were identified under section 3 and have considered the following issues:

- To alleviate the concern that rural areas would be disadvantaged following the removal of the Dispersed Rural Communities policies the plan strategy has provided opportunity for residential development, rural start-ups and the provision of community facilities at focal points or at locations that have a strong community identity within the countryside. The policies also protect existing community facilities from been redeveloped to other alternative uses thereby reducing potential impact on rural communities.

- Business in rural areas play an important role in the life of the rural dweller providing employment opportunities which can help to sustain rural communities. The Plan Strategy has met this need through identifying some land in local towns and smaller settlements for industry and business use and providing opportunities for existing businesses within the countryside to expand. The policies also provide for rural 'start-up' projects and allow for diversification opportunities to help sustain farming businesses.
- Housing need in rural areas plays an important role in the life of rural communities. The policies in the Plan Strategy identify opportunities for residential development in both the rural settlements and areas of open countryside.
- Broadband and internet connection are vital for the development of rural businesses, this is addressed in the Plan Strategy by facilitating the provision of communication links.
- While Public transport access in difficult in rural areas, particularly remote areas, the Plan Strategy does make provision for the development/extension of park and ride and park and share car parks. This would assist in reducing reliance on the car and shifting the mode of transport to public transport.
- To avoid the decline of town centres the Plan Strategy policies aim to consolidate retail and leisure services in town centres to revitalize and regenerate them. This includes within the rural settlements (local town centres).
- The promotion of tourism in rural areas is addressed through a range of policies in the Plan Strategy. The policies consider the location of the attractions, and the need for overnight accommodation of an appropriate scale and location within the countryside.
- Flooding and its effects on rural communities are addressed in the Plan Strategy by directing development away from areas at risk of flooding and also provides for sustainable drainage systems to assist in better water management.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies in the Plan Strategy make provision for the upgrading of wastewater treatment works including within rural settlements.
Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Career Break Policy.	Internal	This Policy is applicable to all employees and is equally applied to those who live in urban or rural Areas, therefore no rural needs were identified.
Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Domestic Violence/Abuse (Workplace) Policy.	Internal	This Policy is applicable to all employees and is equally applied to those who live in urban or rural Areas, therefore no rural needs were identified.
Development of the 'Active Together' Leisure Strategy	Deprivation in Rural Areas, Other - Health Improvements	<p>The strategy recognises that there is strong evidence to suggest that health outcomes are worse in deprived areas and will therefore prioritise these areas in the development of the strategy.</p> <p>According to the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017, the following areas within the Fermanagh and Omagh District appear within the top ten deprivation categories:</p> <p>Income – Roslea, Newtownbutler, Belleek and Boa Employment – Fintona, Lisnaskea Health and Disability – Fintona, Irvinestown Education – Lisnaskea Access to Services – Roslea, Trillick, Sixmilecross, Owenkillew, Lissan Crime and Disorder – Lisnaskea, Irvinestown, Fintona Multiple Deprivation – Newtonbutler, Roslea</p> <p>The strategy recognises that deprivation is an issue that cross-cuts health and wellbeing. Research has proven that health outcomes are much lower for people living in deprived areas. For example, a life expectancy of 2.7 years less; a higher change of contracting cancer; the prescription rate for mood and anxiety disorders is 20% higher; admission rates to hospital for alcohol related issues is 91% higher; and childhood obesity rates are higher.</p> <p>People living in rural areas can experience limited access to services and can find it more difficult and also more expensive</p>

to access services including leisure opportunities than those living in urban areas, for example if they do not have access to a car or if there is no bus service in their area. This can in turn lead to not only poorer health outcomes but also social isolation issues.

As part of the strategy Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will explore new models of service delivery to ensure that those living in rural areas have the opportunity to access leisure opportunities. This may well be achieved by establishing new partnership arrangements with organisations such as those involved in the Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan and by continuing to deliver activities through a network of community halls. The strategy recognises that the community will be central to the success of leisure, recreation and sporting provision.

Living in a rural area can exacerbate the effects of poverty and social isolation for certain groups. Additional costs of living in a rural area such as higher fuel or transport costs can have a greater impact on people on low incomes.

In addition, some groups such as young people or people with disabilities may experience greater difficulties accessing transport services in rural areas than in an urban settings. Lower earnings and household incomes are commonly found in the rural west where the population is consequently at highest risk of poverty.

There are also links between poor transport services and social isolation. Some rural households have no access to a car while in others private transport may be used by others for travelling to work leaving other household members dependent on alternative means of travel. Limited availability of public transport combined with increased travelling distance to retail, social and leisure facilities may significantly impact on the ability of elderly people, the less physically able and those with young children to socially interact. Friends and family may also be scattered geographically resulting in reduced opportunities for face to face contact. Social isolation and loneliness have

been linked to poor physical and mental health and to depression.

Bearing all of the above in mind, it is imperative that the Council looks towards providing leisure opportunities in rural communities and not expect rural dwellers to have to travel to access these opportunities.

The 'Active Together' Leisure Strategy aims to provide a balance in terms of urban/rural access to leisure activities (direct and indirect) across the district.

The development of the Active Together Leisure Strategy has been influenced by the needs of rural communities in that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have made a commitment to explore new models of service delivery to ensure that all residents have the opportunity to access leisure opportunities.

Three themes have been identified as part of the strategy:

1. **Active People**
2. **Active Places**
3. **Active Partners**

Through the 'Active People' theme of the Leisure Strategy, the Council has identified that everyone in the District should have access to support an active and healthy lifestyle and that this will be done by developing and investing in a network of leaders, coaches and volunteers. Through the 'Active Partners' theme of the strategy the Council has committed to working in partnership with agencies and communities to make best use of the limited resources within the District. Both themes reinforce the Council's commitment to providing leisure opportunities for citizens in both urban and rural areas.

In order to achieve the vision of the strategy "Opportunities for all to be 'Active Together' and to enjoy improved wellbeing", the Council recognises that they cannot achieve this without the support of others. For this reason, the Council will be asking citizens, communities and partner organisations - alongside the Council - to ensure that everyone takes

		<p>responsibility for their own health and wellbeing by committing to the 'Wellbeing Pledge' so that, together through collaborative working Fermanagh and Omagh can become an active and healthy place to live.</p> <p>The strategy recognises that at a time of increasingly stretched resources, the provision of affordable and inclusive access to leisure opportunities across our wide geography and rural area will require innovative approaches and partnership working with a range of agencies and sectors, including the community and voluntary sector. The Council, in partnership with others, will explore opportunities for community use of facilities such as the schools' estate alongside wider use of existing community facilities. The use of a network of leaders, coaches and volunteers will be essential to developing and maintaining leisure opportunities across the district. The importance of continued investment in the development of this network and in ensuring access to ongoing support for community leaders, coaches and volunteers is recognised by the Council as a key enabler in making this happen and will be promoted through the 'Wellbeing Pledge'.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council 'Asset Acquisition and Disposal Policy'.</p>	<p>Rural Businesses, Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas, Rural Development</p>	<p>According to the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017, the following areas within the Fermanagh and Omagh District appear within the top ten deprivation categories:</p> <p>Income – Roslea, Newtownbutler, Belleek and Boa Employment – Fintona, Lisnaskea Health and Disability – Fintona, Irvinestown Education – Lisnaskea Access to Services – Roslea, Trillick, Sixmilecross, Owenkillew, Lissan Crime and Disorder – Lisnaskea, Irvinestown, Fintona Multiple Deprivation – Newtonbutler, Roslea</p> <p>The Policy aims to ensure that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will obtain maximum benefit from the effective acquisition and disposal of Council's assets, which will be to the benefit of all ratepayers, whether in urban or rural areas.</p>

		<p>Living in a rural area can exacerbate the effects of poverty and social isolation for certain groups. Additional costs of living in a rural area such as higher fuel or transport costs can have a greater impact on people on low incomes.</p> <p>In addition, some groups such as young people or people with disabilities may experience greater difficulties accessing transport services in rural areas than in an urban settings. Lower earnings and household incomes are commonly found in the rural west where the population is consequently at highest risk of poverty.</p> <p>There are also links between poor transport services and social isolation. Some rural households have no access to a car while in others private transport may be used by others for travelling to work leaving other household members dependent on alternative means of travel. Limited availability of public transport combined with increased travelling distance to retail, social and leisure facilities may significantly impact on the ability of elderly people, the less physically able and those with young children to socially interact. Friends and family may also be scattered geographically resulting in reduced opportunities for face to face contact. Social isolation and loneliness have been linked to poor physical and mental health and to depression.</p> <p>Bearing all of the above in mind, it is imperative that the Council provides opportunities to rural communities to maximise any potential benefits to build sustainability in their communities through active participation in any disposal or acquisition exercise undertaken by the Council.</p> <p>The development of the Acquisition and Disposal Policy has been influenced by the needs of rural communities in that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will establish a transparent and consistent approach to the acquisition and disposal of Council owned land, buildings and facilities.</p>
Development of the Council's 2019/20 Improvement Plan	Rural Businesses, Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas,	Fermanagh and Omagh is a predominantly rural district with the exception of the two main towns of Enniskillen and Omagh. The Council area is home to around 116,000 people, with some 70% of the population living in rural areas outside the

Poverty in Rural Areas,
Deprivation in Rural Areas,
Rural Development,
Agri-Environment,
Health Improvements

two main towns. Population is forecast to rise by 3% over the next decade, with stark increases in the number of older people. Current forecasts suggest that the number of residents over the age of 65 will rise from 2011 levels of less than 15% to over 20% by 2030 and even further thereafter.

The social and economic needs of people in rural areas are summarised as follows:

Access to Services

5 of the 10 most deprived SOA's in the Access to Services domain are in Fermanagh and Omagh (Belcoo and Garrison, Rosslea, Trillick, Sixmilecross and Owenkillev). The four most deprived areas in NI in terms of fastest travel time by private transport are in Fermanagh and Omagh (namely Belcoo and Garrison, Rosslea, Belleek and Boa and Owenkillev). Broadband speeds in the district are by far the slowest in NI, and indeed the UK. Fermanagh and Omagh are the highest in terms of premises unable to receive 2Mbps and 5Mbps in the UK, 3rd in 10Mbps and 2nd in 30 Mbps (Ofcom, October 2018).

Income

15% of the population are living in households where the equivalised income is less than 60% of the NI Median (NI Average – 13.1%), with our children and older people suffering income poverty most. 20.3% of children under the age of 15 in the district are living households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the NI median. The equivalent figure for those aged 65 and over is 8.4%, the worst rate of older people's income poverty across Northern Ireland. FODC has the highest proportion of domestic dwellings that are unfit, in a state of disrepair, or are without a modern boiler or loft insulation and double glazing.

Employment

In addition, 21.2% of our working age population are employment deprived with both wage levels and gross household disposable income well below the NI average. Fermanagh and Omagh has an estimated 30% of working age population economically inactive as compared to the NI average of 26% (Labour Force Survey 2016)

Health

Standardised admission rates due to drugs and alcohol remains an issue for Fermanagh and Omagh and is much more prominent in deprived parts of the district, as the chart illustrates. At 143 and 124 incidences per 1,000 patients, respectively, hypertension and obesity are the most prevalent health issues in Fermanagh and Omagh.

The Fermanagh and Omagh Residents' Survey 2018 also highlighted the difference between urban and rural residents of the district in terms of their general health and satisfaction levels. Residents in urban areas (i.e. Omagh and Enniskillen) were generally healthier and more satisfied with their lives than those living in rural areas of the district. Residents living in urban areas scored higher on self-reported levels of physical health (8.6 vs 7.9) and also mental health (8.7 vs 8.1). Residents living in urban areas also reported higher levels of satisfaction with their life nowadays (8.7 vs 8.1) and higher levels of self-efficacy (22.4 vs 20.5)¹. The starkest statistic however remains that life expectancy is 2.7 years lower in the most than least deprived areas of the district.

Drawing on the Community Plan for the district, the plan recognises that deprivation is an issue that cross-cuts health and wellbeing. Living in a rural area can exacerbate the effects of poverty and social isolation for certain groups. Additional costs of living in a rural area such as higher fuel or transport costs can have a greater impact on people on low incomes.

In addition, some groups such as young people or people with disabilities may experience greater difficulties accessing transport services in rural areas than in an urban settings. Lower earnings and household incomes are commonly found in the rural west where the population is consequently at highest risk of poverty.

There are also links between poor transport services and social isolation. Some rural households have no access to a car while in others private transport may be used by others for travelling to work leaving other household members dependent on

¹ All findings statistically significant at the 1% level

alternative means of travel. Limited availability of public transport combined with increased travelling distance to retail, social and leisure facilities may significantly impact on the ability of elderly people, the less physically able and those with young children to socially interact. Friends and family may also be scattered geographically resulting in reduced opportunities for face to face contact. Social isolation and loneliness have been linked to poor physical and mental health and to depression.

The Improvement Objectives identified aim to increase access to leisure and recreation opportunities for citizens across rural and urban areas recognising the access difficulties which many rural dwellers will experience if opportunities were focused solely on our key towns. There will be efforts to ensure that leisure activities are available across the district.

The district has high levels of entrepreneurship and business start-up, which is vital in an area with low levels of inward investment and where our local economy is driven by indigenous businesses. The plan aims to ensure that all citizens across the district have access to entrepreneurship and business start programmes and will also focus on supporting increased involvement of women and young people as well as supporting social entrepreneurship.

A further Improvement Objective focuses on environmental programmes and, specifically, improving recycling efforts. This will include ensuring that the food waste collection service is extended to approximately 2,000 hard to reach properties across the district and in rural areas.

Access to services can also be an issue and the Council will work to increase its online channels of delivery, while also recognising that broadband connectivity can be an issue. It is anticipated that the rollout of the Department for the Economy's broadband improvement programme will improve connectivity for rural communities. The Council is working to improve its customer service resource which will also improve the availability of frontline staff to answer telephone calls alongside providing clearer information on how to access our services.

		<p>A further Improvement Objective focuses on car parking provision in the two main towns, i.e. Omagh and Enniskillen, recognising their status as economic and service hubs for the district.</p> <p>As it continues its improvement efforts the Council will continue to bear the needs of both rural and urban dwellers in mind.</p> <p>The development of the Improvement Plan 2019/20 has been influenced by the needs of rural communities in that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has made a commitment to improve access to leisure and recreation opportunities and improve provision of information to support citizens in making healthier choices; to encourage a growth in entrepreneurship and new business starts including amongst under-represented groups; to invest in environmental programmes which will reduce waste going to landfill and improve recycling efforts including extending the service to hard to reach properties across the district; progressing initiatives to make it easier to communicate and do business with the Council.</p>
<p>Adoption of a Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Age Friendly Strategy</p>	<p>Rural Businesses, 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,</p>	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh is a predominantly rural district with the exception of the two main towns of Enniskillen and Omagh. The Council area is home to around 116,000 people, with some 70% of the population living in rural areas outside the two main towns. Population is forecast to rise by 3% over the next decade, with stark increases in the number of older people. Current forecasts suggest that the number of residents over the age of 65 will rise from 2011 levels of less than 15% to over 20% by 2030 and even further thereafter.</p> <p>The social and economic needs of people in rural areas is summarised as follows:</p> <p>Access to Services 5 of the 10 most deprived SOA's in the Access to Services domain are in Fermanagh and Omagh (Belcoo and Garrison, Rosslea, Trillick, Sixmilecross and Owenkillew). The four most deprived areas in NI in terms of fastest travel time by private transport are in Fermanagh and Omagh (namely Belcoo and</p>

Deprivation in Rural Areas,
Rural Crime or
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Garrison, Rosslea, Belleek and Boa and Owenkillew). Broadband speeds in the district are by far the slowest in NI, and indeed the UK. Fermanagh and Omagh are the highest in terms of premises unable to receive 2Mbps and 5Mbps in the UK, 3rd in 10Mbps and 2nd in 30 Mbps (Ofcom, October 2018).

Income

15% of the population are living in households where the equivalised income is less than 60% of the NI Median (NI Average – 13.1%), with our children and older people suffering income poverty most. 20.3% of children under the age of 15 in the district are living households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the NI median. The equivalent figure for those aged 65 and over is 8.4%, the worst rate of older people’s income poverty across Northern Ireland. FODC has the highest proportion of domestic dwellings that are unfit, in a state of disrepair, or are without a modern boiler or loft insulation and double glazing.

Employment

In addition, 21.2% of our working age population are employment deprived with both wage levels and gross household disposable income well below the NI average. Fermanagh and Omagh has an estimated 30% of working age population economically inactive as compared to the NI average of 26% (Labour Force Survey 2016)

Health

Standardised admission rates due to drugs and alcohol remains an issue for Fermanagh and Omagh and is much more prominent in deprived parts of the district, as the chart illustrates. At 143 and 124 incidences per 1,000 patients, respectively, hypertension and obesity are the most prevalent health issues in Fermanagh and Omagh.

The Fermanagh and Omagh Residents’ Survey 2018 also highlighted the difference between urban and rural residents of the district in terms of their general health and satisfaction levels. Residents in urban areas (i.e. Omagh and Enniskillen) were generally healthier and more satisfied with their lives than those living in rural areas of the district. Residents living in urban areas scored higher on self-reported levels of physical health (8.6 vs 7.9) and also mental health (8.7 vs

8.1). Residents living in urban areas also reported higher levels of satisfaction with their life nowadays (8.7 vs 8.1) and higher levels of self-efficacy (22.4 vs 20.5)¹. The starkest statistic however remains that life expectancy is 2.7 years lower in the most than least deprived areas of the district.

Living in a rural area can exacerbate the effects of poverty and social isolation for certain groups. Additional costs of living in a rural area such as higher fuel or transport costs can have a greater impact on people on low incomes. 15% of the population are living in households where the equivalised income is less than 60% of the NI Median (NI Average – 13.1%). 21.2% of our working age population are employment deprived with both wage levels and gross household disposable income well below the NI average.

Despite these income limitations, 88% of households in Fermanagh and Omagh have access to one or more cars, as compared to the NI average of 80%. Alongside this, the four most deprived areas in NI in terms of fastest travel time by private transport, are in Fermanagh and Omagh (namely Belcoo and Garrison, Rosslea, Belleek and Boa and Owenkillew). There is no train service in the area and while a bus service does exist, it is limited.

In addition, some groups such as young people or people with disabilities may experience greater difficulties accessing transport services in rural areas than in urban settings. FODC Residents' Survey 2018 found that residents with a disability scored lower on both the 'local accessibility' domain (3.1 vs 3.8) and the 'your life nowadays' domain (7.0 vs 8.5)², and that these issues were further exacerbated in rural areas of the district.

Lower earnings and household incomes are commonly found in the rural west where the population is consequently at highest risk of poverty. There are also links between poor transport services and social isolation. Some rural households have no access to a car while in others private transport may be used by others for travelling to work leaving other household members dependent on alternative means of travel. Limited availability of public transport combined with increased travelling distance to retail, social and leisure facilities may significantly impact on the ability of elderly

		<p>people, the less physically able and those with young children to socially interact. Friends and family may also be scattered geographically resulting in reduced opportunities for face to face contact. Social isolation and loneliness have been linked to poor physical and mental health and to depression.</p> <p>Clustered focus groups were organised by the appointed consultant to talk to older people, encompassing both rural and urban groups from across the District.</p>
<p>Consideration of the range of governance matters to be considered in preparation for the first AGM of the New Council following the 2019 Local Government Elections.</p>	<p>Other - Political representation which is reflective of the electorate within the rural areas.</p>	<p>According to the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017, the following areas within the Fermanagh and Omagh District appear within the top ten deprivation categories:</p> <p>Income – Roslea, Newtownbutler, Belleek and Boa Employment – Fintona, Lisnaskea Health and Disability – Fintona, Irvinestown Education – Lisnaskea Access to Services – Roslea, Trillick, Sixmilecross, Owenkillew, Lissan Crime and Disorder – Lisnaskea, Irvinestown, Fintona Multiple Deprivation – Newtonbutler, Roslea</p> <p>Living in a rural area can exacerbate the effects of poverty and social isolation for certain groups. Additional costs of living in a rural area such as higher fuel or transport costs can have a greater impact on people on low incomes.</p> <p>In addition, some groups such as young people or people with disabilities may experience greater difficulties accessing transport services in rural areas than in an urban settings. Lower earnings and household incomes are commonly found in the rural west where the population is consequently at highest risk of poverty.</p> <p>There are also links between poor transport services and social isolation. Some rural households have no access to a car while in others private transport may be used by others for travelling to work leaving other household members dependent on alternative means of travel. Limited availability of public</p>

		<p>transport combined with increased travelling distance to retail, social and leisure facilities may significantly impact on the ability of elderly people, the less physically able and those with young children to socially interact. Friends and family may also be scattered geographically resulting in reduced opportunities for face to face contact. Social isolation and loneliness have been linked to poor physical and mental health and to depression.</p> <p>Consensus on the implementation of fair and transparent Governance arrangements should result in a positive impact on people living in the Rural areas.</p> <p>In relation to the timing of the meetings, the proposal to commence at 4.00pm would minimise adverse or potentially adverse impacts on elderly and disabled people, or people travelling by public transport who wish to attend the meetings. However, daytime meetings are also likely to have an adverse impact on younger people and people in full-time employment. Daytime meetings place a challenge on parents and carers of very young children, when one parent could be at work. Late afternoon or early evening meetings adversely impact on parents and carers of older school aged children or other dependents.</p> <p>Consideration of the timing of the meetings will be influenced by the rural needs outlined above.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Learning and Development Policy.</p>	<p>Internal</p>	<p>This Policy is applicable to all employees and is equally applied to those who live in urban or rural Areas, therefore no rural needs were identified.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Employee Support Policies (1).</p> <p>The employee support policies and procedures consist of five key policy areas, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maternity Leave. • Breastfeeding Support. 	<p>Internal</p>	<p>With the exception of the two main towns of Omagh and Enniskillen, all other areas of the district are considered to be rural.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the major factors affecting Rural Dwellers, with particular reference to the Economy, Employability, Housing ownership and levels of unfitnes, Transport and Access to Services. The Employee Support Policies do not have any potential direct or indirect differential impacts in rural areas.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paternity Leave. • Parental Leave. • Flexible Working 		
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Employee Support Policies and Procedures (2).</p> <p>Guidance within the document includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time off for Dependants • Bereavement Leave 	Internal	<p>With the exception of the two main towns of Omagh and Enniskillen, all other areas of the district are considered to be rural.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the major factors affecting Rural Dwellers, with particular reference to the Economy, Employability, Housing ownership and levels of unfitnes, Transport and Access to Services. These Employee Support Policies do not have any potential direct or indirect differential impacts in rural areas.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Flexi Time Scheme Policy</p>	Internal	<p>With the exception of the two main towns of Omagh and Enniskillen, all other areas of the district are considered to be rural.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the major factors affecting Rural Dwellers, with particular reference to the Economy, Employability, Housing ownership and levels of unfitnes, Transport and Access to Services. The Flexi Time Scheme Policy does not have any potential direct or indirect differential impacts in rural areas.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Managing Attendance Policy</p>	Internal	<p>With the exception of the two main towns of Omagh and Enniskillen, all other areas of the district are considered to be rural.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the major factors affecting Rural Dwellers, with particular reference to the Economy, Employability, Housing ownership and levels of unfitnes, Transport and Access to Services. The Managing Attendance Policy does not have any potential direct or indirect differential impacts in rural areas.</p>
<p>Adoption of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Data Protection Policy</p>	Internal	<p>With the exception of the two main towns of Omagh and Enniskillen, all other areas of the district are considered to be rural.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the major factors affecting Rural</p>

		Dwellers, with particular reference to the Economy, Employability, Housing ownership and levels of unfitnes, Transport and Access to Services. This Strategy does not have any potential direct or indirect impacts in rural areas.
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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.