



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 .
Development of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Safe Driving at Work Policy	Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	In recognition of the restrictions imposed by the lack of broadband connectivity, additional regard was taken in relation to supporting communications with employees who were likely to be driving in rural areas on a regular basis through the provision of two-way radios and also through the ability to communicate via the Fusion in-cab Route Optimisation software.
Development of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Estates Strategy 2020 - 2030	Cross-cutting	The Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area is the largest geographical area of the 11 Councils but has the lowest population. The Estates Strategy is designed to support and enable service delivery across a geographically large district with a dispersed population. The development of the Estates Strategy is likely to impact positively upon people in rural areas by striving to ensure that their needs are taken account of and addressed in the delivery of Council services.

Development of The Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark Development Plan	Cross-cutting	Prior to the creation of the Geopark Development Plan, taking cognisance of the Council's evidence based approach, consultation took place with a range of stakeholders to identify need and inform future direction and solutions. Stakeholder engagement included representation from rural areas including local enterprise and community partnerships. The feedback received was used to inform and shape the Development Plan and its associated actions/programmes. One of the objectives identified within the Plan in relation to the Stakeholder Engagement pillar is to increase the sense of ownership of and commitment to the Geopark by local communities and businesses, facilitating and enabling them to leverage social and commercial opportunities from the designation.
Revision of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's ICT Policies and Procedures for Employees	Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	The Procedures will apply equally whether the equipment is in use in rural or urban areas. In relation to poor broadband connectivity, the Council has lobbied consistently for the necessary funding for infrastructural improvements in the area. ICT staff have been able to improve connectivity to the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark through investment in the installation of a reliable private circuit. In relation to improving connectivity for staff working from home, ICT staff have worked with colleagues from Funding and Investment on a cross-council consortium bid to successfully secure funding from Wave 3 of the Local Full Fibre Network Programme.
Revision of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Memorial Benches and Trees Policy	Other: Access to a Council initiative	No rural needs identified. The policy will be implemented consistently across urban and rural areas of the District.
Revision of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Procurement Policy	Cross-cutting	No rural needs were identified. The policy will be implemented consistently across urban and rural areas of the District.
Development of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Plan to reopen Public	Other: Access to services	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has considered the needs of those people who live or work

<p>Conveniences following their closure during the Covid-19 Pandemic.</p>		<p>within the rural areas of the District, particularly in relation to access to services. The first phase of the Re-opening Plan is supportive of the two main retail centres within the District, which will also benefit people who live in rural areas who form the customer base for such outlets. The next three phases facilitate the opening of twelve Public Conveniences in rural areas, which will further support both rural businesses in those areas, and the customer base for local retail outlets. The potential for the re-opening of the remaining Public Conveniences will be actively monitored. Any decisions made will consider staffing availability, the feasibility of ensuring safe operations for both staff and the public wishing to access the site, and future changes to relevant regional or national guidance.</p>
<p>Development of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Plan to reopen Household Waste Recycling Centres following their closure during the Covid-19 Pandemic (Apr 2020)</p>	<p>Other: Access to services</p>	<p>The Council has considered the needs of those people who live or work within the rural areas of the District, particularly in relation to access to services.</p> <p>Consequently, the Phased re-opening plan, facilitates the opening of four rural recycling centres which will allow people from the nearby rural communities to access the service without being dependent on having to travel to Enniskillen or Omagh. It is important to note that the plan is based on current guidance and regulation relating to unnecessary travel. The potential for the re-opening of the remaining rural recycling centres will be actively monitored. Any decisions made will consider staffing availability, the feasibility of ensuring safe operations for both staff and the public wishing to access the site, including traffic management arrangements, and future changes to relevant regional or national guidance.</p>
<p>Development of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Social Media Policy for Councillors</p>	<p>Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas</p>	<p>No rural needs were identified. The Policy will be implemented consistently across the Council, and should not impact upon people in rural areas differently to people living in urban areas.</p>

Feasibility Review and Economic Appraisal of District Play Park Provision	Cross-cutting	The development of a Play Park Provision Plan for the District aims to ensure that people living in rural areas have access to open space and play areas for the adequate development, health and wellbeing of children and young people, regardless of their physical or mental abilities. The Plan recognises that play spaces have the potential to increase the opportunity for children and young people to connect with and be part of the community, especially where play facilities are provided in areas which are open and accessible to everyone. The Plan has been the subject of widespread consultation and the Council is keen to work with the Community and Voluntary Sector to address evidence-based need.
Development of a Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Corporate Sponsorship Policy	Cross-cutting	No rural needs were identified. The Policy will be implemented consistently regardless of whether the applicant is rural or urban based.
Development of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Events and Festivals Strategy 2020-2025	Cross-cutting	No rural needs were identified. The Strategy and Action Plan will be implemented consistently regardless of whether the applicant is rural or urban based.

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.