



Equality Screening Template  
Belfast City Council Summer Intervention Fund

## **Belfast City Council - Equality Screening Template**

The Council has a statutory duty to screen all policies. Please note a policy can be written or unwritten, formal or informal. This includes our strategies, plans, policies, legislative developments; and new ways of working such as – the introduction, change or end of an existing service, grant funding arrangement or facility. Please note a policy can be written or unwritten, formal or informal.

This screening template is designed to help departments consider the likely equality impacts of their proposed decisions on different groups of customers, service users, staff and visitors.

Before carrying out an equality screening exercise it is important that you have received the necessary training. To find out about the training contact – [gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk) / [dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk)

The accompanying [Screening Guidance](#) note provides straightforward advice on how to carry out equality screening exercises. Detailed information about the Section 75 equality duties<sup>1</sup> and what they mean in practice is available on the Equality Commission's website.

The screening template has 4 sections to complete. These are:

**Section A** - asks you to provide details about the policy / decision that is being screened.

**Section B** - has 4 key questions that require you to outline the likely impacts on equality groups, and all supporting evidence.

**Section C** - has 4 key questions in relation to obligations under the Disability Discrimination Order

**Section D** - is the formal record of the screening decision.

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<sup>1</sup> ECNI 'Section 75 of the NI Act 1998: A Guide for Public Authorities' April 2010. [www.equalityni.org](http://www.equalityni.org)

## Section A

### Details about the policy / decision to be screened

**Title of policy / decision to be screened:-**

Belfast City Council Summer Intervention Fund

**Brief description of policy / decision to be screened:-**

*(Explain - Is this a new, revised or existing policy? Are there financial / legislative / procurement implications?)*

The Council has administered the Summer Intervention Fund on behalf of the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister for the past 3 years. The fund is worth £100,000 and is allocated to registered community and voluntary organisations working to minimise tensions at interface areas during periods of heightened tension. The process is an open application grant aid process. The maximum grant is £5,000.

**Aims and objectives of the policy / decision to be screened:-**

*(What is the policy trying to achieve?)*

The Summer Intervention Fund seeks to support community and voluntary organisations in delivering local diversionary and intervention projects primarily with young people, in and around interface areas, during times of heightened tension over the summer period.

**On whom will the policy / decision impact?**

*Consider the internal and external impacts (both actual or potential)*

- Staff No
- Service users
- Other public sector organisations
- Voluntary / Community groups / Trade unions
- Others, please specify

**Are there linkages to other Agencies/ Departments?**

Yes. The allocation of funding is undertaken in the following manner:

1. Application process is advertised through the council website, partner agencies websites and a mail shot to previous applicants
2. The assessment panel is made up of representatives from the Department of Justice, The Community Relations Council, Belfast Education and Library Board, the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister, BCC Community Safety and BCC Community Services
3. All recommended groups for grant aid are approved under Delegated Authority to the Chief Executive of the Council by the Good Relations Partnership.

## Section B

### 1. Outline consultation process achieved or planned

Following the delivery of the Summer Intervention Fund programmes in 2012, the Good Relations Unit and the Community Safety Unit undertook a consultation with delivery organisations on the successes and challenges of delivering projects in the summer of 2012. Three consultation events were held. A series of recommendations were produced, which fed into the assessment process for 2013.

In addition, the Department of Justice facilitated a Summer Intervention working group with a number of relevant funding agencies. The purpose of this was to develop a more streamlined approach leading to greater collaboration amongst funders in the allocation of funding for summer intervention projects. The recommendations from the community representatives at the BCC led events, has also fed into this process.

A similar consultation exercise will also take place in the autumn of 2013 in order to begin preparations for the summer of 2014.

### 2. Available evidence

*What evidence / information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Set out all evidence below to help inform your screening assessment. Please note: It is important to record information gathered from a variety of sources such as:*

- *Monitoring information*
- *Complaints*
- *Research /surveys*
- *Consultation exercise and other public authorities*

<b>Section 75 category</b>	<b>Details of evidence / information and engagement</b>
Religious belief	Traditionally, the summer time in Belfast presents a huge challenge to Good Relations within interface areas. PSNI and other Emergency Services all experience an increase in interface related incidents. In addition the reputation of the city suffers as a result of localised rioting

	<p>and violence, mainly involving young people. The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister recognises that an intervention/diversionary programme is a useful tool to engage young people at risk of becoming involved in such conflict and therefore the programme exists. This is supported by elected members as well as agencies such as the PSNI, Communities, NIFRS and the Department of Justice. It is administered on behalf of OFM/DFM by the Good Relations Unit of Belfast City Council.</p>
Political opinion	<p>Traditionally, the summer time in Belfast presents a huge challenge to Good Relations within interface areas. PSNI and other Emergency Services all experience an increase in interface related incidents. In addition the reputation of the city suffers as a result of localised rioting and violence, mainly involving young people. The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister recognises that an intervention/diversionary programme is a useful tool to engage young people at risk of becoming involved in such conflict and therefore the programme exists. This is supported by elected members as well as agencies such as the PSNI, Communities, NIFRS and the Department of Justice. It is administered on behalf of OFM/DFM by the Good Relations Unit of Belfast City Council.</p>
Racial group	<p>Traditionally, the summer time in Belfast presents a huge challenge to Good Relations within interface areas. PSNI and other Emergency Services all experience an increase in interface related incidents. In addition the reputation of the city suffers as a result of localised rioting and violence, mainly involving young people. The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister recognises that an intervention/diversionary programme is a useful tool to engage young people at risk of becoming involved in such conflict and therefore the programme exists. This is supported by elected members as well as agencies such as the PSNI, Communities, NIFRS and the Department of Justice. It is administered on behalf of OFM/DFM by the Good Relations Unit of Belfast City Council.</p>
Age	<p>Traditionally, the summer time in Belfast presents a huge challenge to Good Relations within interface areas. PSNI and other Emergency Services all experience an increase in interface related incidents. In</p>

	<p>addition the reputation of the city suffers as a result of localised rioting and violence, mainly involving young people. The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister recognises that an intervention/diversionary programme is a useful tool to engage young people at risk of becoming involved in such conflict and therefore the programme exists. This is supported by elected members as well as agencies such as the PSNI, Communities, NIFRS and the Department of Justice. It is administered on behalf of OFM/DFM by the Good Relations Unit of Belfast City Council.</p>
Marital status	
Sexual orientation	
Men & women generally	
Disability	
Dependants	

**3. What is the likely impact (indicate if the policy impact is positive or negative) on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? What is the level of impact?**

Section 75 category	Likely impact?	Level of impact? Minor/Major/None
Religious belief	<p>There has shown to be a positive impact on communities living at interface areas as a result of this programme. This has been demonstrated in the level of incidents at interface areas recorded by the PSNI.</p>	Major positive impact

Political opinion	There has shown to be a positive impact on communities living at interface areas as a result of this programme. This has been demonstrated in the level of incidents at interface areas recorded by the PSNI.	Major positive impact
Racial group	There has shown to be a positive impact on communities living at interface areas as a result of this programme. This has been demonstrated in the level of incidents at interface areas recorded by the PSNI.	Major positive impact
Age	The programme primarily targets areas where young people are at risk of becoming involved in conflict and therefore diversionary programmes have had a positive impact in intervening during those times of heightened tension.	Major positive impact
Marital status	N/A	None
Sexual orientation	N/A	None
Men and women generally	N/A	None
Disability	N/A	None
Dependants	N/A	None

**4. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?**

<b>Section 75 category</b>	<b>If Yes, provide details</b>	<b>If No, provide reasons</b>
Religious belief		No – the resources within the programme cannot be stretched to provide any additional opportunities.
Political opinion		No – the resources within the programme cannot be stretched to provide any additional opportunities.
Racial group		No – the resources within the programme cannot be stretched to provide any additional opportunities.
Age		No – the resources within the programme cannot be stretched to provide any additional opportunities.
Marital status		No – not applicable to the purpose of this programme
Sexual orientation		No – not applicable to the purpose of this programme
Men and women generally		No – not applicable to the purpose of this programme
Disability		No – not applicable to the purpose of this programme
Dependants		No – not applicable to the purpose of this programme

**5. To what extent is the policy likely to impact (positive or negatively) on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? What is the level of impact?**

<b>Good relations category</b>	<b>Likely impact?</b>	<b>Level of impact? Minor/Major/None</b>
Religious belief	The programme seeks to maintain Good Relations at interface areas during key times of heightened tension	Major positive impact
Political opinion	The programme seeks to maintain Good Relations at interface areas during key times of heightened tension	Major positive impact
Racial group	The programme seeks to maintain Good Relations at interface areas during key times of heightened tension	Major positive impact

**6. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

<b>Good relations category</b>	<b>If Yes, provide details</b>	<b>If No, provide reasons</b>
Religious belief	Yes, there are opportunities to better promote Good Relations should additional resources be made available for this programme	
Political opinion	Yes, there are opportunities to better promote Good Relations should additional resources be made available for this programme	
Racial group	Yes, there are opportunities to better promote Good Relations should additional resources be made	

	available for this programme	
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**7. Multiple Identities**

**Provide details of data on the impact of the policy with multiple identities**

*Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.*

None identified

## Section C

Belfast City Council also has legislative obligations to meet under the [Disability Discrimination Order](#) and Questions 5 -6 relate to these two areas.

### Consideration of Disability Duties

- 8. Does this proposed policy / decision provide an opportunity for the Council to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?**

***Explain your assessment in full***

The purpose of this programme is to support communities in providing diversionary and intervention programmes, primarily at interface areas with young people during times of heightened tension over the summer period. Therefore, this programme does not have any direct focus on promoting positive attitudes towards people with disabilities.

- 9. Does this proposed policy / decision provide an opportunity to actively increase the participation by disabled people in public life?**

***Explain your assessment in full***

The purpose of this programme is to support communities in providing diversionary and intervention programmes, primarily at interface areas with young people during times of heightened tension over the summer period. Therefore, this programme does not directly target the specific inclusion of people with disabilities.

**Monitoring Arrangements**

Section 75 places a requirement the Council to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services etc; and to help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity.

Outline what data you will collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy / decision on equality, good relations and disability duties.

<b>Equality</b>	<b>Good Relations</b>	<b>Disability Duties</b>
Data on all application and evaluation forms on the numbers of participants from all section 75 categories	Data on all application and evaluation forms on the numbers of participants from all section 75 categories	Data on all application and evaluation forms on the numbers of participants from all section 75 categories

## Section D

### Formal Record of Screening Decision

#### Title of Proposed Policy / Decision being screened

Belfast City Council Summer Intervention Programme

I can confirm that the proposed policy / decision has been screened for –

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	equality of opportunity and good relations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	disabilities duties

On the basis of the answers to the screening questions, I recommend that this policy / decision is –

***\*place an X in the appropriate box below***

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>*<u>Screened In</u></b> – Necessary to conduct a full EQIA
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>*<u>Screened Out</u></b> – No EQIA necessary (no impacts) Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>* <u>Screened Out</u> - Mitigating Actions (minor impacts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a brief note here to explain how this decision was reached:</li> <li>• Explain what mitigating actions and / or policy changes will now be introduced:</li> </ul>
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**Formal Record of Screening Decision** (cont)

**Screening assessment completed by (Officer level) -**

Name: David Robinson

Date: 23 July 2013

Department: Chief Executives

Signature: please insert a scanned image of your signature below

**Screening decision approved by -**

Name: Hazel Francey

Date: 23 July 2013

Department / Job Title: Good Relations Manager

Signature: please insert a scanned image of your signature below

Please save the final version of the completed screening form and forward to the Equality and Diversity Officer – [gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk) or [dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk) . The screening form will be placed on the BCC website and a link provided to the Council's Section 75 consultees.

For more information about equality screening contact –

**Stella Gilmartin / Lorraine Dennis**

**Equality & Diversity Officer (*job-share*)**

**Belfast City Council**

**City Hall**

**Belfast**

**BT1 5GS**

**Telephone: 028 90270511**

**[gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:gilmartins@belfastcity.gov.uk) or [dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk)**