**Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council**

**DRA Section 75 Equality and Good Relations Screening template**

**Part 1. Information about the activity/policy/project being screened**

# **Name of the project**

# Duncan’s Dam Upgrade

# **Is this project – an existing one, a revised one, a new one?**

# A new project.

**What are the intended aims/outcomes the project is trying to achieve?**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council are the Reservoir Manager for Duncan’s Dam, which is located off Stockdam Road, North Lisburn, under a long term lease with NI Water. The dam (reservoir) is no longer used for water supply but is used for amenity purposes and forms a key wetland habitat in an urban setting. It sits in a public park which has recently been upgraded and is now a popular amenity site surrounded by woodland and open grassland, with a carpark, paths, a children’s play park, and viewing platform.

A safety inspection as part of an ongoing maintenance regime was carried out in 2019 by a Reservoir Panel Engineer, and it highlighted the need for identified works in the interests of safety detailed under the Reservoirs Safety Act 1975. The same consultants were subsequently contracted to carry out a feasibility study on options to address the recommendations in the report – see report (August 2021).

This project is to complete the technical maintenance work needed to address the recommendations made in the Section 10 report.

**Who is the activity/policy/project targeted at and who will benefit? Are there any expected benefits for specific Section 75 categories/groups from this activity/policy/project? If so, please explain.**

This project is not targeting any specific Section 75 groups. It is a maintenance project to address identified recommendations in the interests of safety. However the site itself is currently used by all sections of the community as a public amenity so future visitors potentially benefit from upgrades and improvements that ensure it can remain safe and accessible to the public and those that may be affected within the downstream inundation flood risk area.

**Who initiated or developed the project?**

Assets Unit, under Service Transformation Department

**Who owns and who implements the project?**

Assets, and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

**Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the activity/policy/project?**

Yes

**If yes, are they: financial, legislative, other? Give brief details of any significant factors.**

The works are a legislative requirement under the Reservoirs Safety Act 1975 as highlighted in the Section 10 Report.

Capital funding to be applied for through the council’s governance process.

**Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the activity/policy/project will impact upon?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Staff – | Parks & Amenities as the asset owner. |
| Service Users – | Only in relation to the future safety of the public who access the amenity site where the dam is located or down stream within the inundation flood risk area. |
| Other Public Sector Organisations – please list | No |
| Voluntary/Community/Trade Unions – please list | No |
| Other – please list (eg, Elected Members, delivery partners, contractors, etc) | Elected Members  Consultants  Contractors |

**Other policies/strategies/plans with a bearing on this activity/policy/project**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name policy/strategy/plan** | **Who owns or implements?** |
| Interim Corporate Plan | Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council |
| Community Action Plan | Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council |
| Council Health & Safety Policies | Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Available evidence**

**What evidence/information (qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered or considered to inform this activity/policy? Specify details for each Section 75 category.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 75 Category** | **Details of evidence/information** |
| Religious Belief | As this is a technical proposal, and it will not impact on the public, it is not considered necessary to analyse information by Section 75 category |
| Political Opinion |
| Racial Group |
| Age |
| Marital Status |
| Sexual Orientation |
| Men & Women Generally |
| Disability |
| Dependants |

### Needs, experiences and priorities

**Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular activity/policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 75 Category** | **Details of needs/experiences/priorities** |
| Religious Belief | This is a purely technical maintenance project in the interests of safety so not applicable |
| Political Opinion |
| Racial Group |
| Age |
| Marital Status |
| Sexual Orientation |
| Men & Women Generally |
| Disability |
| Dependants |

**Part 2. Screening questions**

**1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this activity/policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 75 Category** | **Details of likely impact – will it be positive or negative? If none anticipated, say none** | **Level of impact -** **major or minor\*** - see guidance below |
| Religious Belief |  | No potential impacts identified as this is a technical maintenance project in the interests of safety |
| Political Opinion |  |
| Racial Group |  |
| Age |  |
| Marital Status |  |
| Sexual Orientation |  |
| Men & Women Generally |  |
| Disability |  |
| Dependants |  |

\* See Appendix 1 for details.

**2(a) Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 75 Category** | **IF Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide details** |
| Religious Belief |  | No opportunities identified as this is a technical project in the interests of safety |
| Political Opinion |  |
| Racial Group |  |
| Age |  |
| Marital Status |  |
| Sexual Orientation |  |
| Men & Women Generally |  |
| Disability |  |
| Dependants |  |

**2(b) DDA Disability Duties (see Disability Action Plan 2021-2025)**

Does this policy/activity present opportunities to contribute to the actions in our Disability Action Plan: [add link to DAP]

* to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

No

If yes, give details

* to encourage the participation of disabled people in public life?

No

If yes, give details

**3 To what extent is the activity/policy/project likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good Relations Category** | **Details of likely impact. Will it be positive or negative?** [if no specific impact identified, say none] | **Level of impact –** **minor/major\*** |
| Religious Belief | No impact identified for any group | None |
| Political Opinion |
| Racial Group |

\*See Appendix 1 for details.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good Relations Category** | **IF Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide details** |
| Religious Belief |  | No – this is a technical project in the interests of safety and not relevant to good relations |
| Political Opinion |  |
| Racial Group |  |

**Multiple identity**

**Provide details of any data on the impact of the activity/policy/project on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.**

Not relevant to this project – no impact on Section 75 categories identified

**Part 3. Screening decision**

Equality and good relations screening is used to identify whether there is a need to carry out a full equality impact assessment on a proposed policy or project. There are 3 possible outcomes:

1. **Screen out** - no need for a full equality impact assessment and no mitigations required because no negative impacts identified (or only entirely positive impacts for all groups). This may be the case for a purely technical policy for example.
2. **Screen out with mitigation** - no need for a full equality impact assessment but some minor impacts identified which can easily be mitigated. Most activity will probably fall into this category.
3. **Screen in for full equality impact assessment** – potential for significant (and potentially negative) impact identified for one or more groups so proposal requires a more detailed impact assessment.

**Choose only one of these** and provide reasons for your decision and ensure evidence is noted/referenced for any decision reached.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Screening Decision/Outcome** | **Reasons/Evidence** |
| Option 1  **Screen out** – no equality impact assessment and no mitigation required | It is considered that there is no need to conduct any further equality impact assessment as no equality or good relations impacts have been identified. This is a technical proposal in the interests of safety. |
| Option 2  **Screen out with mitigation** – some potential impacts identified but they can be addressed with appropriate mitigation |  |
| Option 3  **Screen in** for a full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) |  |

**Mitigation (Only relevant to Option 2) - Not applicable**

**Can the activity/policy/project plan be amended or an alternative activity/policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?**

If so, give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative activity/policy and ensure the mitigations are included in a revised/updated policy or plan.]

**Timetabling and prioritising for EQIA (only relevant to Option 3) - not applicable**

If the activity/policy has been **‘screened in’** for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the activity/policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority criterion | Rating (1-3) |
|  |  |
| Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations |  |
| Social need |  |
| Effect on people’s daily lives |  |
| Relevance to a public authority’s functions |  |
|  |  |
| Total Rating Score |  |

**Is the activity/policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?**

**No**Part 4. Monitoring

Public authorities should consider the guidance contained in the Commission’s Monitoring Guidance for Use by Public Authorities (July 2007).

The Commission recommends that where the activity/policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, the public authority should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (See Benefits, P.9-10, paras 2.13 – 2.20 of the Monitoring Guidance).

Effective monitoring will help the public authority identify any future adverse impact arising from the activity/policy which may lead the public authority to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and activity/policy development.

Who will undertake and sign-off the monitoring of this activity/policy and on what frequency?

Please give details below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Will be undertaken by:  Name & Position/Job Title: | Frequency (eg. Annually): |
| Gerwyn Young, Construction Services Manager will be responsible for the project. | Equality monitoring not relevant for this project. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Will be signed-off by: |  |
| Name & HoS Title: |  |
| Albert Reynolds  Head of Assets |  |
|  |  |

**Part 5 - Approval and authorisation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Screened by:** | **Position/Job Title** | **Date** |
| Gerwyn Young | Construction Services Manager | 28.09.21 |
|  |  |  |
| Reviewed by | Equality Officer | 04.10.21 |
| **Approved by:** |  |  |
| Albert Reynolds | Head of Assets | 05.10.2021 |

Appendix 1 – Equality Commission guidance on equality impact

\*Major impact:

1. The policy/project is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
2. Potential equality matters are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
3. Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
4. Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
5. The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
6. The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

Minor impact

1. The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
2. The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
3. Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
4. By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

No impact (none)

1. The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations;
2. The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

**Appendix A – Project Proposal**

**Policy For: Refurbishment of Duncans Dam –**

**Essential Maintenance**

Why are we doing it?

|  |
| --- |
| Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council are the Reservoir Manager for Duncans Dam.  This project is to complete recommendations addressed in the Section 10 report in the interests of safety under the Reservoirs Safety Act. |

Who are we doing it for?

|  |
| --- |
| Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council |

Benefits?

|  |
| --- |
| To address recommendations set out in the Section 10 report in the interests of safety under the Reservoirs Safety Act. |