

Screening Form - Equality

1. Is this a Policy
2. Name of Street Naming and Numbering policy
Policy/Strategy/Plan/Public Service

3. Reference280

4. Category of New
Policy/Strategy/Plan/Public Service

5. Please provide a description of the Policy/Strategy/Plan/Public Service

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear methodology for the Naming, Numbering, and Renaming of Streets, and for Dual Language Street Signs.

This policy as implemented through the Building Control Service to provide the Borough with adequate street naming and numbering of buildings to help way-finding by the inhabitants, visitors and people who work in the Borough and to assist the easy identification of premises by emergency services, postal services, utility providers and the Council. The statutory basis for this function is contained within Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. This Order repealed all earlier statutes related to the provision of street names and the numbering of buildings in Northern Ireland. Article 11 of this Order provides for the naming of streets, numbering of buildings and the council's responsibility to provide street signs. This provision also gives the Council powers to erect dual language street signs or secondary nameplates in a language other than English.

6. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

The aims of the policy are -

Through the provision of new street names, numbering of buildings and continual updating of the corporate gazetteer and Pointer NI database, Council will ensure that each property in the Council area will be correctly addressed and have a unique property reference number (UPRN).

Signage and street naming provision will be delivered in an equitable and fair manner, in line with Council's Good Relations Strategy and Equality Scheme. To ensure Council fulfils its statutory duty and responsibilities under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

Consideration is given to public safety, ensuring that street names are not duplicated in individual towns and that streets and properties are named and numbered to facilitate easy identification in the event of an emergency.

Defining the procedures for Naming, Numbering, and Renaming of Streets, and for Dual Language Street Signs.

Support the Council in deciding how to exercise its discretion in relation to dual language street signs or secondary nameplates in a language other than English.

7. Who initiated or wrote the Building Control Services Manager
Policy/Strategy/Plan/Public Service?

8. Who is responsible for the implementation of the Policy/Strategy/Plan/Public Service?

Director of Environment

9. Is this policy affected by timetables established by other relevant Public Authorities?

No

Equality

1. Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? Yes

1a. If Yes, which Section 75 categories are expected to benefit?

All

1b. How are they expected to benefit?

All Section 75 categories will benefit from this policy as it provides clarity for all residents and those wishing to apply for a dual Language Street sign.

This includes benefiting visitors, people who work in the Borough, voluntary and community groups. Businesses such as postal services utility providers and any statutory bodies including the emergency services.

2. Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision? Yes

2a. If yes, are they:

Financial - This policy and the implementation of new street signage could have considerable costs to Council . Legislative Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995.

3. Who are the internal/external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

Staff, Service Users, Other Public Sector organisations, Voluntary/Community/Trade Unions, Potential Visitors

4. Is this policy associated with any other Council Policy (or Policies)?

Yes

4a. If yes, please state the related Policy (or Policies)

E 196 Ards and North Down Borough Council Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

E 241 Social Value in Sustainable Procurement Policy

E 257 ANDBC Good Relations Strategy 22 – 25 and Action Plan for 2022 - 2023

The New Decade, New Approach (NDNA) published jointly in 2020 by the British and Irish governments.

5. Does this policy affect Internal or External users?Both

Evidence to help inform the Section 75 screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

6. What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy?

Religious belief, Political opinion, Racial group, Age, Marital Status, Sexual orientation, Men and women generally, Disability, Dependants, All

Religious belief evidence

The population of Ards and North Down was 163,659 at the time of the 2021 Census, which made it the 4th largest area. An increase of 4.5% since the 2011 Census. NISRA statistics show that in the 2021 census the religious breakdown of the

Borough was 14% Catholic, 68% Protestant & other Christian religions 1% Other religions 17% None

Political opinion evidence

A breakdown of 2019 local government elections first preference votes shows
Ards Peninsula - 3 x DUP, 1 x SDLP, 1 x UUP, 1 x Alliance
Bangor Central - 2 x DUP, 1 x Alliance, 1 x Greens, 1 x UUP, 1 x Independent
Bangor East and Donaghadee - 2 x UUP, 2 x DUP, 1 x Alliance, 1 x Independent
Bangor West - 2 x Alliance, 1 x DUP, 1 x UUP, 1 x Green
Comber - 2 x DUP, 1 x Alliance, 1 x UUP, 1 x TUV
Holywood and Clondeboy - 2 x Alliance, 1 x Green, 1 x DUP, 1 x UUP
Newtownards - 3 x DUP, 2 x Alliance, 1 x UUP, 1 x Independent

Racial group evidence

The 2021 census showed that 3,273 (2%) of the usually resident population in the Ards and North Down Borough is from a minority ethnic background.

NISRA has published data on language use for Northern Ireland as a whole which shows that very high proportions of residents whose main language is Tagalog/ Filipino (99 per cent), Irish (98 per cent) or Malayalam (92 per cent) can speak English well or very well. However, the figures are much lower for those who speak mainly Chinese (61 per cent), Lithuanian (62 per cent), Slovak (64 per cent), Polish (66 per cent), Russian (66 per cent), Hungarian (68 per cent), Latvian (71 per cent) or Portuguese (73 per cent).

Age evidence

The 2021 census showed a breakdown in age as follows:

0-14 years 17%
15-39 years 27%
40-64 years 34%
65+ years 22%

Ards and North Down Borough have a significantly higher population of older people in comparison to Northern Ireland as a whole (NI 17%) AND had the largest increase in the number of people aged 65 and over. This rose from 27,692 (17.7%) in 2011 to 36,226 (22.1%) in 2021, demonstrating the scale of population change due to ageing

Sexual orientation evidence

No reliable data exists however - According to the Office of National Statistics in 2019, 4.2% of young people in the UK aged 16-24 identify as either Lesbian, gay or bisexual. In Ards and North Down Ireland this equates to approximately 650 young people (EA Local Assessment of Need)

Men and women generally evidence

The 2021 census showed a breakdown in sex as Females 51% Males 49%.
The number of Household in the Borough is 70,445 (one person living alone or a group of people living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room, sitting room or dining area.)

A breakdown of each household is as follows -
1 person 31%
2 people 35%
3 people 15%
4 people 13%
5 or more people 6%

Disability evidence

Although no breakdown of evidence for the borough exists Northern Ireland statistics from the Department of Communities, Northern Ireland Benefits Statistics Summary May 2022 show:

There were 73,050 claimants in Northern Ireland of Disability Living Allowance. Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a benefit for disabled people.

- 37% (26,870) of claimants were children (under 16), 2% (1,190) were aged between 16 and 65 and 62% (44,990) were aged 66 and over.
- 16% (11,810) of claimants were claiming the care component only, 4% (2,860) were claiming the mobility component only and 80% (58,380) were claiming both the care and mobility components.

Personal Independence Payment replaced Disability Living Allowance for claimants of working age on 20th June 2016.

- At May 2022, there were 173,220 Personal Independence Payment claims in payment.
- 44% (75,230) of claims in payment had psychiatric disorders as the main disabling condition.
- 18% (31,720) of claims in payment were receiving the daily living component only, 3% (5,010) were receiving the mobility component only and 79% (136,510) were receiving both the daily living and mobility components.

In addition, there were 75,060 claimants of Carer's Allowance, this is a benefit for people who spend at least 35 hours a week providing regular care to someone who has a disability.

Dependants evidence

The 2021 census showed a breakdown in age as follows: 27,822 (17%) of people in Ards and North Down Borough are aged 0-14.

NISRA statistics on Nursey School intake in the Ards and North Down Borough for 2019 show that 365 children were placed in nurseries throughout the Borough.

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

7. Please provide details of different needs, experiences and priorities for each of the categories

Language in itself is not a specific section 75 category, people of different racial group, whose first language is not English, have potential to directly benefit from the aspect of the policy related to dual language street signs.

In addition, using proxy indicators, people of different religious belief and political opinion also have potential to benefit from the opportunity afforded under the same aspect of the policy.

8. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Religious belief? Minor

8a. Impact on equality of opportunity - Religious belief

People of different religious belief have potential to benefit from the opportunity afforded under the same aspect of the policy.

In Relation to the Dual Language section of the Policy -

The 2021 Census shows that the main language used in Ards and North Down Borough is 98% English, whilst Other languages were 2%. 12% of Ards and North Down's Population have some ability in Ulster-Scots (if they can understand, speak, read or write Ulster-Scots) in addition 3% had some ability in Irish (if they can understand, speak, read or write Irish)

Following a Good Relations Consultation Audit in the Borough showed that 88% of respondents have a positive attitude towards people of a different religious background while 85% of respondents have a very positive attitude towards people of a different ethnic background. Very few negative views were demonstrated in either.

9. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Political opinion?

Minor

9a. Impact on equality of opportunity - Political opinion

People of different Political Opinion have potential to benefit from the opportunity afforded under the same aspect of the policy.

10. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Racial group? Minor

10a. Impact on equality of opportunity - Racial group

In Relation to the Dual Language section of the Policy -

Following a Good Relations Consultation Audit in the Borough showed that 88% of respondents have a positive attitude towards people of a different religious background while 85% of respondents have a very positive attitude towards people of a different ethnic background. Very few negative views were demonstrated in either.

11. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Age?

None

12. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Marital status? None

13. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Sexual orientation? None

14. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Men and women generally?

None

15. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Disability? Minor

15a. Impact on equality of opportunity - Disability

In relation to the Dual Language section of the policy - People with a Disability or Learning difficulty may get confused, and this could lead to a reduction in accessibility. ; therefore, the Policy should ensure with distinct differentiation between the sign background color and sign text and ensure the English text is succinct.

16. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, in relation to Dependants? None

17. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories? If Yes, provide details. If No, provide reasons.

Religious belief	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Political opinion	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Racial group	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Age	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Marital Status	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Sexual orientation	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Men and women generally	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension
Disability	Yes - ; The Policy should ensure signage will have a distinct differentiation between the sign background color and sign text and ensure the English text is succinct. Whereby a request is received in relation to a 'dual language' sign specifically related to a disability matter from a resident this will be considered under 'Reasonable adjustment'
Dependants	No - the policy will apply regardless of the Section 75 dimension

18. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion and/or racial group? Minor

18a. Please describe the details of the policy impact on good relations

The majority of the policy will have no impact on good relations however in relation to the Dual Language aspect - The policy states: Where two thirds or more of the occupiers appearing on the Electoral Register have indicated that they are in favour of the erection of a second language street sign, then such a sign will be erected. People not returning a reply will be deemed not to be in favour of the application This will give everyone who lives on the street a chance to voice their opinions.

19. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion and/or racial group? Yes

19a. Please provide your reasons below

The policy allows for all languages to be considered, this promotes a more inclusive Borough, demonstrating a strong commitment to the importance of good relations to a prosperous society.

Disability Discrimination Order (NI) 2006

20. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would promote positive attitudes towards people with a disability? No

21. Is there evidence to suggest that this policy would encourage the participation of people with a disability in public life?

No

Additional Considerations

22. Are there any potential impacts of the policy / decision (positive or negative) on people with multiple identities? No

Monitoring Arrangements

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

The release of the 2021 Census data in relation to Religious belief and political opinion as a breakdown of each Town/Village in the Borough.

Comments and complaints in relation to the implementation of the policy.
Continuously assessing the impact of the policy in each street

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

Screened Out - Mitigating Actions (minor impacts)

25a. Mitigating Actions

The Policy should ensure signage will have a distinct differentiation between the sign background color and sign text and ensure the English text is succinct.

Whereby a request is received in relation to a 'dual language' sign specifically related to a disability matter from a resident this will be considered under 'Reasonable adjustment'

26. Monitoring Recommendations

Ensuring this has no impact on emergency services.

Please upload any supporting documents for review



280 Draft AND Street naming...doc

Email:

Enquiries@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

Screening Panel Comments

The panel felt that this may result in more EQIA and Screening requirements. The Policy should mention the possibility of recent language changes (current sitting with the Executive).

Appendix - Religious Belief

Religious belief (Internal)

* Small numbers removed as individuals could be identifiable

	Catholic	Protestant & other Christian	Other religions	Total
Males F/T	33	388	34	425
	8%	84%	8%	100%
Males P/T	*	*	*	8
	25%	63%	13%	100%
Females F/T	58	223	6	287
	20%	78%	2%	100%
Females P/T	12	20	5	35
	32%	54%	14%	100%
Total	105	606	46	757
	14%	80%	6%	100%

Religious belief (External)

The Northern Ireland Census 2011 (NISRA) statistics for the Borough area showed that 75% are or have been brought up in Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religions. While this varied across the borough from 17% in Portaferry ward to 87% in Carrowdore ward this does not have any relation to this policy. These compared to 48% for Northern Ireland as a whole.

LGD	All usual residents	Catholic	Protestant & other Christian	Other religions	None
Northern Ireland	1,810,863	817,385	875,717	16,592	101,169
		-45.14%	-48.36%	-0.92%	-5.59%
Ards and North Down	156,672	20,550	117,589	1,729	16,804
		13%	75%	1%	11%

Appendix - Political Opinion

Political opinion (External)

Electoral Office data from recent Local Government elections detail the political representation on Ards and North Down Council, The Stormont Executive for this electoral area and Westminster election. This data is an approximate measure of political opinion of the voting electorate within the Borough. Turnout to vote in North Down and Strangford constituencies tend to be lower than the rest of NI suggesting less strong political opinions. Of those who do turn out, the results show preferences for voting Unionist parties.

Political Party	Seats Held
Alliance	10
DUP	14
Green	3
Independants	3
SDLP	1
Sinn Féin	0
TUV	1
UUP	8

Appendix - Racial Group

Racial group (Internal)

* Small numbers removed as individuals could be identifiable

Racial Group	Total	Percentage
White	682	78.66%
Black	*	*
Chinese	*	*
Other	*	*
Did not want to answer	*	*
Left Black	176	20.30%

Racial group (External)

NISRA, NINIS and Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership data provide up to date data. The 2011 census showed that 32,000 (1.8%) of the usually resident population in Northern Ireland is from a minority ethnic background. Within the borough, the 2011 Census showed that 1.5% (2,300) were from a minority ethnic background. Across the borough this ranged from 5.2% in Loughview ward to 0.3% in Lisbane ward.

Total Usual Residents	156,672
White	154,365
Chinese	406
Irish Traveller	0
Indian	283
Pakistani	0
Bangladeshi	177
Other Asian	415
Black Caribbean	0
Black African	139
Black Other	132
Mixed	556
Other	199

Appendix - Age

Age (Internal)

Age Profile	Female	Female %	Male	Male %
16 to 29	20	6%	26	65%
30 to 39	75	23%	83	19%
40 to 49	105	33%	121	27%
50 to 59	80	25%	176	39%
65+	42	13%	41	9%
Total	322	100%	447	100%

Age (External)

NISRA have published population projections for the Borough which show that the proportion of those aged 85 and over are expected to more than double within the next 25 years. ANDBC has the highest % population of older people in Northern Ireland.

Age Profile	Northern Ireland	Ards and North Down
0 to 15	385,200	29,801
16 to 39	583,116	43,239
40 to 64	591,481	54,094
65+	291,824	31,663

Total	1,851,621	158,797
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Appendix - Marital Status

Marital Status (Internal)

* Small numbers removed as individuals could be identifiable

Marital Status	Total	Percentage
Single	180	20.76%
Married	405	46.71%
Divorced	35	4.04%
Co Habiting	14	1.61%
Separated	25	2.88%
Civil Partnership	*	*
Left Blank	207	23.88%

Marital Status (External)

The 2011 Northern Ireland Census showed that 48% of adults (those aged over 16 years of age) in Northern Ireland were either married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership. Within the borough, 54% of adults fell into this category. This varies across the borough from 36% in Central (Ards) ward to 64% in Lisbane ward. See

Marital Status	Northern Ireland	Ards and North Down
All usual residents: Aged 16+ years	1,431,540	126,945
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	517,393	36,730
	36.14%	29%
Married: Aged 16+ years	680,831	67,866
	47.56%	53%
In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	1243	123
	0.09%	0.09%
Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	56,911	4,328
	3.98%	3%
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved:	78,074	8,548
	5.45%	7%
Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	97,088	9,350
	6.78%	7%

Appendix - Sexual Orientation

Sexual Orientation

It should be noted that no reliable data is available on sexual orientation-NISRA are currently examining methodology on how to measure this. However, the 2011 census indicates that less than 1% of the Northern Ireland adult population (those aged 16 years and over) were in a registered same-sex civil partnership. This was similar to the borough as a whole. The Continuous Household Survey in Northern Ireland estimated this figure between 0.9% and 1.9% in 2015-2016. The Office for National Statistics estimates a similar range for the United Kingdom (1.7%).

Appendix - Men and Women Generally

Men and women generally (Internal)

Male	Female	Total
511	356	867
58.94%	41.06%	100%

Men and women generally (External)

According to census (NISRA) almost half of the population of Northern Ireland were male (49%) and this was similar throughout Ards and North Down Borough Council (48%).

LGD	Male	Female	Total
Northern Ireland	887,323	923,540	1,810,863
Ards and North Down	75,920	80,752	156,672

Appendix - Disability

Disability (External)

The 2011 Census (NISRA) showed that 20% of the population in Ards and North Down area had a health issue or disability (including those related to old age) which has lasted or expected to last at least 12 months. (This was similar to the Northern Ireland figure of 21%.)

LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problems or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Long-term health problems or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little	Long-term health problems or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited
Northern Ireland	1,810,863	215,232	159,414	1,436,217
Ards and North Down	156,672	16,696	14,808	187,141

Appendix - Dependants

Dependants (External)

In considering this dimension the following have been included: persons with responsibility for the care of a child, children, a person with a disability and or an older person. According to the Continuous Household Survey, 2013-2016, 37% of Ards and North Down claimed to have a dependent (This did not differentiate on the type of dependent).

According to the 2011 Census, 7,474 households in Ards and North Down had a dependent child under the age of 4 (This might give an indication on the numbers who would have buggies or prams).

	All households	Dependent children in household: All ages	Dependent children in household: Aged 0-4 years
Northern Ireland	703,275	238,904	96,030
Ards and North Down	156,672	19,520	7,474