

Local Development Plan 2030

PLAN STRATEGY

Equality (Sec 75) Screening and
Rural Needs Impact Assessment
Report: July 2025



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council has now adopted its Local Development Plan 2030 – Plan Strategy. This adoption takes the form of the publication of the Plan Strategy itself and a number of supporting assessments required under legislation and which are now published in their final form.
- 1.2 One such assessment relates to Equality (Sec 75) and Rural Needs matters. This document has therefore been prepared by the Council to bring together those previously published assessments that have contributed to the overall Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment of the Plan Strategy. This is comprised the following documents, which are to be read together:
 - Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (June 2019); and
 - Addendum to Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025).
- 1.3 The Council has a statutory duty to have due regard to the need to promote both equality of opportunity and the needs of people in rural areas under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and the Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 respectively. Consequently, in bringing forward the LDP, the Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of Section 75 groups and those in rural areas are considered. Throughout the process the Council has combined both assessments into one document due to the common steps that have been undertaken to engage with both Section 75 groups and the rural community.
- 1.4 An 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report' was published alongside the Draft Plan Strategy (DPS) in 2019. At that stage it was concluded that no adverse impacts were identified in relation to Section 75 groups as a consequence of the provisions of the DPS and therefore a full Equality Impact Assessment was not required. As Rural Needs cannot be screened in or out, a full assessment must be undertaken. In the 2019 Report the view of the Council was that it had undertaken the required Rural Needs Impact Assessment and had taken the identified needs of rural people into consideration in the preparation of the DPS.
- 1.5 Following the Independent Examination of the DPS, it was then subject to 93 modifications, as directed by the Department for Infrastructure in September 2024, to allow for its adoption. The Council carried out an assessment of the impact of these directed modifications in relation to Equality and Rural Needs matters and published an 'Addendum to Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025)'. It concluded that the directed modifications did not alter outcomes of the original 2019 report in relation to Equality and Rural Needs matters.

- 1.6 The Addendum (along with the Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal Report April 2025 and Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment April 2025) was then subjected to a period of public consultation, for a two week period between 1 April and 15 April 2025. Notification of the consultation and information on how to respond was advertised in local papers, as well as on the Council website and by direct notification letter to interested parties, including 'Section 75' and 'Rural Needs' groups.
- 1.7 A total of eleven consultation responses were received to the three reports, the majority of these from statutory consultees and neighbouring councils. One comment was received specifically in relation to the Addendum to Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025), however it primarily focussed on the appropriateness of policy DM 18.4 within the DPS and the associated directed modification 46. It however acknowledged that the consideration of the policy within the Addendum to Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025) would not change as a consequence of the modification, due to the focus on higher level strategic objectives in the original 2019 Report. The Council is therefore content that the Addendum Report does not need to be revised as a result of the comments.
- 1.8 Annex A of this document comprises the Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (June 2019).
- 1.9 Annex B of this document comprises the Addendum to Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025).
- 1.10 Annex C of this document comprises the approval and authorisation of Equality (Sec 75) Screening Report July 2025.
- 1.11 Annex D of this document comprises the documenting and recording of the overall Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report July 2025.

Annex A Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (June 2019)

Local Development Plan | 2030

Draft Plan Strategy

Equality (Section 75) Screening and
Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report

June 2019

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Have your say

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is consulting on the Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy 2030.

Pre-Consultation on the draft Plan Strategy

To allow everyone time to read and understand the draft Plan Strategy and all its associated documents, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is publishing all documentation in advance of the formal 8 week period of public consultation. This period of pre-consultation will run from Friday 28 June 2019 to Thursday 25 July 2019.

Please note that no representations should be made during this period.

Formal Consultation on the draft Plan Strategy

The draft Plan Strategy is published for formal public consultation for a period of 8 weeks beginning on **Friday 26 July and closing at 5 pm on Friday 20 September 2019.**

The draft Plan Strategy is published alongside a range of assessments which are also open for public consultation between Friday 26 July 2019 and Friday 20 September 2019 including a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment), a draft Habitats Regulations Assessment and a Section 75 Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report.

Please note that representations received after the closing date on Friday 20 September 2019 will not be considered.

How to respond

The purpose of the consultation is to determine if the draft Plan Strategy is 'sound'. There are 12 tests of soundness and further information on these tests is available in the Department for Infrastructure's published Development Plan Practice Note 6 'Soundness'. We strongly recommend that you read this and other Departmental guidance if you intend to make a representation to the draft Plan Strategy. It is also recommended that you read the Planning Appeal Commission's published guidance entitled 'Procedures for Independent Examination of Local Development Plans' as this also gives information in relation to soundness and representations. Representations, should be made in writing and we would encourage you to use the methods set out below:

Online

- Via our online consultation hub at:
www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/draftplanstrategy
- Downloading a copy of the response form from our website and forwarding it to the Forward Planning Team; or
- Requesting a copy of our response form to be posted to you or you may collect a hard copy from Antrim Civic Centre or Mossley Mill and return it to the Forward Planning Team.

By Mail

- email us at planning@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk
- in writing to the following postal address:

Forward Planning Team
Mossley Mill,
Carnmoney Road North,
Newtownabbey BT36 5QA

Come and Meet us

We are also holding a series of drop-in events and public meetings where you will be able to speak to a member of the Forward Planning Team about our draft Plan Strategy. Full details are available on our website or by contacting the Team. Planning Officers are also available between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday at Mossley Mill. They are also available at Antrim Civic Centre by contacting us in advance to arrange an appointment.

Keeping the Community Involved

The Council wishes to encourage the ongoing involvement of the local community in the plan process. You can sign up to receive our Local Development Plan emails to keep up to date on the progress of the Plan and upcoming events.

If you would like to receive our Local Development Plan emails, please contact the Forward Planning Team.

General Data Protection Regulation

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) by producing a specific Local Development Plan Privacy Notice, which lets you know how we manage any personal information we receive from you. It contains the standards you can expect when we ask for, or hold, your personal information and an explanation of our information management security policy. A copy of our Local Development Plan Privacy Notice is available on our website. All representations received will be published on our website and made available at Mossley Mill and Antrim Civic Centre for inspection at the addresses above. All representations will be forwarded to the Department of Infrastructure in advance of Independent Examination.

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Executive Summary

- This document sets out the Section 75 Screening Assessment and the Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's Local Development Plan 2030 draft Plan Strategy.
- The Council has combined both assessments into one document due to the common steps that have been undertaken to engage with both Section 75 groups and the rural community.
- Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires all public authorities, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, sex, race/ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status and dependency, and to have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial grouping.
- The Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 requires districts councils and other public authorities to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans and when designing and delivering public services.
- At this stage of the development of the Plan, no adverse impacts have been identified in relation to Section 75 groups, and in certain circumstances it is anticipated that there will be positive impacts on Section 75 groups in relation to housing, transport and the environment, as well as access to services and facilities for a number of categories including age, religious belief, political opinion, race, disability and dependants. Therefore at this time, a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the draft Plan Strategy. This screening will be kept under review and further screening and assessment will be undertaken at the next stage of the Local Development Plan known as the Local Policies Plan.
- A Rural Needs Impact Assessment cannot be screened in or out. This document highlights how the rural needs of our Borough were identified and considered in the development of our LDP.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the Section 75 Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) of the draft Plan Strategy stage of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Development Plan (LDP). The draft Plan Strategy is the first stage of the new two stage plan process introduced by the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.
- 1.2 This document will be subject to a period of non-statutory public consultation (as this is considered good practice by the Council) and should be read in tandem with the draft Plan Strategy (which is also subject to public consultation), the range of other assessments undertaken in the plan preparation and the published evidence base which informed the Strategy.
- 1.3 This document has been prepared in the context of the requirements of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 which places a duty on public authorities in carrying out their functions to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity (a) between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation; (b) between man and women generally (c) between persons with a disability and persons without: and (d) between persons with dependants and persons without.
- 1.4 Section 75 also requires public authorities to have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.
- 1.5 This document is also prepared in the context of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016¹ which requires public authorities to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and when designing and delivering public services.
- 1.6 This document has also been prepared mindful of the Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006 which introduced new duties requiring all public authorities in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and encourage participation by disabled people in public life.
- 1.7 Antrim and Newtownabbey Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of Section 75 groups and the rural needs of our Borough are considered, and will

¹ The Act came into operation for district councils on the 1 June 2017

keep this document under review. A further Section 75 screening and RNIA of the Local Development Plan will also take place at the next stage of the process known as the Local Policies Plan.

- 1.8 This document has taken account of published guidance in relation to Section 75 as published by the Equality Commission Northern Ireland² and published guidance in relation to the Rural Needs Act published by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)³.
- 1.9 For the purposes of the assessment, Section 75 groups are those as listed in the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Rural Needs groups are those identified using DAERA's guidance as populations under 5,000. For the purposes of this assessment, Rural Needs therefore applies to all villages, hamlets and countryside in the Borough⁴.
- 1.10 The Council has combined both assessments into one document for ease of reference and also due to the common steps that have been undertaken to engage with both Section 75 groups and Rural Needs Groups in the preparation of the LDP. In addition, Section 75 and Rural Needs considerations can overlap. For example, those classed as 'rural' under this assessment can indirectly include identities attached to Section 75 groups such as age, dependency and disability. The impact of the draft Plan Strategy on Section 75 Groups and Rural Needs groups is clarified in **Table 2** of this document.
- 1.11 Finally the plan has also been prepared in the context of a robust evidence base which has informed key decisions to date. It has also been prepared in the context of the Regional Development Strategy 2035 and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement 2015, as well as key documents produced by the Council including our Community Plan Love Living Here 2017 and has involved wide spread engagement with statutory consultees including our neighbouring Councils. It has also been informed by the responses received to our Preferred Options Paper (POP) published in 2017.

² <https://www.equalityni.org/S75duties>

³ <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guide-rural-needs-act-northern-ireland-2016-public-authorities-revised>

⁴ For the purposes of this assessment countryside is defined as people living outside of settlement limits identified in the legacy plans that apply to the Borough.

2 Engagement with Section 75 and Rural Needs Groups

- 2.1 The Council is committed to engaging with Section 75 and Rural Needs groups throughout the plan-making process and to ensure that the impact of the Plan on Section 75 and Rural Needs groups is a key consideration.
- 2.2 Extensive consultation and engagement has been undertaken in the lead up to the publication of the current stage of the Plan, the draft Plan Strategy and this section gives an overview of the steps taken by the Council in order to engage in the preparation of our LDP.
- 2.3 As already stated the LDP takes account of a range of information, guidance and evidence to inform the content of the Plan, as well as statutory and public engagement. Further clarification on some of these key matters is also set out below.
- 2.4 It is important to note that the LDP is required to take account of the Regional Development Strategy 2035 which sets out the needs for all of Northern Ireland in terms of growth. The strategy aims to have regard to the economic ambitions and needs of the Region and put in place spatial planning, transport and housing priorities that will support and enable the aspirations of the Region to be met. The RDS aims to deliver the spatial aspects of the Programme for Government. In doing so it recognises the important role of Belfast in generating regional prosperity and that Londonderry is the focus for economic growth in the North West. To ensure all areas benefit from economic growth, the RDS reflects the Programme for Government approach of balanced sub-regional growth and recognises the importance of key settlements as centres for growth and prosperity. It also complements the Sustainable Development Strategy and informs the spatial aspects of the strategies of all Government Departments. The RDS has a statutory basis and is material to decisions on individual planning applications and appeals. Local Councils must take account of the RDS when drawing up their Development Plans.
- 2.5 At the heart of the RDS is the need to further promote sustainable development. The RDS has also published Housing Growth Indicators which provide an estimate of future housing need in Northern Ireland. The indicators are used as a guide to designate housing land as part of the local development planning process.

- 2.6 The RDS in its preparation has been subject to public consultation as well as Section 75 screening. An Integrated Impact Assessment was also undertaken for the RDS. This exercise was carried out as part of the 10 year review of the RDS 2025 and serves as the rural proofing for the RDS 2035.
- 2.7 The SPPS involved a period of extensive engagement with key planning stakeholders and sets out the Department's regional planning policies for securing the orderly and consistent development of land in Northern Ireland under the reformed two-tier planning system. The provisions of the SPPS must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans, and are also material to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals. The SPPS was subject to Section 75 Screening.
- 2.8 Both the RDS and SPPS have involved engagement which has considered the social, economic and environmental needs of Northern Ireland and have set out the direction of travel in terms of a number of key planning areas, such as housing and employment, which impact on everyone. Therefore it is important to recognise that the local level of plan preparation has been informed by guidance at the strategic level which has considered the economic, social and environmental needs of society.
- 2.9 The following paragraphs of this section set out, at the local level, the steps the Council has undertaken to engage with our communities in the preparation of the LDP.

Pre-Preferred Options Paper consultation

- 2.10 Although not a statutory requirement the Council undertook an extensive round of engagement prior to the publication of our Preferred Options Paper. The Council took the view that early engagement with communities throughout the development of the Plan was very important and therefore sought to proactively engage and provide opportunities for needs to be identified as well as highlighting the new Plan process and how to get involved.
- 2.11 In 2016 the Council launched a document entitled "Towards Preferred Options" to coincide with the start of the plan making process. This document explained the new system, was widely circulated and advised communities that the Council wanted to hear their views on the key priorities that needed to be addressed in the LDP.

- 2.12 This document was also published alongside the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and LDP Timetable regarding publication.
- 2.13 The Statement of Community Involvement sets out the Council's engagement strategy in relation to the planning process. It was published in draft for a period of public consultation before being formally published to establish if any further engagement was required by the Council. A total of 10 responses were received relating to the draft SCI but only one response in relation to the LDP process made specific reference to a Section 75 issue; this highlighted the need to provide greater clarity on the identification of Section 75 groups within the Borough. The Council currently has its own Section 75 database which is updated and reviewed on a regular basis.
- 2.14 In addition, during 2016 the Council also held a series of workshops facilitated by Planning Landscape Architecture Community Environment Ltd (Place) in each of the Borough's District Electoral Areas. A public questionnaire was also launched to ascertain what were the key planning issues were to be addressed in the Borough. Feedback identified issues such as housing, transport and employment but in the main did not identify significant Section 75 concerns other than the need for positive action measures relating to age and disability (see below).
- 2.15 A summary of the needs identified during this process is set out in the following paragraphs.
- *Vibrant Town and Villages* including local shops for local people, vibrant and integrated towns, more leisure activities, incentives for businesses, protected character, living towns, creative regeneration and use of derelict space.
 - *Meeting the Needs of Communities* including the needs of a growing elderly population, including the provision of retirement villages, more local facilities for young people and addressing social isolation.
 - *Improved Connectivity* including greenways, walking and cycling opportunities and an improved integrated transport network and improved transport links to Belfast International Airport.
 - *Quality Living Accommodation* including the creation of places where people want to live, development located within existing urban areas and well-designed housing including more affordable social housing.

- *Sustained Employment* with high-quality jobs.
- *Improved Supporting Services* such as health facilities, local police stations, recreation hubs, community-based resource centres, schools etc.
- *Strong leisure and tourism facilities* including the development and promotion of leisure assets, enhancement of the historical assets of the borough and promotion of Lough Neagh.
- *Better Use of Green and Open Spaces* including integrated open space in developments
- *Established Joined Up Thinking and Community Engagement* by addressing community divisions, more joined up thinking at all levels and more community engagement.
- *Forward Thinking* such as addressing climate change and implement sustainable and affordable energy sources.

GROW South Antrim Interim Strategy

2.16 In 2015 GROW South Antrim prepared an interim strategy in association with the delivery of the Rural Development Programme. This involved extensive engagement with the rural community, a detailed socio-economic profile of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council and identified key priorities for rural people. The Strategy identified that there were 30,984 people living in rural areas out of a total population of 139,966 persons (see Table 1). Overall, the statistical breakdown of the Borough was as follows in terms of its rural population.

Table 1

Demography			
Comparisons ⁵	Rural areas of Antrim & Newtownabbey	All of Antrim & Newtownabbey	Northern Ireland
Resident population	30,984	139,966	1,840,498
% of persons under 16 years old	22.44	21.03	20.85
% of persons aged 60 and over	18.89	19.66	19.45
% of male	49.65	48.5	49.05
% of female	50.35	51.5	50.95
% of Catholic Community Background	33.04	29.45	44.41
% of Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) Community Background	59.79	60.48	47.58
% of Ethnic Minority Background	0.69	2.09	1.76
Average age of population	37	37	37
Population density (persons per hectare)	1.96	1.94	1.31
% of persons 16 and over single (never married)	22.60	25.85	28.11
Births (2014)	349	1,774	24,394
% of births to unmarried mothers (2004)	24	41.49	43.12

⁵ Datasets used: **Usually Resident Population by broad age bands and sex 2014** (NISRA Census Office), **Religion or Religion Brought Up In: KS212NI 2011** (NISRA Census Office), **Marital and Civil Partnership Status: KS103NI 2014** (NISRA Census Office), **Total Period Fertility Rates (administrative geographies) 2014** (NISRA Census Office), **Births (administrative geographies) 2014** (NISRA Census Office) and **Deaths (administrative geographies) 2014** (NISRA Census Office).

Total Period Fertility Rate (2012-2014)	-	1.90	1.98
Life expectancy males	-	78.2	77.7
Life expectancy females	-	81.9	82.1
Deaths in 2014	234	1,129	14,678
Deaths registered for persons under 75	87	399	5,321

2.17 As part of the needs assessment, the paper presented its findings across each of the target groups as identified by former Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) - namely, Children, Young People, Women, Older Citizens and Ethnic Minority Groups. The following bullet points set out a summary of the needs identified:

- *Children* – access to facilities including health/education and the issue of isolation.
- *Young People* – access to facilities including health and education; well-being; access to employment
- *Women* – access to facilities including child care, health and education; access to suitable employment; the issue of isolation and access to employment.
- *Adults and Older Citizens* – the issue of isolation, lack of services eg post office, police station and local shops; lack of outreach care services and transport issues.
- *Ethnic and Minority Groups* – isolation, access to services due to communication skills and perceived racism.

2.18 In summary, the common themes are access to facilities and services, transport, isolation, employment, the decline in local centres and perceived racism.

Village and Hamlet Plans

2.19 A number of village and hamlet plans were prepared in the period 2010 to 2016/2017. These were prepared under the Rural Development Programme and they set out the aspirations of people living in the rural area as well as Section 75 groups living in these locations. The key findings were mainly to seek

better places to live in and make improvements to the area including upgrading derelict buildings and lands, upgrading existing facilities such as community facilities and providing new infrastructure such as bus shelters, outdoor gym equipment etc.

Community Plan Love Living Here 2017

- 2.20 There is a statutory duty on the Council to take account of its published Community Plan. The Council's Community Plan was prepared in tandem to the Council's Preferred Options Paper (POP) and was published for consultation on the 18th January 2017 for a period of 12 weeks ending on 12th April 2017, before being published in its final form in June 2017. The LDP supports and seeks to spatially represent our Community Plan and our vision and objectives have been aligned in our draft Plan Strategy.
- 2.21 The Community Plan was prepared in the context of widespread engagement with citizens from communities across the Borough and was informed by an extensive analysis of their social, economic and environmental needs.
- 2.22 As such the engagement in the preparation of the Community Plan, the findings of the public consultation and the outcomes as published provide a further local source of data regarding Section 75 groups, helping to identify the main issues impacting upon them.
- 2.23 Planning officers also attended events associated with the Council's emerging Community Plan and continue to engage with the Community Plan Team as the Plan continues to be delivered.
- 2.24 The Community Plan sets out a shared vision for 2030 – *'Antrim and Newtownabbey is a resilient, socially responsible community where citizens enjoy a high quality of life'*.
- 2.25 The Community Plan identifies four key outcomes and one widely important goal as set out below:-
- **Outcome 1:** *Our citizens enjoy good health and wellbeing*
 - **Outcome 2:** *Our citizens achieve their full potential*
 - **Outcome 3:** *Our citizens benefit from economic prosperity*
 - **Outcome 4:** *Our citizens live in connected, safe, clean and vibrant places*
 - **Wildly Important Goal:** *Our vulnerable people are supported*
- 2.26 These objectives of the LDP have been aligned with the Community Plan's outcomes and goals.

Preferred Options Paper 2017

- 2.27 The Council published its POP in 2017. The POP set out a number of options for the strategic planning issues in the Borough such as housing, employment and retail and asked a number of questions regarding planning policy and planning issues including development in the countryside.
- 2.28 The POP took account of the RDS 2035 and the SPPS. It also concluded that the majority of planning policy set out in Departmental Planning Policy Statements were broadly acceptable and their broad thrust and direction would be taken forward in the LDP. This included planning policy in relation to the rural area.
- 2.29 The POP was informed by a wide evidence base that considered the social, environmental and economic needs of the Borough. These papers and the POP were informed by direct engagement with key stakeholders and Elected Members along with desk research. These documents are available on our website at: www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk, by telephoning 028 9034 0000 or emailing planning@antirmandewtownabbey.gov.uk.
- 2.30 Key stakeholders play an important role in informing the Council at the strategic level of planning those issues that are connected to the LDP, such as housing need (as identified by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive). In addition, our Elected Members represent all parts of the Borough and hence are conversant with the social and economic needs of our local communities, thus providing an important contribution to shaping our LDP.
- 2.31 The POP was published for a 12 week period of consultation. It was widely advertised and was supported by a number of information sessions in each of the District Electoral Areas in the Borough. It was also subject to a number of assessments including an Interim Sustainability Appraisal incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment, an Equality Screening Assessment Interim Progress Report and a Habitats Regulation Screening. These documents were also subject to public consultation. In addition to seeking comments by letter and email, an online survey tool (called Citizen Space) was used to encourage responses from all communities, including those people who were unable to attend the public engagement events held during the public consultation period.
- 2.32 As previously stated, the Council published a Section 75 screening of the Interim Progress Report for public consultation alongside the POP. Although the

Council was not obliged under Section 75 to issue this document for public consultation, in line with best practice it was published to facilitate meaningful engagement with all communities.

- 2.33 The purpose of the report was to give an early indication of any potential Section 75 issues linked to the key planning topics to come forward in the LDP and to consider if the POP options would have any implications. No adverse Section 75 issues were identified and no responses were received in response to the publication.
- 2.34 The POP was also subject to an Interim Sustainability Appraisal incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The purpose of this was to test the emerging plan against social, economic and environmental objectives so that sustainability could be built into the LDP making process. This allowed further opportunity to consider the impact of the social and economic needs of the Borough in the Plan.
- 2.35 The Council is required to publish a Preferred Options Paper Consultation Report. This provides a summary of the main issues raised following the public consultation period and how the Council took them into account.
- 2.36 The Council received a total of 149 public and stakeholder comments and these were then taken on board in formulating the draft Plan Strategy and, will be considered in the development of the Local Policies Plan. The Council published its final report, entitled "Preferred Options Paper Consultation Report 2019" alongside the draft Plan Strategy, to show how the responses were afforded due consideration in the preparation of our new Local Development Plan. This document included responses to a number of issues in relation to Section 75 groups, such as age and disability, as well as rural issues. This document is available on our website at: www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk or by telephoning 028 9034 0000 or emailing planning@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk.

Draft Plan Strategy Preparation

- 2.37 The draft Plan Strategy has been informed by regional policy and guidance, extensive engagement with Elected Members and key stakeholders including statutory consultees as listed in our revised Equality Scheme. It has also been published and informed by a number of background papers and studies. These studies have assessed need in relation to our growing and changing

population, housing, employment and retail, as well as other key planning issues including landscape and environment. These documents are available on our website at: www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk or by telephoning 028 9034 0000 or emailing planning@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk.

Section 75 and Rural Needs

- 2.38 Throughout the development of the Plan to date, the Council has notified all those listed on its Section 75 database of key events and the stages of the plan preparation, in order to allow all Section 75 groups the opportunity to fully engage in the plan-making process. The Council's Section 75 database also contains a significant number of organisations based in the rural area, therefore allowing the opportunity for any specific rural needs issues to be raised.

Summary

- 2.39 In summary, in the preparation of the LDP the Council has taken extensive steps to engage with the rural community and Section 75 groups. The Council has also prepared a robust evidence base that has identified the social, economic and environmental needs of the Borough and has taken these into account in the strategic direction of the Local Development Plan.

3 The Local Development Plan (LDP)

- 3.1 The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 Act (the 2011 Act) transferred responsibility for the preparation of LDPs from the Department of Environment (DOE) (now known as Department for Infrastructure (DfI)) to Councils and established a plan-led system which gives priority to the LDPs in the determination of planning applications.
- 3.2 The LDP is a spatial land use plan which primarily is about the management of 'place'. It will guide future development and use of land in our towns, villages and rural areas by addressing the spatial implications of social, economic and environmental change. The LDP will balance competing demands and aims to ensure that good development occurs in the right place at the right time. It is therefore a powerful tool for place-shaping.
- 3.3 The purpose of the Local Development Plan will be to inform the public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested parties of how the Borough should develop in the years ahead. The LDP will be used to determine planning applications. A good plan will lead to decisions that are consistent and people will know what to expect in terms of change, and the locations where development will be encouraged.
- 3.4 The new LDP will apply to the entire Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council area which covers 728 square kilometres stretching from the shores of Lough Neagh in the west to the shores of Belfast Lough in the east, as shown in Figure 1. This is an area with an attractive and varied landscape centred on the South Antrim hills and the Six Mile Water valley which is also endowed with a rich historic and archaeological heritage.
- 3.5 The 2011 Act introduced a new two-stage process in the preparation of the Local Development Plan. It will comprise of two documents, a Plan Strategy and a Local Policies Plan, which will be prepared in sequence.
 - **Plan Strategy** – this sets out our Spatial Planning Vision and Strategic Objectives for the development of the Borough. It also sets out a Spatial Growth Strategy showing where growth will be distributed across the Borough. It will contain a range of Strategic Policies to implement the LDP, as well as a number of Detailed Management Policies to facilitate and manage development. It will be subject to public consultation and an Independent Examination before it is adopted.

- **Local Policies Plan** – this will be brought forward after the Plan Strategy. It will include site-specific proposals and local policy designations required to deliver the Spatial Vision, Strategic Objectives and Spatial Growth Strategy. It will also set out development limits for all our settlements. It will also be subject to public consultation and an Independent Examination before it is adopted.
- 3.6 In addition to these key documents, the Council will bring forward a range of supplementary guidance to implement and support the LDP as well as advice notes and information to assist applicants in the planning process.
- 3.7 Both the Plan Strategy and the Local Policies Plan will be subject to public consultation. Each stage of the plan requires the Council to submit its development plan document to the DfI for Independent Examination and the Department may appoint the Planning Appeals Commission to conduct the Examination. Anyone who makes representations seeking to change a development plan document is entitled, on request, to be given an opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Commission or other appointed body.
- 3.8 The purpose of the Independent Examination is to determine whether the Council has prepared the LPD in accordance with the requirements of the legislation and to decide whether the Plan is sound⁶. The Commission reports to the Department with recommendations. The Department must consider the Commission's report and recommendations before directing the Council to adopt, modify or withdraw the development plan document.
- 3.9 The Plan will be tested during Independent Examination on legal compliance and soundness. Further information on this is set out in the Department for Infrastructure Development Plan Practice Note 6 Soundness. Information is also set out in the Council's published Timetable and Statement of Community Involvement which can be accessed at:
www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk or upon request by telephoning 028 9043 0000 or emailing planning@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk.

⁶ Further information on soundness is available on DfI's website www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

4 Draft Plan Strategy

- 4.1 Currently, the LDP is at the Plan Strategy Stage. A summary of the key sections of the draft Plan Strategy is outlined below.

Vision

- 4.2 Our new Local Development Plan requires a clear vision as to what Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough should look like in 2030. Based on our engagement with the public, stakeholders and our Elected Members, and taking into account the objectives of our Corporate Plan, our Community Plan and the key priorities for our Borough, it is proposed that our Strategic Plan Vision is as follows:

In 2030 Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will have a reputation as an excellent, attractive and diverse place in which to live and work. It will be a place that all citizens can take pride in and that is appealing to new residents, investors and visitors alike, with improved job opportunities, housing availability and connectivity that meets the needs of its community. Development will be sustainable and of high quality and will address the ongoing challenges of climate change. Our built and natural environment will continue to be high quality and well looked after and will support prosperity and economic development and provide for a wide range of recreational and leisure activities.

In summary Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough will be:

- ***A Place of Economic Opportunity;***
 - ***A Vibrant and Liveable Place;***
 - ***A Place with a Sustainable Future.***
- 4.3 The Vision is also a positive statement as to what the Council would like the Council Area to be by 2030, i.e. is to increase the quality of life and to develop the well-being of everyone who resides there.

Strategic Objectives

- 4.4 To help support the delivery of the Borough's vision by 2030, a series of strategic objectives have been identified in the draft Plan Strategy. These strategic objectives are designed to take full account of the regional direction set out in the Regional Development Strategy (RDS), the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) and other government strategies such as the Sustainable Development Strategy. They are also designed to take full account of any

local direction set out in the Council's Community Plan and other local government strategies. The Plan contains one overarching strategic objective (SO1 1) along with a number of other strategic objectives grouped under the following sustainable development themes; A Place of Economic Opportunity; A Liveable and Vibrant Place; and A Place with a Sustainable Future.

Strategic Objective 1 (SO1):

- Promote sustainable growth by managing development and securing new infrastructure provision in our settlements and countryside to meet the needs of all our citizens.

A Place of Economic Opportunity

Strategic Objective 2 (SO2):

- Establish Antrim and Newtownabbey as a premier business location where both existing and new, innovative, cultural and creative enterprise can prosper.

Strategic Objective 3 (SO3):

- Provide a range and quality of land and premises to facilitate business growth, promote economic diversification and protect our strategically important employment locations.

Strategic Objective 4 (SO4):

- Promote development and regeneration of our town centres and commercial areas.

Strategic Objective 5 (SO5):

- Support the development of sustainable tourism and enhanced tourism infrastructure.

Strategic Objective 6 (SO 6)

- Improve accessibility, connectivity and ease of movement to, from and within our Borough and promote sustainable travel choices.

A Liveable and Vibrant Place

Strategic Objective 7 (SO 7):

- Promote positive placemaking and ensure that high quality new development respects, enhances and integrates with our historic environment and natural heritage.

Strategic Objective 8 (SO 8):

- Ensure a sufficient supply of land for new homes, provide for a diverse choice of housing and strengthen community cohesion.

Strategic Objective 9 (SO 9):

- Accommodate and promote well-designed and accessible community, education and health facilities.

Strategic Objective 10 (SO 10):

- Promote the protection and accessibility of our open spaces.

A Place with a Sustainable FutureStrategic Objective 11 (SO 11):

- Promote biodiversity and conserve the natural assets of our countryside, coast and loughs.

Strategic Objective 12 (SO 12):

- Ensure the responsible use of land and natural resources and promote sustainable energy production to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Strategic Objective 13 (SO 13):

- Tackle flood risk by making space for water and promote sustainable drainage systems.

Strategic Objective 14 (SO 14):

- Ensure the responsible management of waste and support measures to increase recycling.

Strategic Policies and Detailed Management Policies

- 4.5 To help support the delivery of the Borough's strategic objectives the Council has developed a series of Strategic Policies which set out the higher level strategic approach to a number of planning topics. These Strategic Policies are supported by a range of Detailed Management Policies which will manage and guide development up to the year 2030. A summary of each to the Strategic Policies and the Detailed Management Policies is set out below in

Table 2 of this document and these have formed the basis of the screening of the draft Plan Strategy.

Monitoring

- 4.6 The draft Plan Strategy also sets out how the plan will be monitored to ensure it is delivering its strategic vision.

5 Section 75 Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment

- 5.1 In line with our statutory obligations related to Section 75 and Rural Needs, the Council is carrying out screening of all its policies linked to the draft Plan Strategy for the LDP 2030. The policies of the Plan Strategy consist of two types: (i) Strategic Policies, which set out the strategic approach for the planning topic area; and (ii) Detailed Management Policies, which support the Strategic Policies and which guide and manage development at the local level.
- 5.2 For ease of reference and presentation purposes, the draft Plan Strategy Strategic and Detailed Management Policies have been set out in **Table 2**, including a summary assessment as to whether the policy in question may have a potential impact on Section 75 groups and Rural Needs groups. Strategic Policies and Detailed Management Policies have been grouped along with their overarching purpose.
- 5.3 Full details of the policies are available in the published draft Plan Strategy document.
- 5.4 The Council is committed to keeping these screenings under review and will carry out further screenings at the second stage of the plan, as and when appropriate.
- 5.5 A copy of the Council's overall Section 75 Policy Screening form for the draft Plan Strategy is set out in **Annex 1** and Rural Needs Form is contained within **Annex 2** of this document. Please note, the attached Section 75 screening form is for the draft Plan Strategy as a whole. This screening has been informed by a succession of individual screening exercises relevant to each element of the plan, at both a strategic and detailed policy level. These screening forms are also available on request from the Council.

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 In conclusion, at this stage of the process and further to initial screening of Strategic and Detailed Management Policies as set out in the draft Plan Strategy, it is anticipated that the draft Plan Strategy is not likely to have an adverse impact with regards to Section 75 groups and instead is likely to have a number of positive impacts with regard to promoting equality of opportunity and good relations. Indeed, the draft Plan Strategy is likely to benefit all groups by providing a good, high quality environment in which to live and work, as well as to enjoy. This will include promoting opportunities for improved access to housing, employment, transport, facilities and services including health and education, which will contribute to the overall wellbeing of our communities across the Borough and in particular the following Section 75 grounds - age, religious belief, political opinion, race, disability and dependency.
- 6.2 It is therefore the view of the Council that, at this stage, the draft Plan Strategy does not require a full Equality Impact Assessment. The Council is committed to continuing to scrutinise all emerging policy areas under Section 75, in order to identify any potential adverse impacts.
- 6.3 Rural Needs cannot be screened in or out. A full assessment must be undertaken. It is the view of the Council that it has undertaken the required Rural Needs Impact Assessment and has taken the identified needs of rural people into consideration in the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy.
- 6.4 The Council is committed to continuing to consider rural needs in the development of emerging policy areas.

Annex 1 - Section 75 Policy Screening Form

SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING FORM

This form should be used for all new or amended policies. It has five parts.

Part 1 – Policy scoping – provide details about the policy being screened and the available evidence to help assess the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.

Part 2 – Screening questions – look at the extent of the likely impact of the policy on each of the Section 75 categories.

Part 3 – Screening decision – the information provided in the previous sections is used to decide whether there is a need to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

Part 4 – Monitoring – sets how the effects of the policy will be monitored. Table 5 details how each step in the preparation of the LDP is monitored to determine any future potential equality impacts.

Part 5 – Authorisation and approval – the completed screening form must be signed by the officer who carries out the screening and the relevant Director/Section Head. The file reference and details of the approval by Committee and ratification by Council must also be included.

PART 1 – POLICY SCOPING

Set out the background, context, aims and objectives for the policy being screened. This will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and to work through the screening process on a step-by-step basis.

NB Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the Council), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, serviced by the Council).

Policy name Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Local Development Plan 2030 - draft Plan Strategy
Is this an existing, revised or a new policy? New policy
What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes) The LDP provides a planning framework for the Borough that will guide future development and the use of land in our towns, villages and rural areas; it seeks to

address the spatial implications of the social and economic needs of the Borough whilst balancing the protection of the environment in order to deliver sustainable development (in line with regional guidance).

The first stage of the LDP, the draft Plan Strategy, sets out the Plan Vision for the Borough up to 2030 and our objectives to deliver that Vision. It is supported by Strategic Policies that set out the strategies for the approach to sustainable development including employment, tourism, retail, housing, community facilities including open space, transport and communications, environmental resources such as waste, renewables and minerals, environmental protection including flooding, natural environment and place making/design. It is supported by Detailed Management Policies that will guide and manage development in the Borough through the development management decision making process.

The second stage of the LDP, the Local Policies Plan, will contain the zonings and designations to support the delivery of the overall Plan Vision.

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how.

In general, all Section 75 groups have the potential to benefit from this policy as it is the spatial land use response to the identified needs of communities within our Borough.

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Who owns and who implements the policy?

The policy is owned by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council (ANBC) and implemented by ANBC and other decision makers, such as Planning Appeals Commission, Department of Infrastructure etc.

Implementation factors

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

If yes, are they (please tick box)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legislative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	other, please specify <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental planning decisions; • PAC decisions;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial Reviews; • Statutory consultees; • Developers; • Objectors; • Government Departments; • Government Finance; • Unauthorised Development; and • Review of Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS) by Central Government.
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Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon? (Please tick box)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	service users – all those who live in , work in, invest in, own land/property in or visit the Borough
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	other public sector organisations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	voluntary/community/trade unions
	other, please specify

Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What they are

- Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016 – 2021 (NI Executive);
- Everyone's Involved Sustainable Development Strategy (NI Executive);
- The Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- The Strategic Planning Policy Statement 2015 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA);
- Extant Planning Policy Statements, Supplementary Planning Guidance, Design Guides & Development Control Advice Notes (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland 1993 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- The Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 'Delivering Resource Efficiency 2013 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now

encompassed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA));

- Sustainable Water – A Long Term Water Strategy for NI 2015 – 2040 (Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- The Regional Transportation Strategy 2002 – 2012. A review of this Strategy led to the publication of Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future – A new approach to Regional Transportation (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Regional Strategic Transport Network Transport Plan 2015 (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Sub Regional Transport Plan 2015 (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan 2004 (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Northern Ireland Changing Gear – a Bicycle Strategy for Northern Ireland 2015 (Department for Regional Development (DRD) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Exercise – Explore – Enjoy: A Strategic Plan for Greenways 2016 (Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Considering Energy in Northern Ireland to 2050 (Department of Economy);
- Sustainable Energy Action Plan (Department of Economy);
- Newtownabbey Rural Area Planning Statement 1980 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Antrim Area Plan 1984 – 2001 (and its alterations) (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Belfast Urban Area Plan 2001 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Carrickfergus Area Plan 2001 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI))⁷;
- Draft Newtownabbey Area Plan 2005 (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (2004) (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));
- Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (version as published 2014) (Department of the Environment (DOE) now encompassed by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI));

⁷ In so far as it relates to that part of Greenisland that was transferred to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough in 2015

- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Corporate Plan 2019: Our Borough Your Vision 2019 – 2030 (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council);
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Corporate Improvement Plan 2018 – 19 (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council);
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Love Living Here Community Plan 2030 (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council);
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Tourism Strategy 2017 – 2020 (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council);
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Economic Strategy (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council);
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Leisure Strategy 2017 (Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council); and
- Neighbouring Council plans and strategies.

Available evidence - *What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.* The Plan is published alongside an extensive evidence base which is available to view on line or by request. This includes Population Paper 1 which sets out details of Section 75 groups and is summarised below.

Section 75 Category	Details of evidence/information
Religious belief	29.74% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 61.10% belong to or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion.
Political opinion	In the local government elections held in 2014, unionist parties gathered more first preference votes than nationalist parties. The total was made up of 63% Unionist, 21% Nationalist and 16% other.
Racial group	2.10% were from an ethnic minority population and the remaining 97.90% were white (including Irish Traveller).
Age	21.14% were aged under 16 years and 16.4% were aged 65+. The average median age is 37 years.
Marital status	33.1% were single and 54.71% were married or in a same sex civil partnership and 6.63% were widowed or surviving partner of a same sex civil partnership. 5.55% were separated/divorced or formerly in a same sex civil partnership now dissolved.
Sexual orientation	There is limited local data for this category. In 2015/16, the Continuous Household Survey undertaken by NISRA (Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency) found that 97.9% of adult respondents identified themselves as heterosexual/straight; with the remaining adults identifying as gay/lesbian, bisexual, don't know or not providing an answer.
Men and women generally	48.61% of the resident population were male and 51.39% were female.
Disability	19.04% of the resident population had a long term health problem or disability that limits day to day activity.
Dependants	The proportion of households with dependent children has significantly decreased since 1981 dropping from 50.8% of households in 1981 to 34.7% in 2011 (Census 1981, 2011). This decline in the number of households with dependent children is reflected in the decline in the size of the average household

	with 1 or 2 person households accounting for 59% of households.
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Needs, experiences and priorities - What are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Political opinion	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Racial group	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Age	It is expected that there will be a significant rise in the number of people aged over 65 and over 85. This will have implications for housing, care and related services. Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Marital status	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect.

	Improved health and well-being.
Sexual orientation	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Men and women generally	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Disability	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.
Dependants	Access to housing, transport, employment, services, leisure, retail and facilities. Quality places to live and places to connect. Improved health and well-being. Shared and safe spaces.

PART 2 - SCREENING QUESTIONS

Taking into account the evidence from Part 1, consider and comment on the likely impact of the policy on equality of opportunity and good relations for each of the equality and good relations categories. Use the screening questions given below and indicate the level of impact on each category, i.e. minor, major or none.

Consideration of level of impact

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts 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;

- c) 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 marginalized or disadvantaged;
- d) 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;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) 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;
- c) 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;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations;
- b) 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.

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? minor/major/none		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious Belief	<p>See Table 2</p> <p>Where a policy has spatial implications by virtue of where people live, there may be potential for an indirect differential impact on grounds of religious belief/political opinion. However, due to</p>	None

	the widespread location of these designations and the limited land mass impacted upon, it is considered there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious groups.	
Political opinion	See Table 2 Where a policy has spatial implications by virtue of where people live, there may be potential for an indirect differential impact on grounds of religious belief/political opinion. However, due to the widespread location of these designations and the limited land mass impacted upon, it is considered there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular political groups.	None
Racial Group	See Table 2	Minor positive
Age	See Table 2	Minor positive
Marital Status	See Table 2	Minor positive
Sexual orientation	See Table 2	Minor positive
Men and women generally	See Table 2	Minor positive
Disability	See Table 2	Minor positive
Dependants	See Table 2	Minor positive

2. 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 reasons
Religious Belief	Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres; - Employment opportunities; - Housing opportunities. 	

Political opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres; - Employment opportunities; - Housing opportunities 	
Racial Group	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres; - Employment opportunities; - Housing opportunities. 	
Age	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres; - Range of employment choices; - Appropriate housing options available for elderly people. 	
Marital Status		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.
Sexual orientation	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres; - Range of employment choices. 	
Men and women generally		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.
Disability	<p>Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible 'town' centres; - Range of employment choices; - Appropriate housing options available for people with a disability; - Access to open space and facilities 	

Dependants	Yes - Range of employment; Appropriate housing options.	

**3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?
Minor/Major/None**

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? minor/major/none
Religious Belief	Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres	Minor positive
Political opinion	Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres	Minor positive
Racial Group	Safe, shared spaces in 'town' centres	Minor positive

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

Section 75 category	If YES, provide details	If NO, provide reasons
Religious Belief		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.
Political Opinion		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.
Racial Group		None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

People can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?

(For example – disabled minority)

None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

None identified ahead of public consultation. Any Section 75 issues raised during consultation will be considered as part of the Local Development Plan preparation process.

Disability

Under Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA 1995) (as amended by Article 5 of the Disability Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 2006), the Council is required when carrying out its functions to have due regard to the need to:

- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and
- encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

Will the policy encourage disabled people to participate in public life or promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

Comments

It is anticipated that the Local Development Plan will improve access for all thereby enabling disabled people to participate in public life through access to facilities and spaces.

In addition, by concentrating development in areas where access to public transport links are the greatest and where there is a concentration of services, this in turn will enable disabled people to enjoy better participation.

Finally greater job creation and variety of jobs coupled with a choice of housing will prove beneficial to those with disabilities.

PART 3 - SCREENING DECISION

The responses to the screening questions in Part 2 should be considered in order to decide whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment.

If the conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then the recommendation may be to screen the

policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, details should be given of the reasons for the decision taken.

If the conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to the equality impact assessment procedure.

If the conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 equality categories and/or good relations categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an equality impact assessment, or to:

- measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
- the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

(See section on mitigation which follows.)

Is an EQIA recommended?

No

If the recommendation **is not** to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

The draft Plan Strategy is a strategic document that is underpinned by a wide array of policies which will apply across the whole of the Borough (see Table 2). These policies are based on a robust evidence base and take account of regional guidance which has itself been subject to public consultation, engagement and Section 75 screening etc. Of particular relevance is the RDS 2035, which seeks to deliver the spatial aspects of the Programme for Government. The Plan has also been prepared taking into account the Council's Community Plan and extensive early engagement and public consultation on our Preferred Options Paper. This has included engagement with statutory consultees as listed in the Council's Equality Scheme.

As such, at this time there is no evidence of likely negative or adverse impacts on any Section 75 groups. Instead, the policies overall are likely to have either a positive or neutral effect.

Where a policy has spatial implications (e.g. protection of sites of nature conservation or landscape or countryside designations) there may be potential for differential impact on grounds of religious belief/political opinion due to where these sites are located and their immediate population base. However, due to the widespread location of these designations and the limited land mass impacted upon, it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon a particular religious/political group.

Overall, in combination, the various strands that are contained within the Plan aspire to enhance the built and natural environment within the Borough to the

benefit of all residents and visitors, and there is no evidence to suggest adverse impacts attaching to these proposals at this time.

The preparation of the Local Development Plan 2030 has already been subject to an extensive period of public consultation and engagement. There will be further opportunities for public consultation in the future and any additional impacts identified will be given further consideration as part of the ongoing local development plan-making process.

If the decision **is** to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.

N/A

Further advice on equality impact assessment may be found in the Equality Commission publication "Practical Guidance on Equality Impact Assessment".

Mitigation

When the public authority concludes that the likely impact is 'minor' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, the public authority may consider mitigation to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations? **No**

If yes, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

N/A

Timetabling and prioritising of policies screened in for an EQIA

If the policy has been 'screened in' for equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine the priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

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

Priority Criterion	Rating (1 – 3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	n/a
Social need	n/a

Effect on people's daily lives	n/a
Relevance to a public authority's functions	n/a

NOTE: The total rating score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This will assist in timetabling. Details of the Council's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable should be included in the Quarterly Screening Report.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?
No

If yes, please provide details.

N/A

PART 4 – MONITORING

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the Council to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development. The key stages of the Plan for monitoring purposes are identified within Table 5 of this report.

The Equality Commission recommends that where a policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, public authorities should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (see the Commission's Monitoring Guidance for Use by Public Authorities, July 2007, Page 9 – 10, paragraphs 2.13 – 2.20).

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the Council to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development. The key stages of the draft Plan for monitoring purposes are identified within Table 5 of this report.

What data is required in future to ensure effective monitoring?

The LDP will be subject to further Section 75 screening during the preparation of the draft Local Policies Plan which will be prepared after the adoption of the draft Plan Strategy.

In addition, the draft Plan Strategy includes a Monitoring Framework and the LDP will be subject to review at least every five years. This will allow continued monitoring of the policies in the LDP and their effectiveness and potential impacts and there is an opportunity for any Section 75/Rural Needs impacts that relate to the Local Development Plan to be considered through this mechanism.

In addition, the Council undertakes a yearly monitoring report of its performance of Council Services and there is an opportunity for any Section 75/Rural Needs

impacts that relate to the Local Development Plan to be considered through this mechanism.

Finally, the Council's Community Plan is required to publish a monitoring statement highlighting progress on outcomes achieved and actions taken once every two years. Again the findings from this process provide an opportunity for any Section 75/Rural Needs impacts that relate to the Local Development Plan to be considered through this mechanism.

PART 5 - AUTHORISATION AND APPROVAL

Screened by:

Name Sharon Mossman

Job Title Principal Planning Officer

Date 26 April 2019

Signature of Director/Head of Service:

Name Majella McAllister

Job Title Director of Economic Development and Planning

Date 26 April 2019

Approving Committee ANBC Council
(Name and date):

Date of Council 29 April 2019
ratification

File ref: P/FP/LDP/001

NOTE: A copy of the completed screening form should accompany each new or amended policy being submitted for Committee/Council approval. Information on the file reference, approving Committee and the date of Council ratification should be completed and copies of each form and the related policy should be forwarded by e mail to the Equality, Diversity and Policy Section as soon as the policy has been ratified by Council. Quarterly reports will be published on policies screened and will include links to the completed screening forms on the Council website.

Annex 2 – Rural Needs Impact Assessment

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018

Section 1 – Defining the activity subject to Section 191) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

Publication of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Development 2030 (LDP) – draft Plan Strategy.

1C Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above related to.

Strategy

1D Please provide the official title if any) of the Policy, Strategy , Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1c above.

Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Development Plan 2030 draft Plan Strategy.

1E Please provide the details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

Please refer to Chapter 4 of the main report for details of the aims and objectives of the Local Development Plan.

1F What definition of “rural” is the Public Authority using in response of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

The default definition of rural used in Northern Ireland is that developed by the Interdepartmental Urban-Rural Definition Group. Initially proposed in 2005, and amended in the Review of the Statistical Classification and Delineation of Settlements (NISRA 2015). This definition classifies those settlements with populations of less than 5,000 together with the open countryside as rural. For clarity, therefore,

this assessment is based on the following areas taking into account the population figures of settlements published in the 2011 Northern Ireland Census⁸.

Villages

Ballynure; Ballyrobert; Burnside (Cogry/Kilbride); Doagh; Dunadry; Parkgate; Straid; Templepatrick; Toome.

Hamlets

Aldergrove; Ballycor; Ballycraigy; Ballyeaston; Bruslee; Caddy; Cargin; Craigarogan; Creavery; Creggan/Cranfield; Donegore, Gortgill; Groggan; Hillhead; Killead ; Kingsmoss; Loanends; Lowtown; Magherareagh; Millbank; Milltown; Moneyglass; Moneynick; Newmill; Rathmore; Roughfort; Tildarg; Tavanaghmore; The Diamond. ⁹

Countryside¹⁰

Defined as land lying outside of settlement limits identified in Local Development Plans (in line with the SPPS).

⁸ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/census/2011-census>

⁹ A number of new hamlets are proposed whose boundaries will be defined at the Local Policy Plan Stage.

¹⁰ For the purposes of this stage of LPD, the Local Development Plans are those legacy plans that apply within the Borough as set out in the draft Plan Strategy.

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018

Section 2 – Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes.

2B Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas?

The overall aim of the LDP is to further sustainable development for our Borough, and to achieve this, the draft Plan Strategy has a number of high level Strategic Policies that set the direction and approach to key planning matters and a range of Detailed Management Policies that form the basis for the management of planning decisions. **Table 2** summarises the impact of the policies on people in rural areas.

2C If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

Table 2 sets out a summary of how the policies will impact on people in rural areas compared to people in urban areas. The policies in the Plan have taken account of the policy provisions of the RDS 2035 and SPPS. These policies seek to ensure appropriate sustainable development opportunities across our Borough, including urban and rural areas. Similarly, the LDP seeks to support and sustain all our communities, both urban and rural. Whilst the policies may make distinctions between the application of policy between settlements and the countryside, ultimately the policy aim is to deliver the overarching aim of sustainable development.

Therefore it is considered that the policies do not seek to impact on urban and rural people differently, but to deliver the common aims of housing, employment, health facilities, education connectivity etc. in a sustainable way and to the benefit of everyone.

It is important to realise that the relationship between urban and rural areas is interdependent. Larger settlements often provide support for the wider rural hinterland in terms of services, facilities, entertainment and employment. Therefore it is important to understand that the needs of people in rural areas can be met both in urban and rural settings.

2D Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on.

Given the breadth of coverage of the draft Plan Strategy it is likely to impact on all of the following rural policies to varying degrees:

- Rural Businesses;
- Rural Tourism;
- 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;
- Poverty in Rural Areas;
- Deprivation in Rural Areas;
- Rural Crime or Community Safety;
- Rural Development; and
- Agri-Environment.

**Please note that a number of the above impacts may be secondary impacts of the DPS, such as transport/infrastructure, poverty, deprivation and crime.*

2E Please explain why Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

N/A

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018

Section 3 – Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on.

Yes

3B Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

- Consultation with Rural Stakeholders;
- Consultation with Other Organisations;
- Published Statistics;
- Evidence Topic Papers; and
- Other Publications.

3C Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

Please refer to Section 2 “Engagement with Section 75 and Rural Needs” in this document for further information.

3D Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

At the strategic level, the Regional Development Strategy 2035 sets out the approach to the delivery of growth across all of Northern Ireland, including the rural area. In addition, the Strategic Planning Policy Statement sets out the planning requirements for all of Northern Ireland, including rural issues, to deliver sustainable development – this includes a range of planning topics including employment and housing opportunities. The Council is required to take account of these key documents, along with other regional guidance to meet the social, economic and environmental needs of the Borough in the context of sustainable development.

The RDS seeks to sustain rural communities living in the smaller settlements and the open countryside and to improve accessibility for rural communities (SFG13 and SFG 14).

In summary, this includes:-

- **Establish the role of multi-functional town centres.**

These should be the prime locations for business, housing, administration, leisure and cultural facilities both for urban and rural communities.

- **Connect rural and urban areas.**

This is necessary to widen the economic base of town, village and countryside. Provide support and networking opportunities to encourage the formation of local alliances to exploit complementary resources and facilities.

- **Revitalise small towns and villages.**

This is particularly relevant to those towns and villages which have been static or declining and contain areas of social need. Deprivation happens in different ways in different places. An integrated approach between government departments, agencies and communities will ensure that regeneration plans reflect the specific needs of each community.

- **Facilitate the development of rural industries, businesses and enterprises in appropriate locations.**

Farming plays a major part in sustaining rural community networks, as employers, consumers and producers. Forestry and fishing also contribute to communities, in employment and commercial terms, as well as in terms of recreation opportunities. Other industries such as tourism and renewable energy can provide further jobs and opportunities in rural areas as long as they are integrated appropriately within the settlement or rural landscape.

- **Encourage sustainable and sensitive development.**

The expansion of rural tourism and development which is both sustainable and sensitive to the environment should be encouraged. This includes the ability of settlements and landscapes to absorb development.

- **Improve the overall connectivity of rural communities to services and other parts of the Region by exploring innovative ways of bringing these services to the communities.**

Using the community hall, local school or church hall for visiting service providers will help people living in rural areas to remain connected. Different service delivery approaches could include outreach and mobile services or increased use of Information Communication Technology.

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018

- **Integrate local transport.**

Promoting integrated rural transport initiatives which meet the needs of those living in isolated areas and in particular elderly and disabled people.

The aim of the SPPS is to allow sustainable growth in smaller settlements and in the countryside, to manage development in a manner which strikes a balance between protection of the environment from inappropriate development, while supporting and sustaining rural communities consistent with the RDS.

At the local level following engagement with stakeholders, Elected Members, the public including rural dwellers and the production of the evidence base for the LDP, the following list of rural needs are identified:-

- Meeting rural housing needs including specific groups such as the elderly and social and affordable housing.
- Enabling people to stay in their own homes for as long as possible in terms of health care.
- Creating employment opportunities.
- Access to services and community facilities such as health, education etc. to address social isolation.
- Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone.
- Provision of accessible recreational and leisure opportunities, including walking and cycling.
- Places to connect.
- Quality and safe places to live in.
- Protection of our natural and historic assets for all to enjoy.
- Vibrant "Town" Centres.
- Accessibility – transport links including public transport.
- Broadband connectivity.

If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A.

3E Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

N/A

Section 4 –Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas.

4A Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

Population

The population of the Borough continues to grow and it is expected that there will be a significant rise in the over 65s and over 85s within the plan period. This will have implications for housing, care and the provision of related services. Whilst the number of households continues to rise, it is expected that there will be a significant increase in 1 and 2 person households. This will impact on the types of houses needed for future growth.

Housing

There is a need for sustainable housing in rural areas whilst ensuring that a diverse choice and tenure of development opportunities are available for specific groups such as travellers, those on the social housing waiting lists and businesses such as our farming community.

Employment

There is a need to sustain people in the rural areas through opportunities for employment. This ranges from supporting existing businesses in the rural area and also allowing new employment opportunities to emerge.

Community Facilities

There is a need to ensure that community facilities such as health and education facilities can be accommodated to ensure that rural people have access to these facilities.

Vibrant centres

The centres in our settlements such as our town and village centres provide retail and leisure services, as well as places for entertainment and connectivity. It has been raised by rural dwellers that steps should be taken to ensure that our centres remain vibrant, are supported and provide necessary services in order to ensure their viability and vitality.

Connectivity

Transport is an ongoing issue in the rural area. This includes the provision of public transport and is particularly important for people who don't have access to a car. There is also a digital connectivity issue through the lack of provision of broadband services. In some rural areas particularly along Lough Neagh.

Isolation

People in rural areas can often feel isolated and cut off, therefore it is important that they have access to community facilities and have places to work and have their day to day needs met and providing an opportunity to connect with other people.

Well-being and health

There is a need for people to improve their wellbeing and health. It is not just a rural issue. Opportunities for people to connect with other people, places to enjoy and visit, and opportunities for physical health and access to health are a consideration. It is also important that those with disabilities are able to have easy access to the services/places that they need/desire to visit.

Placemaking

A common theme is that our communities should have quality environments to live in, work in, relax in and enjoy,

A Guide to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 for Public Authorities (Revised) April 2018

Section 5 – Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

The draft Plan Strategy seeks to address the issue of the rural needs identified by bringing forward a vision that applies to all of the Borough, as well as objectives that identify the needs of the rural community. In addition, the Strategy sets out a Spatial Growth approach for all of the Borough including our smaller settlements, such as villages and hamlets, as well as the countryside itself. Our Strategy also seeks to ensure that all our communities have better access to employment, housing, transport, services and facilities and that our built and natural heritage is safeguarded.

In relation to our growing and changing population the draft Plan Strategy sets out policies to ensure a range of tenures, that places are accessible and that there is a supply of housing within the Borough. It contains policy to assist in the delivery of social and affordable housing and specific housing needs in the rural area.

In terms of employment, the draft Plan Strategy sets out the strategic approach to employment within the Borough including the identification of Strategic Employment Locations in our larger settlements and the strategic sites of Belfast International Airport and Nutts Corner, based in the rural area. It is recognised that many rural dwellers travel and work in our settlements and therefore employment opportunities will be increased overall in our Borough, particularly as these lands will be safeguarded for employment uses.

In addition, the draft Plan Strategy seeks to ensure that smaller employment lands are also supported and that the planning policy is flexible enough to allow rural businesses to grow sustainably and create further employment and training opportunities. In addition, the draft Plan Strategy brings forward policies to support

and protect our natural and build environment, as well as the promotion of tourism opportunities, further contributing to the rural economy.

The need for improved connectivity especially in terms of transport links and public transport is a major priority for the Council, who continue to liaise with key stakeholders regarding improved services and transport networks. The Draft Plan Strategy contains a range of measures to promote and support the integration of land use planning and transport although it is recognised that this is difficult in the countryside areas.

The draft Plan Strategy will also contain policy to support the provision of community facilities, digital infrastructure and public utilities. Again it is recognised that this may be more difficult in the countryside but the Council will seek to ensure that these can be promoted where feasible.

The draft Plan Strategy brings forward policy to support our centres. As well as our larger town centres which serve our rural hinterland, our villages also contain retail and other services that need support. We have identified five of our larger villages as important local centres to be protected by planning policy in order to ensure their vitality and viability. Small scale shops will also be supported in our remaining villages. This will help sustain our rural areas and enable people in the immediate area to meet their daily shopping needs as well as preventing social isolation by creating an environment for social interaction.

The draft Plan Strategy also sets out a range of policies to improve where all our residents live, including design, amenity impact, protection of our environment, recreation etc. which all serve to contribute to good place-making and environment.

5C. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

The role of the Local Development Plan is to enable and facilitate development, as opposed to direct provision. There are issues relating to the rural area that depend on key stakeholders such as Government agencies who are responsible for improvements to the road network, provision of public transport as well as education, health facilities etc. The Council recognises the importance of these issues to all our communities and will continue to lobby and liaise with key stakeholders for their delivery.

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

☐

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Sharon Mossman
Position/Grade:	Principle Planning Officer
Division/Branch	Planning - Forward Planning Team
Date:	26 April 2019
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	Majella McAlister
Position/Grade:	Director of Economic Development and Planning
Division/Branch:	Planning
Date:	26 April 2019

Table 2

Strategic Policy	Detailed Policies	Purpose of the Policy	Comments on likely Section 75 impacts	Rural Needs 2A Will it impact on people in rural areas 2B How it is likely to impact on people in rural areas 2C How it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas
Strategic Policy 1: Sustainable Development	N/A	The purpose of the policy is to set out the fundamental approach and mechanisms to deliver sustainable development in the Borough and this overarching strategic policy underpins the whole of the LDP. This includes the Spatial Growth Strategy for the Borough designed to deliver the Plan Vision and Objectives. It has been informed by the Places of the Borough.	<p>The plan has been prepared in the context of meeting the social, economic and environmental needs of the Borough and takes account of the Regional Development Strategy 2035 and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement. It has been informed by an evidence base published alongside our LDP and also seeks to support the Council's Community Plan.</p> <p>The growth strategy may have the potential to impact on religious belief and political opinion groups due to the spatial distribution of these groups in the Borough. However, given the geographical spread of settlements across the Borough and opportunities for growth, it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts on these Section 75 grounds and it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious/political groups.</p> <p>Overall the Strategic Policy approach to sustainable development is a positive policy that is likely to benefit all Section 75 groups and provides a range of sustainable growth opportunities across the Borough. The growth strategy focuses core growth to our largest settlements of Newtownabbey and Antrim. Growth is</p>	<p>2A yes</p> <p>2B It will impact positively on people in rural areas by ensuring the principle of sustainable development is taken forward in the planning process thereby contributing to the social and economic needs of all residents as well as improving the environment where our residents live. It will seek to allocate growth for homes and employment across the Borough focusing core growth on our larger settlements taking account of the Regional Development Strategy 2035, and providing sustainable growth to sustain our rural communities including villages, hamlets and the countryside, again in line with the RDS 2035.</p> <p>2C The policy provides sustainable growth across the Borough taking account of the RDS 2035 and as such, it seeks to accommodate the social and economic needs of both urban and rural dwellers. As such there is no strategic differential impact between urban and rural dwellers.</p>

			<p>also consolidated and maintained in our towns, and our rural communities are sustained with appropriate growth in our villages, hamlets and countryside.</p> <p>This strategy should encourage more sustainable transport modes and access to health, education, employment, and housing and other services and facilities, which in particular will benefit those falling into the disability, dependants and, age categories and all those who may currently be marginalised including minority ethnic communities.</p>	
Strategic Policy 2: Employment	Detailed Management Policies DM1 Economic Development – Zoned Sites and Settlements DM2 Economic Development – Countryside DM3 Economic Development – Incompatible Uses DM4 Agricultural Development DM5 Farm Diversification DM6 Development within Centres DM7 Development outside Centres DM8 Development at The Junction, Antrim DM9 Tourism Development	These policies seek to promote sustainable employment opportunities across the Borough and ensure that there is sufficient land available over the plan period to support the growth of industry and business. The policies also seek to promote sustainable tourism opportunities across the Borough and to protect important tourism assets which contribute to the quality of where we live as well as to our tourism economy. They seek to promote our centres as the locations for retailing and other "town" centre uses so as to	<p>These policies seek to encourage the growth of employment opportunities in our Borough for the benefit of all our residents and employers. They will also seek to protect our employment lands for future employment use and a presumption to support employment proposals is in place if they accord with the LDP. It is considered that this policy will have a positive impact generally on all Section 75 groups but in particular upon religious belief, political opinion, age, race, disability and dependants.</p> <p>In relation to tourism, these policies seek to allow sustainable tourism opportunities throughout the Borough and as such it is considered that this policy will have a positive impact generally on all Section 75 groups but in particular age, race, disability and dependants.</p> <p>In relation to retail, these policies seek to protect our centres which offer a choice for shopping, social activity</p>	<p>2A yes</p> <p>2B The policies will contribute to the overall employment opportunities for everyone in the Borough, including people in rural areas. It will also ensure that there are sustainable tourism opportunities and that important tourism assets are protected for everyone to enjoy, to improve the quality of where we live and to contribute to the tourism economy.</p> <p>2C These policies support sustainable tourism and employment opportunities for everyone. Geographically there will be a range of opportunities across the Borough. Whilst the strategy sets out particular policies in relation to the countryside area, the overall aim of the policy is the same for everyone and therefore the policy does not differentiate at the strategic level between those living in urban and rural areas. In addition, these policies seek to sustain and maintain our centres as places for retail and other "town" centre uses. This applies across the Borough and benefits both urban and rural dwellers. In general, these policies do not differentiate between those living in urban and rural areas.</p>

		<p>protect their viability and vitality.</p>	<p>and recreation and as such are important safe and shared spaces in our Borough for everyone. They will also contribute to enhanced opportunities for all Section 75 groups but in particular on grounds of religious belief, political opinion, age, race, disability and dependants. It is also likely to promote good relations within the Borough generally by providing opportunities for social interaction.</p> <p>The geographical location of Strategic Employment Locations (SELs) may have the potential to impact on religious belief and political opinion due to the spatial distribution of these groups in the Borough. However, given the geographical spread of SELs across the Borough and opportunities for employment through planning policy, it is anticipated that there will be no negative impacts on these Section 75 groups and it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particularly religious belief/political opinion groups.</p> <p>In conclusion, therefore, the Council is of the opinion at this stage of the plan-making process that collectively these policies will not have any negative adverse impacts in terms of equality of opportunity, and indeed may serve to better promote good relations through the provision of sustainable economic development opportunities across the Borough and safe and shared gathering places for all to enjoy.</p> <p>Overall these policies will help contribute to equality of access to employment opportunities for all</p>	
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			sections of the community across the Borough.	
Strategic Policy 3: Transportation & Infrastructure	Detailed Management Policies DM10 Access and Parking DM11 Access to Protected Routes DM12 Active Travel (Walking and Cycling) DM13 Belfast International Airport - Operations DM14 Public Utilities & Infrastructure DM15 Development relying on Non-Mains Sewerage DM16 Telecommunication Facilities and Digital Services	The aim of these policies is to ensure that transport (car, public transport – including the operational requirements of Belfast International Airport, walking and cycling), public utilities and digital infrastructure are sustainably accommodated and sustainable choices are promoted.	<p>These policies aim to benefit all Section 75 groups and in particular, marginalised communities, by seeking to promote opportunities for sustainable transport and digital infrastructure. This will contribute to better connectivity across the Borough as well as improving the physical and digital environment, promoting safety and improve the health and well-being of our population.</p> <p>No adverse Section 75 impact is anticipated at this stage. The policy is expected to positively contribute to various groups including religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, disability and dependency. It is also likely to promote good relations within the Borough generally.</p> <p>Overall these policies will help support equality of opportunity for all sections of the community through the provision of improved accessibility across the Borough.</p>	<p>2A yes.</p> <p>2B This will impact positively on people in rural areas by promoting opportunities for better connectivity, both physical and digital.</p> <p>2C The policies seek to promote connectivity across the Borough. As such, there is no differential impact between urban and rural dwellers.</p>
Strategic Policy 4: Homes	Detailed Management Policies DM17 Homes in Settlements DM18 Homes in the Countryside DM19 Residential Caravans and Mobile Homes DM20 Traveller Accommodation	The aim of these policies is to ensure that housing is sustainably allocated and managed in our Borough to meet the evolving needs of our residents. This will strengthen the role of our larger settlements, consolidate the role of our towns and sustain our rural communities.	These policies seek to ensure that there is an adequate supply of appropriate housing choices across the Borough, taking into account the RDS 2035, the SPPS and demographic changes over time (e.g. an ageing population). This includes the provision of social and affordable housing including for specific minority ethnic groups such as the travelling community. It also includes the provision of housing for older people and in the countryside for rural dwellers.	<p>2A yes</p> <p>2B The policy sets out the allocation of housing growth to villages, hamlets and the countryside. It also contains planning policy in relation to residential development in settlements, the countryside and for specific users such as those on the social housing list and the travelling community.</p> <p>2C The overall purpose is to provide sustainable housing growth across the Borough in line with regional guidance. At the strategic level, this policy seeks to accommodate housing for both urban and rural dwellers in a sustainable way and therefore the policy aim of providing sustainable</p>

	DM21 Specialist Residential Accommodation DM22 Residential Extensions and Alterations		<p>This may have the potential to impact differentially on grounds of religious belief and political opinion due to the spatial distribution of communities across the Borough. However, given the geographical spread of settlements across the Borough and taking into account the need to deliver sustainable development as set out in the RDS 2035 and SPPS, the quantum of housing land and opportunities will cater adequately for all Section 75 groups and it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious beliefs/political opinion groups.</p> <p>At this time it is not anticipated that there will be an adverse impact on any Section 75 group. Instead, it is anticipated that the policy has the potential to contribute positively on grounds of religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, disability and dependency. It is also likely to promote good relations within the Borough generally.</p> <p>Overall these policies will help contribute to equality of access for all sections of the community to safe and affordable housing opportunities.</p>	housing does not differentiate between urban and rural dwellers.
Strategic Policy 5: Community Infrastructure	Detailed Management Policies DM23 Protection of Open Space	The aim of these policies is to support the planned provision of accessible community facilities including educational, health and recreational facilities,	These policies aim to support the provision of necessary community facilities in the Borough and to ensure that existing facilities are protected from redevelopment where feasible. In addition, the policy seeks to protect open spaces for the benefit of all our communities.	2A Yes 2B The policies will impact positively on people in rural areas by ensuring that community facilities can be accommodated in the planning process and existing facilities can be protected from alternative development. It will also ensure that open spaces will be protected for the benefit of all.

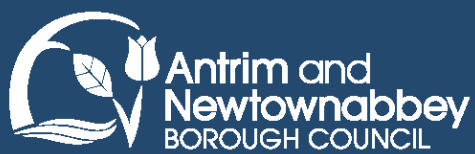
	DM24 Community Facilities	parks and open spaces, and ensure that all communities in our Borough have access to a range of facilities that meet the needs of the communities they serve, and thus to help the Borough become healthier and assist residents to achieve their full potential.	<p>The provision of good quality community infrastructure is an important part of fostering sustainable communities and delivering successful places, and this policy will promote access to education and health services. It will also promote access to open space which will contribute to health and well-being.</p> <p>At this time there is no evidence that the policy is likely to have an adverse impact on any Section 75 group and instead, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on grounds of religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, gender, disability and dependency. It is also likely to promote good relations within the Borough generally.</p>	2C The policies overall seek to promote community infrastructure and the protection of open spaces for the benefit of everyone and therefore there is no differential impact for urban and rural dwellers.
Strategic Policy 6: Placemaking and Good Design	Detailed Management Policies DM25 Urban Design DM26 Shopfront Design DM27 Rural Design and Character DM28 Amenity Impact DM29 Advertisements	These policies aim to encourage good design and better places for our population to live and work in. They also seek to ensure that the amenity impact of development on our communities is fully considered.	<p>These policies are likely to benefit all Section 75 groups as they seek to improve the quality of the physical environment in which our residents live and also to ensure the impact of a development is fully considered in terms of amenity.</p> <p>At this stage, no adverse impact has been identified on Section 75 groups.</p>	2A yes 2B these policies seek to ensure design is a key consideration in new developments and to improve our environment. 2C the policies will apply the principles of good design in both urban and rural areas so there is no differential impact.
Strategic Policy 7: The Historic Environment	Detailed Management Policies DM30 Archaeology DM31 Historic Parks, Gardens & Demesnes DM32 Listed Buildings DM33 Conservation Areas DM34 Areas of Townscape Character	These policies are aimed at protecting and enhancing our historic environment, and contributing to the quality of the environment of the Borough.	<p>These policies may have a differential impact on grounds of religious belief and political opinion because of the physical location of some of the designations and the make-up of the communities in the immediate area.</p> <p>However, given the geographical spread of designations across the Borough, it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts on these</p>	2A Yes 2B The policies will impact positively on people in rural areas by ensuring that the historic environment of the Borough is protected, thereby contributing to the quality of where we live and protecting our important assets. 2C The policies overall seek to ensure that the historic environment throughout the Borough is protected and therefore will not impact on people in rural areas differently from people in

	DM35 Enabling Development DM36 Vernacular and Locally Important Buildings		<p>Section 75 grounds and it is considered that there will be a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious belief/political opinion groups.</p> <p>Overall through the successful implementation of the policies, it is hoped that all Section 75 categories will benefit from a historical environment across the Borough that is respectful of all traditions and identities.</p>	urban areas.
Strategic Policy 8: Natural Heritage	Detailed Management Policies DM37 Designated Sites of Nature Conservation DM38 Protected Species DM39 Habitats, Species and Features of Natural Heritage Importance DM40 Landscape Protection DM41 Coastal Protection DM42 Trees and Development	The aim of these policies is to conserve, enhance and restore our natural heritage.	<p>These policies may have a differential impact on grounds of religious belief and political opinion because of the physical location of some of the designations.</p> <p>However, given the geographical spread of designations across the Borough, it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts on these Section 75 grounds and it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious/political groups.</p> <p>In addition, the policies seek to benefit all Section 75 groups as they seek to protect our natural heritage for everyone to enjoy, contribute to a better environment and improve health and wellbeing opportunities and promote biodiversity opportunities.</p> <p>Overall, this policy will benefit all Section 75 groups as it seeks to support the well-being and safety of people and improve our environment</p>	2A yes 2B This will impact on people in rural areas due to the physical location of sites and designations in the Borough. 2C The policies apply across the Borough and therefore there is no differential impact on those living in urban or rural areas.

Strategic Policy 9: Natural Resources	Detailed Management Policies DM43 Minerals Development DM44 Mineral Reserve Policy Areas DM45 Renewable Energy Development	The aim of these policies is to ensure the sustainable development of minerals and renewables whilst balancing the impact on the environment, as well as promoting health and safety.	<p>The plan policies will identify those areas of where there will be a presumption against mineral development, such as our special landscapes. It will also identify areas of reserve which will be protected for future use. This includes the lignite reserve at Crumlin which cannot be extracted until such times as the full environmental impact is known.</p> <p>There could be differential indirect impacts on grounds of religious belief/political opinion due to the spatial location of these areas. However, on balance, the areas that are restricted are proportionate and limited in terms of land mass and distribution and the policies that apply are only apportioned to these limited areas, as will be identified in the Plan. In addition, the restrictive policy could provide positive benefits for those residing in these areas, in respect of both environmental and amenity impacts.</p>	2A yes 2B This will impact on people in rural areas due to the physical location of mineral resources predominantly in the rural area as well as opportunities for larger scale renewable development which is likely to involve a countryside location. 2C The Council has identified the strategic reserve of lignite at Crumlin at this stage so it may be perceived that this policy impacts on people in rural areas differently due to the geographical location and make-up of the immediate population, however, this is not a matter which the Council can control. The same safeguarding policy would apply regardless of whether the reserve was in a settlement or countryside.
Strategic Policy 10: Environmental Resilience and Protection	Detailed Management Policies DM46 The Control of Development in Flood Plains	These policies aim to minimise flood risk to people, property and the environment and ensure that our environment is protected regarding waste proposals.	The policy may have a differential impact on grounds of religious belief and political opinion because of the spatial distribution of rivers, and areas of flood risk and the make-up of the communities in the immediate area.	2A yes 2B This will impact on people in rural areas due to the physical location of areas of flooding in the Borough. Waste facilities are likely to be located in larger settlements. 2C Areas of flooding are also located across the Borough, including in larger settlement so the policy does not differentiate between those living

	DM47 Surface Water Drainage and Sustainable Drainage Systems DM48 Reservoir Flood Risk DM49 Artificial Modification of Watercourses DM50 Pollution DM51 Major Hazards DM52 Contaminated Land DM53 Waste Management and Disposal Facilities DM54 Protection of Existing Waste Management Facilities		<p>However, given the geographical spread of flooding areas across the Borough, it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts on Section 75 grounds and it is considered that there is a significant and justifiable balance in terms of any perceived impact upon particular religious belief/political opinion groups.</p> <p>In terms of waste, the policy applies across the Borough and no sites are identified at this time. Therefore there is no perceived Section 75 impact.</p> <p>Overall, this policy will benefit all Section 75 groups as it seeks to support the well-being and safety of people and to improve our environment.</p> <p>Therefore at this stage of the plan, it is not anticipated that there will be any adverse impact on Section 75 groups.</p>	<p>in urban and rural areas. The waste policy applies across the Borough.</p>
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Annex B Addendum to Equality (Sec 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (April 2025)

Local Development Plan 2030



Antrim and
Newtownabbey
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Draft Plan Strategy

Addendum to Equality (Sec 75) Screening
and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report

April 2025

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Executive Summary

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council – Local Development Plan 2030 - Draft Plan Strategy (DPS) was published in June 2019, along with a number of assessments, including an 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report'. These documents were then subject to a period of public consultation, where approximately 120 representations were received which made comment on different aspects of the DPS and one comment was made in relation to the 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report'.

Having considered these representations, the Council then submitted the DPS to the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) in March 2021, for it to cause an Independent Examination (IE) to be carried out. The IE was undertaken by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) in May and June 2022. In October 2023 the PAC Report into the IE was forwarded to DfI for consideration. The IE Report contained a number of recommendations in relation to the adoption of the Plan Strategy, as well as the reasons for those recommendations. The IE Report concluded that the DPS was considered to meet the tests of 'soundness', subject to a number of modifications.

Having considered the content of the IE Report, on 27 September 2024 DfI issued a legislatively binding 'Departmental Direction', instructing the Council to adopt the Plan Strategy (PS) with a number of modifications, as well as undertaking any necessary engagement and consultation, prior to formal adoption of the PS.

Consequently, this document forms an Addendum to and should be read alongside the original 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report' which was carried out in relation to the DPS. This Addendum takes into account those modifications to the DPS as identified within Schedule 1 of the DfI Departmental Direction, which are required to make the PS sound ahead of its formal adoption.

This Addendum comprises the following stages:

- Screening the modifications to the DPS that are within the Departmental Direction to determine whether further assessment is required; and
- If necessary, to undertake an assessment of the proposed modifications that have not been screened out.

The findings of this screening exercise in relation to 'Equality (Section 75)' are contained within Appendix 1a and Appendix 1b.

The findings of the assessment exercise in respect of 'Rural Needs' are contained within Appendix 2.

Following consideration of the modifications to the DPS in the context of the statutory requirements, it has been concluded that the directed modifications do not alter the outcomes of the original 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report' published in June 2019.

What happens next?

Following publication of this Equality and Rural Needs Addendum, together with the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum and Habitats Regulations Assessment, comments are invited through the consultation process outlined below.

It is important to note that this consultation relates to these amended documents only. It is not an opportunity to make comment on the content of the Departmental Direction, the PAC Report into the IE or the DPS itself and any comments regarding these documents will be discounted.

Once the content of any comments to the revision of these documents have been considered by the Council and the requirements of the Departmental Direction have been carried out, the Council will then move to formally adopt the Plan Strategy and publish final versions of the assessments.

Consultation Arrangements

This Addendum will be available for consultation for a period of two weeks, from 1 April 2025 to 15 April 2025 (by close of play 5 pm). Late submissions will not be accepted after this time.

You can respond to this consultation exercise:

- by email to forwardplanningteam@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk
- in writing to the following postal address:
Forward Planning Team
Planning Section
Mossley Mill
Carnmoney Road North
Newtownabbey BT36 5QA

All of the relevant documentation is available online at <https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/planning/local-development-plans/draft-plan-strategy/> from 1 April 2025. Documentation will also be available for inspection at the Council civic offices, between 8:30am to 5pm, Mon to Fri.

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Plan Strategy forms the first stage of a two stage Local Development Plan 2030 (LDP) for the Borough. The LDP will also consist of the Local Policies Plan (LPP), which is the second stage of the plan making process. The LPP will provide the detailed site specific policies and proposals, including settlement limits, land use zonings and environmental designations.
- 1.2 The Draft Plan Strategy (DPS) was published in June 2019, along with a number of assessments, including an 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report'. These documents were then subject to a period of public consultation, where approximately 120 representations were received which made comment on different aspects of the DPS and one comment was made in relation to the 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report'.
- 1.3 This document forms an Addendum to and should be read alongside, the 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (2019),' and takes account of modifications required to make the DPS 'sound' following the IE.

The Draft Plan Strategy Independent Examination

- 1.4 The DPS was published in June 2019 for a period of public consultation. Approximately 120 representations were submitted to the Council during this period on a range of issues, as well as 26 representations made during the 'counter representation' period. In preparation for the Independent Examination (IE), the content of these representations were subject to detailed consideration by the Council. A number of representations requested that changes be made to the DPS.
- 1.5 For the majority of these requests the Council considered that no change was required, as the approach taken in the DPS was considered to be appropriate and reasonable. There were, however, also a number of requests for changes to be made to the DPS, which the Council considered to be relatively minor in nature. These included requests for additional factual information or to update text to reflect legislative requirements, whilst others sought greater clarity in the wording of parts of the document. As a consequence, and in order to assist the IE process, a schedule of suggested minor changes was prepared where the Council was open to changes to the DPS document, should the Independent Examiner consider it was beneficial. At the same time, the Council also took the opportunity to identify a list of minor typographical errors within the DPS, the intention being to resolve these as part of the adopted version of the Plan.
- 1.6 The Council's suggested changes (typographical errors and suggested minor changes) were first identified in the 'Draft Plan Strategy Public Consultation Report' (March 2021), published to assist with the IE process. As stated at paragraph 7.3 of that Report, the Council was content that the minor changes

suggested, both individually and cumulatively, did not have any impact on the soundness of the DPS nor any of the accompanying assessments, including the Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, the draft Habitats Regulation Assessment and the Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report.

- 1.7 In March 2021, the DPS, its supporting assessments and evidence papers were submitted to DfI to cause an IE to be carried out. In September 2021 DfI appointed the Planning Appeals Commission to conduct an IE into the DPS, which was held over two sessions, between May and June 2022.
- 1.8 During discussions at IE, a limited number of the previously suggested changes by the Council were updated and a range of other suggested changes were raised as 'matters arising' during the process. To take account of these further changes an 'Updated Schedule of Suggested Minor Changes Report' (June 2022) was published on the PAC website, at the closing of the IE hearing.
- 1.9 In the Updated Schedule of Suggested Minor Changes Report, at paragraph 1.5, the Council again reiterated that it was not of the view that any of the suggested changes either individually or cumulatively had raised issues of soundness. Council was of the view that the changes were beneficial in the interests of clarity and completeness and it was not necessary to undertake any form of public consultation on them.

Post-examination modifications

- 1.10 In October 2023, the PAC Report into the IE was forwarded to DfI for consideration. This Report contained a number of recommendations in relation to the PS, as well as the reasons for those recommendations. The PAC concluded that, subject to the recommended modifications, the DPS met the statutory tests of soundness. Having considered the content of the Report and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 12(1)(b) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, on 27 September 2024 DfI issued a Departmental Direction, instructing the Council to adopt the PS, with a number of modifications.
- 1.11 The Departmental Direction identifies one Schedule of Modifications:
 - **Schedule 1:** identifies 93 modifications that are required to make the plan sound. The modifications are a combination of:
 - Amended proposed minor changes (taken from the Draft Plan Strategy Public Consultation Report – Chapter 7 Schedule of suggested Minor changes (March 2021),
 - Schedule of Suggested Minor Changes of the dPS (updated as part of the Independent Examination) (June 2022),
 - New changes recommended following the conclusion of the IE process; and

- New modifications directed by the Department following consideration of the IE Report.
- 1.12 To fulfil the requirements of the Departmental Direction and legislative requirements under the Planning Act (NI) 2011, the Council is now required to modify the DPS to include all of the modifications detailed in Schedule 1 ahead of its formal adoption. In order to provide clarity and transparency in the adoption process, the Council published the advisory PAC IE Report and Departmental Direction on its website on 18th October 2024 for information purposes.

2 The Screening of the Directed Modifications

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory duty to have due regard to the need to promote both equality of opportunity and the needs of people in rural areas under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and the Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 respectively. Consequently, in bringing forward the LDP, the Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of Section 75 groups and those in rural areas are considered. Throughout the process the Council has combined both assessments into one document due to the common steps that have been undertaken to engage with both Section 75 groups and the rural community.
- 2.2 Accordingly, an 'Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report' was published alongside the DPS in 2019. Table 2 of that document identifies the impact of the DPS policies upon Section 75 and Rural Needs groups.
- 2.3 At that stage it was concluded that no adverse impacts were identified in relation to Section 75 groups as a consequence of the provisions of the DPS and therefore a full Equality Impact Assessment was not required. As Rural Needs cannot be screened in or out, a full assessment must be undertaken. In the 2019 Report the view of the Council was that it had undertaken the required Rural Needs Impact Assessment and had taken the identified needs of rural people into consideration in the preparation of the DPS.
- 2.4 This Addendum takes into account those modifications set out in Schedule 1 of the Departmental Direction, which must be undertaken before the PS can be formally adopted. As a consequence, this addendum should be read in conjunction with the original 2019 Report.
- 2.5 The findings of this screening exercise in relation to 'Equality (Section 75)' are contained within Appendix 1a and Appendix 1b. The findings of this assessment exercise in respect of 'Rural Needs' are contained within Appendix 2.

Equality (Section 75) Screening

- 2.6 In order to screen the modifications in relation to equality matters, Schedule 1 of the Departmental Direction, containing the 93 modifications directed as being necessary for the adoption of the DPS, has been included in Appendix 1a of this document. As well as detailing the required modifications, it also sets out the following:
- An assessment of whether Schedule 1 modifications impact on the overall aim/purpose of the policy as originally assessed; and
 - An assessment of the likely impact on equality of opportunity for Section 75 groups as a result of the Schedule 1 modifications, beyond those original assessed.
- 2.7 The Council has assessed the relevant provisions of the DPS in light of the modifications for any differential impact that it may have when compared to the original, as well as the impact of cumulative changes to those provisions. The screening set out in Appendix 1a has then been used as the basis for the completion of the 'Section 75 Policy Screening Form' set out in Appendix 1b.
- 2.8 Following consideration of the directed modifications to the DPS in the context of the statutory requirements, it has been concluded that the modifications do not alter the outcomes relating to 'Equality (Section 75)' identified within the original Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (June 2019).

Rural Needs Impact Assessment

- 2.9 In order to consider the modifications in relation to rural needs, Schedule 1 of the Departmental Direction, containing the 93 modifications directed as being necessary for the adoption of the DPS, has been included in Appendix 2 of this document. As well as detailing the required modifications it also sets out the following:
- An assessment of whether the Schedule 1 modifications impact on the overall aim/purpose of the policy or strategy as originally assessed; and
 - An assessment as to whether the Schedule 1 modifications affect the original RNIA assessment of the likely impact(s) of the DPS on the rural community and/or the influence 'rural needs' has on the DPS policy or strategy.
- 2.10 Appendix 2 of this document presents the outcomes of the assessment of these modifications to determine whether any 'materially change' the outcomes of the original 2019 RNIA.
- 2.11 Each modification to the provisions of the DPS was assessed for any differential impact it would have in terms of the aim of the provision and the likely impact on rural needs. Any likely cumulative impact resulting from a number of related modifications was also considered through the screening process.

- 2.12 Following consideration of the directed modifications to the DPS in the context of the statutory requirements, it has been concluded that the modifications do not alter the outcomes relating to 'Rural Needs' identified within the original Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report (June 2019).

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Council has now undertaken an exercise to assess the implications of the required modifications to the DPS issued under the DfI Departmental Direction, in relation to the outcomes of the original Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, published in June 2019.
- 3.2 The modifications to the DPS do not introduce any new policies. They include changes to address minor typographical errors and to ensure factual accuracy. Other modifications have been included as logical changes to the provisions of the DPS for the purposes of soundness and provide clarification or to improve the effectiveness, coherency and consistency of the plan.
- 3.3 The assessment which has informed this addendum has determined that the modifications do not materially change the aims or influence of the policies or strategies to which the proposed modifications relate.
- 3.4 In reassessing the outcomes of the original 'Equality (Sec 75) Screening' and 'Rural Needs' Report issued alongside the DPS in June 2019, with regard to the modifications, it is considered that those outcomes are unchanged from the original assessment. Therefore, it is considered that the modifications do not alter the likely impact of the DPS policies and strategies on the Section 75 groups or the rural community, nor do they alter how much regard the DPS has had to equality or rural needs.

Appendix 1a: Review of modifications required to Draft Plan Strategy as per Schedule 1 of DfI Direction on Equality of Opportunity of Section 75 Groups

DfI Modification No.	PAC Recommended Amendment No.	Link to Council's Recommended Amendment No. ¹ , if applicable.	Page/Policy/Para No. in DPS	PAC Recommended Amendment	DfI Modification following consideration of Recommended Amendments under Sec. 12 of 2011 Act.	Will the modification impact of the aim of the policy?	Likely Impacts of the modification
MOD 01	RA01	Appendix 2, change 1.	Page 20 Para. 1.15	"Once the Plan Strategy is adopted it will replace the regional operational policies that are currently retained by the Strategic Planning Policy Statement..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 1.15, page 20 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC recommendation, as follows: "Once the Plan Strategy is adopted it will replace the regional operational policies that are currently retained by the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (comprised of the existing suite of Planning Policy Statements and the remaining extant provisions Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland)."	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency and coherence. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 02	RA02	Appendix 2, change 2.	Page 26 Para. 2.5	"In addition, there are a large number of other Government Strategies and Plans, such as the Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland and 'Lifetime Opportunities', the Government's Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy that, whilst not specifically referenced in this Section, have been taken into account in preparation of the Plan Strategy.	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 2.5, page 26 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC recommendation, as follows: "In addition, there are a large number of other Government Strategies and Plans, such as the Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland and 'Lifetime Opportunities', the Government's Anti- Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy that, whilst not specifically referenced in this Section, have been taken into account in preparation of the Plan Strategy."	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 03	RA03	Appendix 2, change 3.	Page 30/31 After Para 2.20	"UK Marine Policy Statement 2.21 The UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) was published in September 2011 and was prepared and adopted under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The statement provides the policy framework for the Marine Planning system and for taking decisions that have the potential to impact on the marine environment. The policy framework will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK's marine area which includes both offshore and inshore regions including all tidal rivers and sea loughs. As our Borough abuts Belfast Lough, the Plan Strategy has had regard to the provisions of the MPS. Draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland. The draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland was published in April 2018 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting new paragraphs after paragraph 2.20, page 30-31 of the dPS, and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a

¹ Suggested minor changes or Matters Arising submitted during the public examination hearing sessions, as contained within Appendix 2 and 3 of the 'Schedule of Suggested Minor Changes to the DPS (updated as part of the Independent Examination) June 2022. The recommended amendment may however reflect a revised wording to that originally suggested by ANBC following consideration of representations, response to questions and discussions under the various topic areas at the IE hearing sessions.

				<p>Rural Affairs (DAERA). The draft Marine Plan has been developed within the framework of the UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) in order to protect and sustainably manage the marine environment in Northern Ireland and facilitate sustainable development including coastal areas. The draft Marine Plan will inform and guide the regulation, management, use and protection of our marine area, both the offshore and inshore regions. The draft Marine Plan was taken into account in preparing the draft Plan Strategy and will continue to inform the LDP process until such time as it is adopted.</p> <p>Under Section 8 of the Marine Act (NI) 2013 the Council must take any authorisation or enforcement decision in accordance with any appropriate marine plan unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise".(remaining paragraphs renumbered)</p>			
MOD 04	RA04	Appendix 2, change 4.	Page 58 Strategic Objective 1	"• Promote sustainable growth by managing development and securing new infrastructure provision in our settlements, countryside and coast to meet the needs of all our citizens".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 1, page 58 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 05	RA05	Appendix 2, change 5.	Page 58 Strategic Objective 3	"• Provide a range and quality of land and premises to facilitate business growth, promote economic diversification and protect our strategically important employment locations including the Regional Gateway at Belfast International Airport".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 3, page 58 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 06	RA06	Appendix 2, change 6.	Page 59 Strategic Objective 11	"• Promote biodiversity, and conserve the natural assets of our countryside, coast and loughs".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 11, page 59 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for purposes of coherence and consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 07	RA07	Appendix 2, change 7.	Page 62 Policy SP 1.3	<p>Insertion of new paragraph,</p> <p>"SP 1.3 In addition any development proposal which affects or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area of Belfast Lough must accord with the provisions of the UK Marine Policy Statement and the Draft Marine Plan for NI once adopted unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise."</p> <p>(remaining paragraphs renumbered).</p>	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after paragraph SP 1.2, page 62 of the dPS, and renumber the subsequent paragraphs, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

						the policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 08	RA08	Appendix 2, change 8.	Page 63 Policy SP 1.4	"...to allow proper consideration of the impacts of the development (to include where relevant impacts on the marine area) and any mitigation measures proposed."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of SP1.4, page 63 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "To assist the delivery of sustainable development, the Council will require developers to provide impact assessments in association with planning applications where this is necessary to allow proper consideration of the impacts of the development (to include where relevant impacts on the marine area) and any mitigation measures proposed."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 09	RA09	Appendix 2, change 9.	Page 65 Policy SP 1.6	"(g) Afford suitable protection to our Borough's natural and historic environment, including the adjacent marine environment, in accommodating growth..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify criterion (g) of the Spatial Growth Strategy, page 65 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 10	RA10	n/a	Page 67 Policy SP 1.11	Replace term 'brownfield land' to 'previously developed land'	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy SP1.11 of page 67 of the dPS, by retaining the term "brownfield land" and inserting a footnote at "brownfield land", to read: "RDS 2035 (page 106) definition of brownfield land: This is sometimes referred to as previously developed land that is, or was occupied by a permanent structure within a defined Settlement limit". Furthermore, Dfl directs the council to insert the phrase "within settlements", after "In all locations". For clarity this policy should read; "In all locations, within settlements, proposals that reuse or make better use of vacant, derelict or underused brownfield land (footnote number) or buildings will be supported where they are in accordance with the relevant policies of the LDP".	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 11	RA11	Appendix 2, change 10.	Page 68 Para 4.2	"...the careful management of our historic environment and natural heritage, including the adjacent marine area. The Plan..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 4.2, page 68 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read: "As such, the LDP seeks to further sustainable development through its policies and designations which balance the social and economic priorities of our Borough alongside the careful management of our historic environment and natural heritage, including the adjacent marine area."	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

MOD 12	RA12	n/a	Page 70 Para 4.7	Insert (villages and hamlets) after the term 'smaller settlements'	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting "(villages and hamlets)" after the term "smaller settlements" in the last sentence of paragraph 4.7, page 70 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Our Strategic Growth Strategy also recognises the importance of sustaining our Borough's rural community and seeks to allow appropriate growth in our smaller settlements (villages and hamlets) and the countryside."	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 13	RA13	Appendix 3, MA018	Page 71 Para 4.11	MA0018 Additional paragraph: "4.11 The sustainability of development schemes will also be improved through the use of an appropriate balance of new construction materials and recycled materials wherever feasible."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional paragraph after paragraph 4.10, page 71 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 14	n/a	n/a	Page 78 Policy SP 2.8	n/a	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional sentence (highlighted below) at end of SP2.8, page 78, of the dPS. For clarity this will read as follows: "Until such times as the boundary of the SEL is identified at BIA, the Council will operate a presumption in favour of a wide range of industrial, business, airport related, and other complementary employment and service uses on the lands currently zoned at this location for airport related uses. In addition, the Council will in principle, support development at BIA that accords with or complements the published Airport Masterplan 2030. Proposals for retail and other town centre uses at this location must comply with all relevant retail policies set out elsewhere in the plan strategy including policies SP2.12 and DM7."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 15	n/a	n/a	Pages 84 and 87 Para 5.18 & 5.19 Fig. 5 map		Dfl directs the Council to modify paragraph 5.18, page 84 of the dPS, as follows: "Based on the Retail and Commercial Leisure Study undertaken in support of the Plan Strategy, the Council has identified a retail hierarchy that recognises the traditional town centres of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin and Randalstown, with a town centre also identified at Glengormley in Metropolitan Newtownabbey These are complemented by district centres at Northcott and Whiteabbey Village." Furthermore, Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 5.19, page 84 of the dPS, as follows:	No Modification of justification wording and figure 5 map as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					<p>“Whilst the five town centres vary greatly in size and the level of provision of services afforded, they all perform an important function in meeting the needs of residents within their surrounding catchment areas.”</p> <p>Also, Dfl directs the Council to modify the map entitled “Figure 5: Hierarchy of Centres in our Borough” by removing the reference to “Abbey Centre” under “Large Town Centre”. Dfl directs the Council to renumber the titles and reflect this in the map accordingly.</p>																						
MOD 16	RA14	Appendix 2, Change 11	Pages 78-79 Policy SP 2.12	Table 4 amended to read: <table><tr><th>Tier</th><th>Title</th><th>Role and Function</th><th>Centres</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Large Town Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a significant hinterland which includes smaller neighbouring towns or a number of suburbs.</td><td>Abbey Centre and Antrim</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Town Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a hinterland which includes neighbouring villages or a few surrounding suburbs.</td><td>Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glegunmerry, and Rrundabluwn</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>District Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a suburban community.</td><td>Northcott and Whiteabbey Village</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Local Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops and services to a surrounding community.</td><td>Urban <u>Metropolitan Newtownabbey</u> Abbot's Cross, Ballyduff, Beverley Road, Cammerney, Cloughfern, The Diamond (Rathcoole), Jennings Park, Kingspark/Kings Crescent, Malusk, Mayfield, Merville Garden Village, Monkstown, Mossley West and Richmond. <u>Antrim</u> Greystone and Parkhall Rural Ballynure, Doagh, Parkgate, Templepatrick, and Toome</td></tr></table>	Tier	Title	Role and Function	Centres	1	Large Town Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a significant hinterland which includes smaller neighbouring towns or a number of suburbs.	Abbey Centre and Antrim	2	Town Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a hinterland which includes neighbouring villages or a few surrounding suburbs.	Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glegunmerry, and Rrundabluwn	3	District Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a suburban community.	Northcott and Whiteabbey Village	4	Local Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops and services to a surrounding community.	Urban <u>Metropolitan Newtownabbey</u> Abbot's Cross, Ballyduff, Beverley Road, Cammerney, Cloughfern, The Diamond (Rathcoole), Jennings Park, Kingspark/Kings Crescent, Malusk, Mayfield, Merville Garden Village, Monkstown, Mossley West and Richmond. <u>Antrim</u> Greystone and Parkhall Rural Ballynure, Doagh, Parkgate, Templepatrick, and Toome	Dfl directs the council to modify Table 4 within Policy SP2.12, page 79 of the dPS, in accordance with the PAC recommended Table 4. Dfl further directs Council to modify this amended Table 4, to remove Abbey Centre from Tier 1, Large Town Centres.	No Modification of policy wording as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
Tier	Title	Role and Function	Centres																								
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MOD 17	RA15	Appendix 3, MA001	Page 78 Policy SP 2.12	See MA001 Change to heading: “Retail Centres and the Retail Hierarchy”	Dfl directs the Council to modify by replacing the heading “Town Centres and Retailing” with the heading “Retail Centres and the Retail Hierarchy” at SP2.12, page 78 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.																				
MOD 18	RA16	Appendix 2, Change 12	Page 89 Policy DM 1.4	“(c) The alternative use proposed would not result in conflict or be incompatible with the remaining businesses at the site or be materially detrimental to the specific character and amenity of the immediate area.”	Dfl directs the Council to modify by replacing criterion (c), page 89 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.																				

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 19	RA17	n/a	Page 94 Policy DM 4	Inclusion of Forestry development in Policy DM4	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify the title of policy DM4, page 94 of the dPS, to include the word "forestry". For clarity, the title should read:</p> <p>"Policy DM4: Agricultural and Forestry Development"</p> <p>Dfl also directs the Council to modify the following sections of Policy DM4, page 94-95, of the dPS, to include forestry development. For clarity this should read as follows:</p> <p>The first sentence of DM4.1 to be modified as:</p> <p>"The Council will support proposals for a new agricultural building(s), forestry development or other development ancillary....."</p> <p>The second sentence of DM4.2 to be modified as:</p> <p>"Exceptionally, a lesser period may be acceptable, but only where the applicant is actively engaged in farming or forestry, and it is demonstrated that the proposal is necessary to meet the needs of a farm or forestry business that has been in operation for at least 12 months."</p> <p>Policy DM 4.3 (a) should be modified as:</p> <p>"(a) It is essential for the efficient functioning of the farm or forestry business;"</p> <p>Policy DM 4.4 should be modified as:</p> <p>"Development proposals involving intensive farming, forestry or animal husbandry must demonstrate that they will not result in any significant adverse health or environmental effects, particularly in relation to ammonia production."</p> <p>Furthermore, Dfl directs the Council to modify the Policy section heading above paragraph 5.34 and paragraphs 5.34 -5.36, pages 93-94, of the dPS to include forestry.</p> <p>For clarity, the title should read:</p> <p>"Agricultural and Forestry Development".</p> <p>The second line of paragraph 5.34 should be modified as follows:</p> <p>"The aim of this policy is to ensure that the operational development needs of farm and forestry businesses are managed in an appropriate way..."</p> <p>Paragraph 5.35 should be modified as follows:</p>	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					<p>"Our Borough has a well-established agricultural and forestry community and business sector which contributes significantly to the local economy and is vital in maintaining a vibrant rural community. As agricultural and forestry business needs change and in order to ensure the longevity of a farm or forestry enterprise and maintain employment in the agricultural and forestry sector, new or extended buildings may be required."</p> <p>Finally, paragraph 5.36 should be modified as follows:</p> <p>"In bringing forward proposals, the applicant will be required to demonstrate a need for any new or extended agricultural or forestry buildings and that these are sensitively integrated into the landscape and will not cause any significant adverse impacts on amenity, human health or the environment."</p>		
MOD 20	RA18	Appendix 2, Change 13	Page 98 Policy DM 6.1	<p>"The Council will encourage and support a diverse range of retail and Complementary town centre uses* within our Borough's identified centres provided these support rather than detract from the successful functioning of the centres and their ability to meet local needs. All development proposals should contribute positively to the vitality and viability of the centre, and will be required to demonstrate that they will maintain or enhance the visual amenity of the area by providing an active and attractive frontage appropriate to the location".</p> <p>Footnote *Complementary town centre uses include cultural and community facilities, leisure, entertainment and business uses, including offices."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify the introductory text of DM 6.1, delete criterion (c) and add footnote to the term "complimentary town centre uses", page 98 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 21	RA19	Appendix 3, MA003	Page 98 Policy DM 6.2	<p>MA003</p> <p>"Proposals that would result in the loss of retail units will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that the retail use of the unit is no longer viable (e.g. evidence to show that despite marketing of the unit/building for at least 6 months there has been no interest shown) and this will not result in a concentration of non-retail uses that would be harmful to the shopping function of the centre."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 6.2 to replace "12 months" with "6 months" at page 98 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 22	RA20		Page 98 Policy DM 6	<p>Additional paragraph to be added after DM 6.4,</p> <p>"District and Local Centres</p> <p>A Retail Assessment will be required for any development proposal that involves an increase of more than 1,000 m2 (gross) of retail floor space in District and Local Centres. The Retail Assessment should provide a proportionate response to the proposal being sought and incorporate an assessment of need, impact and the sequential test. This includes applications for an extension/s which would result in the overall</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 6 by inserting an additional paragraph after current DM 6.4 to the policy box at page 98 of the dPS in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

				development exceeding 1000 square metre gross external area."			
MOD 23	RA21	Appendix 3 MA004.A	Page 99 Para 5.42	MA004A "The aim of this policy is to protect the role, viability and vitality of town centres from the adverse impacts ..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 5.42, page 99 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA004.A'.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 24	RA22	Appendix 3 MA005.A	Page 100 Policy DM 7.1 & 7.2	See MA005A "In considering development proposals for retail use (including extensions) and other main town centre uses outside our Borough's centres, the Council will apply the following sequential test which requires that locations for new development be considered in the following order of preference: Centre sites; Edge of Centre sites; and Out of Centre locations that are, or can be made, accessible by walking, cycling and public transport."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy 7.1, page 100 of the dPS, to remove "which generate significant footfall" and "town" in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read: "In considering development proposals for retail use (including extensions) and other main town centre uses outside our Borough's centres, the Council will apply the following sequential test which requires that locations for new development be considered in the following order of preference: • Centre sites*; • Edge of Centre sites; and • Out of Centre locations that are, or can be made, accessible by walking, cycling and public transport." Dfl also directs the Council to insert an asterisk at Centre sites in the first bullet point to read: *"To be applied in the following order of Large Town Centres, Town Centres, and then District Centres." It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.A'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency, coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 25	RA23	Appendix 3 MA005.B	Page 100 Policy DM 7.2	See MA005B "Proposals for retail use and other main town centre uses in out of centre locations will only be acceptable where, having regard to the expected catchment of the development, all of the following criteria are demonstrated: All centre and edge of centre options have been assessed and discounted as unsuitable, unviable or unavailable. Where there are multiple centres within the defined catchment area, the order of preference should be to develop in the higher order centre; The scale of development proposed is appropriate to its location, and it has been shown that the proposal cannot reasonably be altered or reduced in scale to allow it to be accommodated at a sequentially preferable location;	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy 7.2, page 100 of the dPS, to delete "which generate significant footfall" and "town" in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.B'. For clarity, this should read as follows: "Proposals for retail use and other main town centre uses in out of centre locations will only be acceptable where, having regard to the expected catchment of the development, all of the following criteria are demonstrated: (a) All centre and edge of centre options have been assessed and discounted as unsuitable, unviable or unavailable. Where there are multiple centres within the	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

				There will be no significant individual or cumulative adverse effect on the vitality and viability of existing centres within the catchment; The proposal will help to meet qualitative or quantitative deficiencies; and The site can be easily accessed by a range of transport modes."	defined catchment area, the order of preference should be to develop in the higher order centre; (b) The scale of development proposed is appropriate to its location, and it has been shown that the proposal cannot reasonably be altered or reduced in scale to allow it to be accommodated at a sequentially preferable location; (c) There will be no significant individual or cumulative adverse effect on the vitality and viability of existing centres within the catchment; (d) The proposal will help to meet qualitative or quantitative deficiencies; and (e) The site can be easily accessed by a range of transport modes."		
MOD 26	RA24	Appendix 3 MA005.C	Page 101 Policy DM 7.5	See MA005C "A Retail Assessment will be required for any development proposal that involves an increase of more than 1,000 m2 (gross) of retail floor space outside any of our Borough's centres. This includes applications for an extension(s) which would result in the overall development exceeding 1,000 m2 gross external area. The Retail Assessment should provide a proportionate response to the proposal being sought and incorporate an assessment of need, impact and the sequential test."	DfI directs the Council to modify Policy DM 7.5, page 101 of the dPS in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.C'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 27	RA25	Appendix 2 Change 18	Page 104 Policy DM 9.4	"For new hotels and guesthouses, preference will be given to developments that are physically associated with existing settlements or which involve the sympathetic conversion of a locally important building. In other cases where a guesthouse or hotel accommodation is proposed in a countryside location a specific locational need must be demonstrated."	DfI directs the Council to amend the second sentence of DM9.4, page 104 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 28	RA26		Page 105 Policy DM 9.10	"...(d) Satisfactory information is submitted for proposals in the countryside to demonstrate a robust business case for the development; The extent to which the proposal will promote a sustainable form of development and complement the Council's Tourism Strategy; and existing or planned public access to tourism assets, including landscape features and the coast, are safeguarded or enhanced."	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional criterion (f) at DM9.10, page 105 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read as follows: "DM 9.10 Developers will be required to submit a supporting statement to accompany all proposals for tourism development that demonstrates how the proposal meets the following criteria: (a) The development is compatible with policies to safeguard and enhance the historic environment and natural heritage assets; (b) There is a high quality of design and the scale and nature of the development will allow for its integration into the receiving environment; (c) The development is proposed at an accessible location and adequate infrastructure arrangements can be provided (e.g. roads, parking, drainage); (d) Satisfactory information is submitted for proposals in the countryside to demonstrate a robust business case for the development;	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					(e) The extent to which the proposal will promote a sustainable form of development and complement the Council's Tourism Strategy; and (f) Existing or planned public access to tourism assets, including landscape features and the coast, are safeguarded or enhanced."		
MOD 29	RA27	Appendix 2, Change 20	Page 112 Policy SP 3.9	"...complementary measures for the overall delivery of more sustainable travel patterns and to reduce the level of private car use."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting this additional text at the end of the second sentence of SP3.9, page 112 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 30	RA28	Appendix 2, Change 21	Page 115 Para 6.15	"The LDP will be supported by a Local Transport Study (LTS) prepared by Dfl..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by replacing the phrase "Transport Strategy" with the phrase "Transport Study", in the first sentence of paragraph 6.15, page 115 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 31	RA29	Appendix 2, Change 22	Page 118 Policy DM 10.1	"...(a) There is the capacity on the road network to accommodate the type and amount of traffic likely to be generated, or where any adverse impact can be suitably mitigated, taking into account the cumulative impacts of development; (b) Access arrangements do not prejudice road safety or significantly inconvenience the flow of people or goods; and...."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by amending criteria (a) and (b) of DM10.1, page 118 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 32	RA30	Appendix 2, Change 23	Page 119 Para 6.21	"A properly located and well-designed access* is essential for the safety and convenience..." Insert the following footnote, *For the purposes of DM 10 and DM 11 a field gate does not constitute an access.	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an asterisk after "access" in the first sentence of 6.21 and a corresponding footnote, at page 119 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 33	RA31	n/a	Page 120	the prefix 'sub' to be deleted	Dfl directs the Council to modify by deleting the prefix "sub" in the first sentence of DM11.3(b), at page 120 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in

			Policy DM11.3(b)			consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 34	RA32	n/a	Page 121 Policy DM11.4(b)	The Plan should refer to road safety	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM11.4(b) of page 121 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. This wording has been established in paragraph 5.81 of the PAC Report on the Independent Examination and for clarity, should read : "A residential proposal, which assists in the creation of a high quality urban design without compromising standards of road safety and does not result in an excessive number of additional access points onto the Protected Route."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 35	RA33	Appendix 2, Change 24	Page 121 Policy DM12.1(b)	"... (b) Safe, convenient and attractive walking and cycle linkages to existing or programmed networks nearby;..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM12.1(b), at page 121 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 36	RA34	Appendix 2, Change 25	Page 126 Policy DM14.1(c)	See MA006 "... (c) The proposal will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.1(c), at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Please note, the reference to MA006 is incorrect. MA006 is dealt with under RA36 below.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 37	RA35	n/a	Page 126 Policy DM 14.2	Insert the word 'unacceptable' before 'adverse impacts'	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.2, at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 38	RA36	Appendix 3,	Page 126	"...(a) They avoid areas identified for their landscape importance as set out in SP 8 except where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Council that this is not feasible"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.3(a), at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No	The modified policy wording will have no

		MA006	Policy DM14.3(a)		Please note that this is MA006.	Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 39	RA37	Appendix 2, Change 27	Page 127 Policy DM 14.4	Amended paragraph 14.4, new paragraph 14.5 & new footnote: "DM 14.4 Proposals involving development within the vicinity of a wastewater treatment works* will only..." "DM 14.5 In assessing proposals the Council will also take into account the provisions of any relevant policy or guidance produced by Northern Ireland Water." *For the purposes of this policy a Waste Water Treatment Work (WWTW) includes a Waste Water Pumping Station (WWPS)."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM14.4, insert a new paragraph after 14.4 and insert a corresponding footnote at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 40	RA38	Appendix 2, Change 28	Page 128 Policy DM 16.4	New footnote inserted: "DM 14.6 Applications for telecommunications development by Code System Operators* or broadcasters will need to include: information about the purpose and need for the particular development including a description of how it fits into the operator's or broadcaster's wider network; details of the consideration given to measures to mitigate the visual and environmental impact of the proposal; and where the proposal relates to the development of a mobile telecommunications base station, a statement indicating the following: Its location, the height of the antenna, the frequency and modulation characteristics and details of power output; Declaring that the base station when operational will meet the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure to electromagnetic fields; and That the development shall not cause undue interference to other radio spectrum users. * As defined under The Communications Act 2003."	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting an asterisk after the term "Code System Operators" at DM16.4 and a corresponding footnote, at page 128 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Please note, reference to DM 14.6 within RA 38 is incorrect, this RA relates to DM16.4. For clarity, this should read as follows: "DM 16.4 Applications for telecommunications development by Code System Operators* or broadcasters will need to include: (a) information about the purpose and need for the particular development including a description of how it fits into the operator's or broadcaster's wider network; (b) details of the consideration given to measures to mitigate the visual and environmental impact of the proposal; and (c) where the proposal relates to the development of a mobile telecommunications base station, a statement indicating the following: • Its location, the height of the antenna, the frequency and modulation characteristics and details of power output; • Declaring that the base station when operational will meet the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure to electromagnetic fields; and • That the development shall not cause undue interference to other radio spectrum users. * As defined under The Communications Act 2003."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 41	RA39	Partially as suggested under Appendix 3,	Page 139 & 140 Para	See MA021 Additional paragraph and subsequent renumbering of relevant paragraphs:	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after 7.23, at page 140 of the dPS as follows:	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in

		MA021	7.24	<p>"7.24 For the purposes of the Plan, the definition of Affordable Housing is the same as the definition used in the Strategic Planning Policy Statement.</p> <p>7.25 In order..."</p>	<p>"7.24 The current definition of affordable housing, which is provided by the Department for Communities is contained in Planning policy, specifically the Strategic Planning Policy Statement – SPPS.</p> <p>7.25 In order..."</p>	coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 42	RA40	Appendix 3, MA026	Page 143 Policy DM17.1(d)	<p>"(d) For proposals of 20 units or more, a minimum of 20% must demonstrate how the 'Lifetime Homes' approach has been taken account of, to ensure that new developments are accessible to all and will assist in the creation of a more balanced community;"</p>	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify DM17.1(d), page 143 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.</p> <p>Note: this is MA026</p>	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 43	RA41	Appendix 3, MA027	Page 144 Policy DM 17.5	<p>See MA027</p> <p>Additional paragraph and subsequent renumbering:</p> <p>"DM 17.5 Where it is demonstrated that a development is not viable, a reduced or alternative provision of affordable housing may be acceptable."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting a new first paragraph at DM17.5 and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, page 144 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 44	RA42	Appendix 3, MA025.A	Page 145 Para 7.34	<p>See MA025A</p> <p>Additional paragraph and renumbering of successive paragraphs:</p> <p>"7.34 Details of the requirements of the Lifetime Homes standards can be obtained from the Department for Communities website at: https://www.communitiesni.gov.uk/articles/housing-association-guide"</p>	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after 7.33 and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, page 145/146 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.</p> <p>It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA025.A'.</p>	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 45	RA43	Appendix 3, MA029	Page 148 Policy DM18.3(b)	<p>See MA029</p> <p>"No dwellings or residential development opportunities have been sold off or transferred from the farm holding within a period of 10 years from the date of the application and no previous permissions have been granted for a farm dwelling during the same period; and....."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM18.3(b), page 148 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 46	RA44	N/a	Page 149	<p>"Exceptionally, where it is demonstrated that it is not possible to sensitively cluster with an established group of buildings as per DM 18.3(c), consideration may be given ... where this</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM18.4, page 149 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No	The modified policy wording will have no

			Policy DM 18.4	would have a limited impact on the character and appearance of the countryside"	"Exceptionally, where it is demonstrated that it is not possible to sensitively cluster with an established group of buildings as per DM 18.3(c), consideration may be given to locating the new farm dwelling on a well-defined site on the holding that is enclosed by significant, long established boundary planting, where this would have a limited impact on the character and appearance of the countryside"	Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 47	N/a	N/a	Page 150 & 157 Policy DM18.8		Dfl directs council to modify by deleting Policy DM18.8 and figure 9, page 150 of the dPS. Furthermore, Dfl directs council to modify by deleting the last sentence of paragraph 7.50, page 157, of the DPS.	No Modification of policy wording and amplification wording as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 48	RA45	Partially as suggested under Appendix 3, MA032	Page 150 Policy DM18.10	See MA032 "However in all cases, buildings designed and used for agricultural purposes, such as sheds, and temporary buildings, will not be eligible for replacement under this policy."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM18.10, page 150 of the dPS, for clarity this should read as follows: "However, in all cases, temporary buildings and buildings designed and used for agricultural purposes (such as sheds), will not be eligible for replacement under this policy." Note: Dfl have reworded MA032 for clarity. Furthermore, Dfl also direct council to modify the last sentence of paragraph 7.51, page 157 of the dPS, as follows: However, it should be noted that temporary buildings (such as caravans and mobile homes) and agricultural buildings (such as sheds) are not eligible for replacement under this policy.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 49	N/a	N/a	Page 154 Policy DM18 (g)		Dfl directs the Council to modify policy DM18G, paragraph DM18.29, page 154, of the dPS by inserting a footnote after the phrase "small group of dwellings in the countryside". The corresponding footnote should read: "*No more than 14 dwellings"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and certainty. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 50	RA46	Appendix 3, MA034	Page 161	See MA034 "Where a need is identified for a transit site or a serviced site which cannot readily be met within an existing settlement in	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM20.2, page 161 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact

			Policy DM 20.2	the locality, proposals will also be required to meet the provision of Policy DM 18.31".		purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 51	RA47	N/a	Page 164 Policy DM 22	the information contained in Annex A of the Addendum to PPS7 – Residential Extensions and Alterations should be replicated in the PS	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 22.2, page 164, of the dPS, as follows: "The Council will take account of the guidance set out in Appendix B of the Plan Strategy, which replicates the details included in Annex A of the Addendum to Planning Policy Statement 7: Residential Extensions and Alterations (DoE 2008)". Dfl are content this raises no issues of copyright. It is noted relevant content will be from page 10 -20 of this document. References to "The Department" should be changed to "The Council" where appropriate, as well as references to PPS7, which will be superseded by the PS. These changes would be covered under MOD93.	No Modification of policy wording to identify location of SPG text. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 52	RA48	Appendix 2, Change 30	Page 175 Para 8.18	"Examples of significant ... may include the provision of affordable housing where a demonstrable local need....."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 8.18, page 175 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read as follows: "Examples of significant community benefit acceptable under the policy may include the provision of affordable housing where a demonstrable local need is identified or the development of a local facility which has the support of the wider community"	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of clarification and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 53	RA49	N/a	Page 178 Policy DM 24.2	Relocate DM 24.2 under the heading 'Development in the Countryside'	Dfl directs the Council to relocate DM24.2 under the heading "Development in the Countryside", page 178 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 54	RA50	Appendix 3, MA017.A	Page 178 & 179 Policy DM 24.4 (b)	See MA017A "(b) There would be an overall community benefit from a development and the particular loss of land and facilities will have no significant effect on the overall provision of facilities in the locality; or....."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM24.4(b), page 179 of the dPS, to change the word "gain" to "benefit" in accordance with the PAC Recommended Amendment. It should be noted that the correct reference is 'MA017.A'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 55	RA51	Appendix 3, MA017.B	Page 179 Policy DM 24.5	See MA017B DM 24.5 to sit under a new sub-heading entitled: "Community Facilities within Residential Developments"	Dfl directs the Council to insert a new sub-heading "Community Facilities within Residential Developments" above DM24.5, page 179 of the dPS, in accordance with the PAC Recommended Amendment. It should be noted that the correct reference is 'MA017.B'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 56	N/a	N/a	Page 178 & 179 Policy DM 24		Further to the changes above within RA49-51, Dfl also directs council to modify DM24.2, DM24.3 and DM24.6, page 178-179, of the dPS, as detailed below. For clarity Policy DM24: Community facilities has been written out in full to include the changes at RA49-51 (above) and the further changes directed by Dfl within this modification. Policy DM24: Community Facilities Development within Settlements DM 24.1 - The Council will support proposals that provide new or enhanced community facilities and services. New facilities should be located within or adjacent to town, district or local centres or other locations that are easily accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. Development in the Countryside Edge of Settlement DM 24.2 – In exceptional circumstances, where it is demonstrated that there is no alternative site within a settlement, the Council will support a community facility, including intensive sports facilities, at an accessible location on the edge of a settlement where the proposal: (a) Represents a logical extension to the built- up area; (b) Is of an appropriate scale in relation to the size of the settlement; and (c) Will not cause any significant adverse effect on the landscape setting or character of the settlement. Other countryside locations DM 24.3 – With the exception of Intensive Sports Facilities, the Council will sympathetically view proposals for new community buildings and facilities, including appropriate outdoor recreational, sporting and play facilities at accessible locations in the countryside. All proposals will be required to demonstrate an identified local need and accord with the other policies of this plan. Reuse of Existing Community Facilities	No Modification of policy wording and amplification wording as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					<p>DM24.4 - The Council will not support development that may be detrimental to or result in the loss of community services and facilities. In exceptional circumstances, the Council will support development, which seeks to reuse or redevelop an existing community facility for another purpose whereby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The facility is surplus to the needs of the community; (b) There would be an overall community benefit from a development and the particular loss of land and facilities will have no significant effect on the overall provision of facilities in the locality; or (c) Alternative provision or equivalent community recreational benefit is made available at a suitable location within the local area. <p>Community Facilities within Residential Developments</p> <p>DM 24.5 - New residential development should be designed to ensure good accessibility to existing services and facilities intended to serve future residents and where appropriate developers may be required to provide or contribute towards new and/or enhanced community infrastructure arising as a result of the development.</p> <p>DM 24.6 - For the purposes of this policy, community facilities includes sports and recreation facilities (including intensive sports facilities) as well as a range of community and public buildings.</p> <p>Furthermore, DfI directs council to modify the amplification text on page 179 of the dPS, by inserting new wording within paragraph 8.25, a new paragraph at 8.26 and subsequent re- numbering of remaining paragraphs.</p> <p>Amplification</p> <p>8.25 New community facilities should be located in places that promote accessibility for the communities they are intended to serve. Whilst the majority of facilities will be located within or, exceptionally, adjacent to our Borough's settlements. It is also recognised that certain facilities at an appropriate scale may also be acceptable at accessible locations in the countryside where a demonstrable case of need can be made.</p> <p>8.26 An intensive sports facility is a purpose built or outdoor resource which facilitates one or more activity fundamental to maintaining individual health and fitness. This may include stadia, sports halls, leisure centres, swimming pools, and other indoor (and outdoor) sports facilities. The precise location of such facilities can be contentious, and by their very nature and scale can give rise to particularly complex planning considerations such as impact on sustainability issues and amenity, for example, through floodlighting. Such facilities shall be located within settlements in order to maximise the use of existing infrastructure. Where it is</p>		
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					<p>demonstrated that there is no suitable site in a settlement such facilities may be permitted in an edge of settlement location subject to the criteria at DM 24.2.</p> <p>8.27 Where a proposal involves a change of use or redevelopment of an existing community facility to a non-community use, the developer will be required to demonstrate that the facility is surplus to the needs of the community and that it is no longer needed or viable for an alternative community use. This will normally entail evidence that the property has been marketed for a meaningful period for community use with no interest shown.</p> <p>8.28 The Council also considers that it is reasonable for developers to contribute towards the demand arising for new or enhanced community infrastructure as a result of their development. In such cases, the Council may seek to secure the provision or improvement of community facilities, or improved access to such facilities, by way of a planning agreement under Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. This may include provision for agreed works to be carried out by the developer or a financial contribution in lieu of such works.</p>		
MOD 57	RA52	Appendix 2, Change 32	Page 184 Policy SP 6.2	"... unique Places of the Borough and assist in the promotion of biodiversity."	DfI directs the Council to modify the SP6.2, page 184 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 58	RA53	Appendix 3, MA007	Page 185 Policy SP 6.4	See MA007 "...all proposals for 10 dwellings or more and all non-residential development of 500m2 internal floorspace or greater to be accompanied by a Design and Access Statement...."	<p>DfI directs the Council to modify the second sentence of SP6.4, page 185 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:</p> <p>"The Council will therefore require all proposals for 10 dwellings or more and all non-residential development of 500m2 internal floorspace or greater to be accompanied by a Design and Access Statement."</p>	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 59	RA54	Appendix 2, Change 33	Page 192 Para 9.20	"...integrate into their surroundings, assist the promotion of biodiversity and to protect the amenity..."	<p>DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 9.20, page 192 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:</p> <p>"The aim of this policy is to promote high quality forms of development which are designed to sympathetically integrate into their surroundings, assist the promotion of biodiversity and to protect the amenity and character of our countryside."</p>	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 60	RA55	Appendix 2, Change 34	Page 194 Policy DM 27.5	"All proposals for development in the countryside will be expected to address biodiversity impact and be accompanied..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM27.5, page 194 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "All proposals for development in the countryside will be expected to address biodiversity impact and be accompanied by a detailed landscaping scheme, which retains or reinstates traditional boundaries and augments existing planting."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 61	RA56	Appendix 2, Change 35	Page 194 Policy DM 27.6	New text "The Council will take account of the supplementary guidance document 'Building on Tradition – A Sustainable Design Guide for the Northern Ireland Countryside' (Dfl, 2012) in assessing the design of all development proposals for new buildings in the countryside."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM27.6, page 194 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 62	RA57	N/a	Page 198 Policy DM 29.2	"An advertisement proposed to be attached to, or within the curtilage of, a Listed Building should be carefully designed and located and special regard must be paid to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Advertisements in Conservation Areas and Areas of Townscape Character should not have an adverse effect on the specific character, appearance and setting of the area".	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM29.2, page 198 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 63	RA58	N/a	Page 216 Policy DM 32.4	Change 'Statement of Justification' to 'Statement of Significance'.	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM32.4, page 216 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Furthermore, Dfl directs the council to modify the amplification text at paragraph 10.34 on page 217 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 64	N/a	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM 33.1		Dfl directs the Council to modify DM33.1, page 221 of the dPS as follows: The Council will only support development within or adjacent to a Conservation Area that enhances the character or appearance of the area where an opportunity to do so arises, or otherwise to preserve its character or appearance and that is consistent with any relevant conservation area guidance."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

						aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 65	RA59	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM33.3(a)	"The proposal accords with the Guiding Principle of Policy paragraph DM 33.2 through the appropriate design, use of materials, detailing, scale, form & massing & arrangement of such development"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM33.3(a), page 221 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 66	N/a	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM 33.5		Dfl directs Council to modify the second sentence of Policy DM33.5, page 221, of the dPS, as follows: "In such cases it must clearly be demonstrated that any redevelopment of the site will enhance the character or appearance of the area where an opportunity to do so arises, or otherwise preserve its character or appearance".	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 67	RA60	Appendix 2, Change 36	Page 236 Policy SP 8.2(b)	"....adverse impact of development, including consideration of potential cumulative effects."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the end of SP8.2(b) page 236 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read as follows: "(b) Applying policies DM37 to DM42 and other relevant policies of the Local Development Plan (LDP) to protect our Borough's natural heritage assets from the adverse impact of development, including consideration of potential cumulative effects."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 68	RA61	Appendix 2, Change 37	Page 237 Policy SP 8.4	"...the overall landscape character, seascape character and specific..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify SP8.4 page 237 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The Council will operate a presumption in favour of development that protects, and where appropriate enhances, the overall landscape character, seascape character and specific landscape features of our Borough, including its coastline with Belfast Lough."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 69	RA62	Appendix 3, MA013	Page 245 Policy DM 38.2	See MA013 "The Council will support development that is not likely to harm or have an adverse effect on any other statutorily protected species and where any impact arising, can be adequately mitigated or compensated against."	Dfl direct the Council to modify Policy DM38.2, page 245, of the dPS, for clarity this should read as follows: "The Council will support development that is not likely to have an adverse effect on any other statutorily protected	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					species and where any impact arising, can be adequately mitigated or compensated against." Note: DfI have amended MA013 in line with the PAC IE report at paragraph 7.16.	not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 70	RA63	Appendix 3, MA011	Page 245 Policy DM 38.4	See MA011 Additional paragraph "DM 38.4 Where there is potential or evidence to suggest, that a protected species exists on the site or is likely to be impacted by a development proposal, the developer will be required to undertake a suitable ecological appraisal, including where necessary, surveys for protected species."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM38.4 page 245 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 71	RA64	Appendix 2, Change 38	Page 246 Para 11.27	"Developers will be required to undertake an ecological appraisal, including where necessary surveys for protected species, where there is potential, or evidence to suggest, that they are present on site or..."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.27 page 246 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 72	RA65	N/a	Page 247 Policy DM 39.1	"The Council will only permit development likely to result in an unacceptable adverse impact on, or damage to, the features listed below ..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM39.1, page 247 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 73	RA66	Appendix 2, Change 39	Page 247 Policy DM 39.2	"Where there is potential or evidence to suggest, that a habitat..."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM39.2, page 247 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 74	RA67	Appendix 2, Change 40	Page 250	"...as well as being important economic, recreational and cultural assets."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.35, page 250 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact

			Para 11.35			wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 75	RA68	Appendix 2, Change 41	Page 251 Policy DM 40.2	".....assessment of landscape impacts a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment proportionate to the development"	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM40.2, page 251 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "To inform the council's assessment of landscape impacts, a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, proportionate to the development in question, will be required to accompany planning applications in the following cases:"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 76	RA69	n/a	Page 251 Policy DM40.5(b)	"Low intensity recreational uses or low intensity tourism proposals;"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM40.5(b) page 251 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 77	RA70	Appendix 3, MA011	Page 252 Policy DM40.6(b)	See MA014 "Low intensity recreational uses or low intensity tourism proposals;"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM40.6(b) page 252 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 78	RA71	Appendix 2, Change 42	Page 253 Policy DM41.1(b)	"...the qualities of the coastal landscape (including seascape character) while still protecting...".	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM41.1(b) page 253 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Other development where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will not harm the qualities of the coastal landscape (including seascape character) while still protecting its nature conservation value."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 79	RA72	Appendix 2,	Page 255	"...Coastal Policy Area should consider their impact on seascape character and how they can enhance the area ".	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first paragraph of 11.43 page 255 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No	The modified policy wording will have no

		Change 43	Para 11.43		"All development proposals along or adjacent to the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area should consider their impact on seascape character and how they can enhance the area, including its nature conservation and amenity value."	Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 80	RA73	Appendix 2, Change 44	Page 255 Para 11.44	"...policy provisions set out in this policy, all development proposals which affect or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area (which includes the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area) will also be assessed against the provisions within the UK Marine Policy Statement and the ..."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.44 page 255 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "It should be noted that in addition to the policy provisions set out in this policy, all development proposals which affect or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area (which includes the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area) will also be assessed against the provisions within the UK Marine Policy Statement and the Northern Ireland Marine Plan, once adopted."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 81	RA74	Appendix 2, Change 45	Page 256 Policy DM42.1(a)	"...native species planting and that seek to incorporate tree-lined streets within new developments."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM42.1(a), page 256 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 82	RA75	Appendix 2, Change 46	Page 262 Policy SP 9.1	"Development will be supported ... will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the environment, amenity or public safety..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the second sentence of SP9.1, page 262 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency, coherence and flexibility. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 83	RA76	N/a	Page 264 & 265 Para 12.11	MA018 Additional paragraph, "4.11 The sustainability of development schemes will also be improved through the use of an appropriate balance of new construction materials and recycled materials wherever feasible."	DfI directs council to modify by inserting an additional paragraph after paragraph 12.11, page 264-265 of the dPS, in accordance with the Council's schedule of Minor Changes June 2022. For clarity this should read as follows: "Positive Planning Note – Adding Value: Our Borough has good potential to accommodate further renewable energy schemes in appropriate locations	No Insertion of new Positive Planning Note. Not a policy modification.	N/a

					harnessing natural resources such as the sun and wind. The potential also exists across the Borough, and in particular around Antrim and to the north west of Mallusk, for the use of both shallow and deep geothermal energy resources for the production of heat, and possibly electrical power, including at a commercial scale. To promote greater sustainability in new development, the Council encourages developers to examine the potential for renewable energy to be incorporated into their schemes, for example through the use of solar panels or ground source heat pumps."		
MOD 84	RA77	Appendix 3, MA009	Page 272 Policy DM45.2(e)	See MA009 "...avoids or adequately resolves any unacceptable adverse impacts including on the..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM45.2(e), page 272 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The proposal avoids or adequately resolves any unacceptable adverse impacts including on the historic and natural environment, cultural heritage, biodiversity, woodlands and tourism and recreational interests; and"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 85	RA78	Appendix 2, Change 49	Page 275 Para 12.28	"...will be required to provide detail on decommissioning and site restoration..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 12.28, page 275 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Where renewable energy development will eventually become redundant, such as wind and solar farms, applicants will be required to provide detail on decommissioning and site restoration."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 86	RA79	Appendix 2, Change 50	Page 275 Para 12.28	"...the site to its former or enhanced condition. Where proposals come forward for the re-use, refurbishment, repair or repowering of existing renewable energy development in order to prolong their life span these will be considered on their individual merits in light of the then prevailing policy. The provisions of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (NI) 1995 as amended will also apply to all such proposals".	Dfl directs the Council to modify the second sentence of paragraph 12.28, page 275 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "This is to include the removal of all aboveground infrastructure and return the site to its former or enhanced condition. Where proposals come forward for the re-use, refurbishment, repair or repowering of existing renewable energy development in order to prolong their life span these will be considered on their individual merits in light of the then prevailing policy. The provisions of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (NI) 1995 as amended will also apply to all such proposals".	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 87	RA80	Partially as suggested under Appendix 2, Change 51	Page 288 Para 13.21	Additional text to paragraph 13.21 "It should demonstrate that: (a) all sources of flood risk to and from the proposed development have been identified; and (b) there are adequate measures to manage and mitigate any increase in flood risk arising from the development."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM46.2, page 287 of the dPS, by inserting the text detailed in the PAC recommended amended into policy rather than J&A. For clarity the last sentence of Policy DM46.2 should read: "These should be set out in the accompanying FRA (flood risk assessment) and should demonstrate that: (a) All sources of flood risk to and from the proposed development have been identified; and	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.

					(b) There are adequate measures to manage and mitigate any increase in flood risk arising from the development".	policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 88	RA81	Appendix 2, Change 52	Page 291 Policy DM 47.5	"...use of the following measures to assist in minimising flood risk: 'soft' SuDS measures e.g. green roofs; swales; soakaways; basins; ponds; wetlands; and rainwater recycling, 'hard' SuDS measures e.g. oversized storm water pipes with flow control attenuation tanks and permeable paving."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM47.5, page 291 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read as follows: " In the case of development accompanied by a DA, the Council will expect applicants to demonstrate that they have considered use of the following measures to assist in minimising flood risk: 'soft' SuDS measures e.g. green roofs; swales; soakaways; basins; ponds; wetlands; and rainwater recycling, and 'hard' SuDS measures e.g. oversized storm water pipes with flow control attenuation tanks and permeable paving."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 89	RA82	Appendix 2, Change 53	Page 292 Para 13.30	" Green roofs, permeable surfaces, oversized storm pipes, water storage..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify paragraph 13.30, page 292 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Developers should consider the incorporation of SuDS as early as possible in the design process, whilst appropriate techniques may include such solutions as green roofs, permeable surfaces, oversized storm pipes, water storage (e.g. ponds), swales (shallow drainage channels), wetlands and ground water infiltration or a combination of such solutions."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 90	RA83	Appendix 2, Change 54	Page 295 Para 13.35	Delete paragraph 13.35 and renumber subsequent paragraphs. Amend paragraph 13.36 to: "Details of Controlled Reservoirs in the Borough are available on Reservoir Flood Maps produced by Dfl (Rivers) and are available to view on its website. These provide..."	Dfl directs the Council to delete paragraph 13.35 and modify paragraph 13.36, page 295 of the dPS, and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 91	RA84	Appendix 2, Change 55	Page 298 Policy DM 50.1	"...the development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment..."	Dfl directs the council to modify the second sentence of DM50.1, page 298 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The report must demonstrate that the development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment and detail how any pollution arising will be appropriately mitigated."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 92	RA85	Appendix 3, MA008	Page 302	See MA008 "...having a likely unacceptable adverse effect..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM53.2, page 302 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in

			Policy DM 53.2		"It must be demonstrated that the proposal will bring an overall net social, environmental and economic benefit without having a likely unacceptable adverse effect:"	consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	terms of its impact on S75 groups.
MOD 93	N/a	N/a	N/a		As a result of the modifications contained within this direction, DfI directs the Council to ensure that any other presentational or factual amendments, typographical errors and grammatical errors are updated as necessary to the overall Plan Strategy upon adoption. These updates should not amend the nature and intent of the modifications.	No General 'administrative' modification.	N/a

Appendix 1b: Section 75 Policy Screening Form

This form should be used for all new or amended policies. It has five parts.

Part 1 – Policy scoping – provide details about the policy being screened and the available evidence to help assess the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.

Part 2 – Screening questions – look at the extent of the likely impact of the policy on each of the Section 75 categories.

Part 3 – Screening decision – the information provided in the previous sections is used to decide whether there is a need to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

Part 4 – Monitoring – sets how the effects of the policy will be monitored. Table 5 details how each step in the preparation of the LDP is monitored to determine any future potential equality impacts.

Part 5 – Authorisation and approval – to be completed upon publication of final document.

Section 75 Policy Screening Form	Implications of Directed Modifications
Part 1 – Policy scoping	The information provided in the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, pages 27 to 34, remains relevant.
<p data-bbox="204 1314 608 1346">Part 2 – Screening questions</p> <p data-bbox="204 1563 667 1742">What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?</p> <p data-bbox="204 1960 667 2022">Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity</p>	<p data-bbox="715 1314 1385 1525">A detailed screening exercise in relation to the directed modifications and their likely impact on equality of opportunity is included in Appendix 1a of this document. This screening exercise has been used to aid the completion of this form.</p> <p data-bbox="715 1563 1385 1883">The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the directed modifications do not change the aim or purpose of any of the provisions of the DPS, or change the likely impacts which were previously identified under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, pages 35 to 36.</p> <p data-bbox="715 1960 1358 2022">The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the</p>

for people within the Section 75 equality categories?	directed modifications do not create additional opportunities to promote equality of opportunity over and above those already identified under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, pages 36 to 38.
To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?	The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the directed modifications do not change the aim or purpose of any of the provisions of the DPS, or change the likely impacts which were previously identified under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 38.
Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?	The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the directed modifications do not create additional opportunities to promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group over those already identified in under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 38.
Additional considerations	
Multiple identity People can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?	The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the directed modifications do not change the aim or purpose of any of the provisions of the DPS, or change the likely impacts which were previously identified under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 39.
Disability Will the policy encourage disabled people to participate in public life or promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?	The assessment contained in Appendix 1a of this document, demonstrates that the directed modifications do not change the aim or purpose of any of the provisions of the DPS, or change the likely impacts which were previously identified under the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 39.

<p>Part 3 – Screening decision</p> <p>If the recommendation is not to conduct an equality impact assessment, please provide details of the reasons.</p> <p>Mitigation Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?</p> <p>If so, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.</p>	<p>The recommendation is not to conduct an equality impact assessment.</p> <p>Further to the directed modifications to a number of the individual DPS strategies and policies, no impacts on equality of opportunity have been identified on Section 75 groups either individually or cumulatively. Reasons as set out in the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 40 -41 remain valid. Therefore the decision has been taken not to conduct an equality impact assessment.</p> <p>No</p> <p>N/a</p>
<p>Part 4 – Monitoring</p> <p>What data is required in future to ensure effective monitoring?</p>	<p>See the original 2019 Equality (Section 75) Screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report, page 42.</p> <p>Any issues raised during this consultation process will be considered before any decision is made in respect of the adoption of the plan strategy.</p> <p>The LDP will be subject to further equality screening during the second stage of the plan process, the Local Policies Plan.</p>
<p>Part 5 – Authorisation and approval</p>	<p>To be completed within final version.</p>

Appendix 2: Review of modifications required to Draft Plan Strategy as per Schedule 1 of DfI Direction with regard to Rural Needs

DfI Modification No.	PAC Recommended Amendment No.	Link to Council's Recommended Amendment No. ² , if applicable.	Page/Policy/Para No. in DPS	PAC Recommended Amendment	DfI Modification following consideration of Recommended Amendments under Sec. 12 of 2011 Act.	Will the modification impact of the aim of the policy?	Likely Impacts of the modification
MOD 01	RA01	Appendix 2, change 1.	Page 20 Para. 1.15	"Once the Plan Strategy is adopted it will replace the regional operational policies that are currently retained by the Strategic Planning Policy Statement..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 1.15, page 20 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC recommendation, as follows: "Once the Plan Strategy is adopted it will replace the regional operational policies that are currently retained by the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (comprised of the existing suite of Planning Policy Statements and the remaining extant provisions Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland)."	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency and coherence. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 02	RA02	Appendix 2, change 2.	Page 26 Para. 2.5	"In addition, there are a large number of other Government Strategies and Plans, such as the Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland and 'Lifetime Opportunities', the Government's Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy that, whilst not specifically referenced in this Section, have been taken into account in preparation of the Plan Strategy.	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 2.5, page 26 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC recommendation, as follows: "In addition, there are a large number of other Government Strategies and Plans, such as the Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland and 'Lifetime Opportunities', the Government's Anti- Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy that, whilst not specifically referenced in this Section, have been taken into account in preparation of the Plan Strategy."	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 03	RA03	Appendix 2, change 3.	Page 30/31 After Para 2.20	"UK Marine Policy Statement 2.21 The UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) was published in September 2011 and was prepared and adopted under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The statement provides the policy framework for the Marine Planning system and for taking decisions that have the potential to impact on the marine environment. The policy framework will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK's marine area which includes both offshore and inshore regions including all tidal rivers and sea loughs. As our Borough abuts Belfast Lough, the Plan Strategy has had regard to the provisions of the MPS. Draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland.	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting new paragraphs after paragraph 2.20, page 30-31 of the dPS, and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Factual update to introductory text for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a

² Suggested minor changes or Matters Arising submitted during the public examination hearing sessions, as contained within Appendix 2 and 3 of the 'Schedule of Suggested Minor Changes to the DPS (updated as part of the Independent Examination) June 2022. The recommended amendment may reflect a revised wording to that originally suggested by ANBC following consideration of representations, response to questions and discussions under the various topic areas at the IE hearing sessions.

				<p>The draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland was published in April 2018 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). The draft Marine Plan has been developed within the framework of the UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) in order to protect and sustainably manage the marine environment in Northern Ireland and facilitate sustainable development including coastal areas. The draft Marine Plan will inform and guide the regulation, management, use and protection of our marine area, both the offshore and inshore regions. The draft Marine Plan was taken into account in preparing the draft Plan Strategy and will continue to inform the LDP process until such time as it is adopted.</p> <p>Under Section 8 of the Marine Act (NI) 2013 the Council must take any authorisation or enforcement decision in accordance with any appropriate marine plan unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise".(remaining paragraphs renumbered)</p>			
MOD 04	RA04	Appendix 2, change 4.	Page 58 Strategic Objective 1	"• Promote sustainable growth by managing development and securing new infrastructure provision in our settlements, countryside and coast to meet the needs of all our citizens".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 1, page 58 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for purposes of consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 05	RA05	Appendix 2, change 5.	Page 58 Strategic Objective 3	"• Provide a range and quality of land and premises to facilitate business growth, promote economic diversification and protect our strategically important employment locations including the Regional Gateway at Belfast International Airport".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 3, page 58 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for consistency, Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 06	RA06	Appendix 2, change 6.	Page 59 Strategic Objective 11	"• Promote biodiversity, and conserve the natural assets of our countryside, coast and loughs".	DfI directs the Council to modify Strategic Objective 11, page 59 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Minor modification of Strategic Objective for coherence and consistency. Not a policy modification.	N/a
MOD 07	RA07	Appendix 2, change 7.	Page 62 Policy SP 1.3	<p>Insertion of new paragraph,</p> <p>"SP 1.3 In addition any development proposal which affects or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area of Belfast Lough must accord with the provisions of the UK Marine Policy Statement and the Draft Marine Plan for NI once adopted unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise."</p> <p>(remaining paragraphs renumbered).</p>	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after paragraph SP 1.2, page 62 of the dPS, and renumber the subsequent paragraphs, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

						the policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 08	RA08	Appendix 2, change 8.	Page 63 Policy SP 1.4	"...to allow proper consideration of the impacts of the development (to include where relevant impacts on the marine area) and any mitigation measures proposed."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of SP1.4, page 63 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "To assist the delivery of sustainable development, the Council will require developers to provide impact assessments in association with planning applications where this is necessary to allow proper consideration of the impacts of the development (to include where relevant impacts on the marine area) and any mitigation measures proposed."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 09	RA09	Appendix 2, change 9.	Page 65 Policy SP 1.6	"(g) Afford suitable protection to our Borough's natural and historic environment, including the adjacent marine environment, in accommodating growth..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify criterion (g) of the Spatial Growth Strategy, page 65 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 10	RA10	n/a	Page 67 Policy SP 1.11	Replace term 'brownfield land' to 'previously developed land'	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy SP1.11 of page 67 of the dPS, by retaining the term "brownfield land" and inserting a footnote at "brownfield land", to read: "RDS 2035 (page 106) definition of brownfield land: This is sometimes referred to as previously developed land that is, or was occupied by a permanent structure within a defined Settlement limit". Furthermore, Dfl directs the council to insert the phrase "within settlements", after "In all locations". For clarity this policy should read; "In all locations, within settlements, proposals that reuse or make better use of vacant, derelict or underused brownfield land (footnote number) or buildings will be supported where they are in accordance with the relevant policies of the LDP".	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 11	RA11	Appendix 2, change 10.	Page 68 Para 4.2	"...the careful management of our historic environment and natural heritage, including the adjacent marine area. The Plan..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 4.2, page 68 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read: "As such, the LDP seeks to further sustainable development through its policies and designations which balance the social and economic priorities of our Borough alongside the careful management of our historic environment and natural heritage, including the adjacent marine area."	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

MOD 12	RA12	n/a	Page 70 Para 4.7	Insert (villages and hamlets) after the term 'smaller settlements'	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting "(villages and hamlets)" after the term "smaller settlements" in the last sentence of paragraph 4.7, page 70 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Our Strategic Growth Strategy also recognises the importance of sustaining our Borough's rural community and seeks to allow appropriate growth in our smaller settlements (villages and hamlets) and the countryside."	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 13	RA13	Appendix 3, MA018	Page 71 Para 4.11	MA0018 Additional paragraph: "4.11 The sustainability of development schemes will also be improved through the use of an appropriate balance of new construction materials and recycled materials wherever feasible."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional paragraph after paragraph 4.10, page 71 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 14	n/a	n/a	Page 78 Policy SP 2.8	n/a	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional sentence (highlighted below) at end of SP2.8, page 78, of the dPS. For clarity this will read as follows: "Until such times as the boundary of the SEL is identified at BIA, the Council will operate a presumption in favour of a wide range of industrial, business, airport related, and other complementary employment and service uses on the lands currently zoned at this location for airport related uses. In addition, the Council will in principle, support development at BIA that accords with or complements the published Airport Masterplan 2030. Proposals for retail and other town centre uses at this location must comply with all relevant retail policies set out elsewhere in the plan strategy including policies SP2.12 and DM7."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 15	n/a	n/a	Pages 84 and 87 Para 5.18 & 5.19 Fig. 5 map		Dfl directs the Council to modify paragraph 5.18, page 84 of the dPS, as follows: "Based on the Retail and Commercial Leisure Study undertaken in support of the Plan Strategy, the Council has identified a retail hierarchy that recognises the traditional town centres of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin and Randalstown, with a town centre also identified at Glengormley in Metropolitan Newtownabbey These are complemented by district centres at Northcott and Whiteabbey Village." Furthermore, Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 5.19, page 84 of the dPS, as follows:	No Modification of justification wording and figure 5 map as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

					<p>"Whilst the five town centres vary greatly in size and the level of provision of services afforded, they all perform an important function in meeting the needs of residents within their surrounding catchment areas."</p> <p>Also, DfI directs the Council to modify the map entitled "Figure 5: Hierarchy of Centres in our Borough" by removing the reference to "Abbey Centre" under "Large Town Centre". DfI directs the Council to renumber the titles and reflect this in the map accordingly.</p>																						
MOD 16	RA14	Appendix 2, Change 11	Pages 78-79 Policy SP 2.12	Table 4 amended to read: <table><tr><th>Tier</th><th>Title</th><th>Role and Function</th><th>Centres</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Large Town Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a significant hinterland which includes smaller neighbouring towns or a number of suburbs.</td><td>Abbey Centre and Antrim</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Town Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a hinterland which includes neighbouring villages or a few surrounding suburbs.</td><td>Ballyclare, Cumin, Glegunmerry, and Rundabluwn</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>District Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a suburban community.</td><td>Northcott and Whiteabbey Village</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Local Centres</td><td>Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops and services to a surrounding community.</td><td>Urban <u>Metropolitan Newtownabbey</u> Abbot's Cross, Ballyduff, Beverley Road, Cammerney, Cloughfern, The Diamond (Rathcoole), Jennings Park, Kingspark/Kings Crescent, Mallusk, Mayfield, Merville Garden Village, Monkstown, Mossley West and Richmond. <u>Antrim</u> Greystone and Parkhall Rural Ballynure, Doagh, Parkgate, Templepatrick, and Toome</td></tr></table>	Tier	Title	Role and Function	Centres	1	Large Town Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a significant hinterland which includes smaller neighbouring towns or a number of suburbs.	Abbey Centre and Antrim	2	Town Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a hinterland which includes neighbouring villages or a few surrounding suburbs.	Ballyclare, Cumin, Glegunmerry, and Rundabluwn	3	District Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops, services, businesses and community facilities to a suburban community.	Northcott and Whiteabbey Village	4	Local Centres	Provides (or has the potential to provide) a range of shops and services to a surrounding community.	Urban <u>Metropolitan Newtownabbey</u> Abbot's Cross, Ballyduff, Beverley Road, Cammerney, Cloughfern, The Diamond (Rathcoole), Jennings Park, Kingspark/Kings Crescent, Mallusk, Mayfield, Merville Garden Village, Monkstown, Mossley West and Richmond. <u>Antrim</u> Greystone and Parkhall Rural Ballynure, Doagh, Parkgate, Templepatrick, and Toome	DfI directs the council to modify Table 4 within Policy SP2.12, page 79 of the dPS, in accordance with the PAC recommended Table 4. DfI further directs Council to modify this amended Table 4, to remove Abbey Centre from Tier 1, Large Town Centres.	No Modification of policy wording as directed by DfI. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
Tier	Title	Role and Function	Centres																								
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MOD 17	RA15	Appendix 3, MA001	Page 78 Policy SP 2.12	See MA001 Change to heading: "Retail Centres and the Retail Hierarchy"	DfI directs the Council to modify by replacing the heading "Town Centres and Retailing" with the heading "Retail Centres and the Retail Hierarchy" at SP2.12, page 78 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.																				
MOD 18	RA16	Appendix 2, Change 12	Page 89 Policy DM 1.4	"(c) The alternative use proposed would not result in conflict or be incompatible with the remaining businesses at the site or be materially detrimental to the specific character and amenity of the immediate area."	DfI directs the Council to modify by replacing criterion (c), page 89 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.																				

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 19	RA17	n/a	Page 94 Policy DM 4	Inclusion of Forestry development in Policy DM4	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify the title of policy DM4, page 94 of the dPS, to include the word "forestry". For clarity, the title should read:</p> <p>"Policy DM4: Agricultural and Forestry Development"</p> <p>Dfl also directs the Council to modify the following sections of Policy DM4, page 94-95, of the dPS, to include forestry development. For clarity this should read as follows:</p> <p>The first sentence of DM4.1 to be modified as:</p> <p>"The Council will support proposals for a new agricultural building(s), forestry development or other development ancillary....."</p> <p>The second sentence of DM4.2 to be modified as:</p> <p>"Exceptionally, a lesser period may be acceptable, but only where the applicant is actively engaged in farming or forestry, and it is demonstrated that the proposal is necessary to meet the needs of a farm or forestry business that has been in operation for at least 12 months."</p> <p>Policy DM 4.3 (a) should be modified as:</p> <p>"(a) It is essential for the efficient functioning of the farm or forestry business;"</p> <p>Policy DM 4.4 should be modified as:</p> <p>"Development proposals involving intensive farming, forestry or animal husbandry must demonstrate that they will not result in any significant adverse health or environmental effects, particularly in relation to ammonia production."</p> <p>Furthermore, Dfl directs the Council to modify the Policy section heading above paragraph 5.34 and paragraphs 5.34 -5.36, pages 93-94, of the dPS to include forestry.</p> <p>For clarity, the title should read:</p> <p>"Agricultural and Forestry Development".</p> <p>The second line of paragraph 5.34 should be modified as follows:</p> <p>"The aim of this policy is to ensure that the operational development needs of farm and forestry businesses are managed in an appropriate way..."</p> <p>Paragraph 5.35 should be modified as follows:</p>	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

					<p>"Our Borough has a well-established agricultural and forestry community and business sector which contributes significantly to the local economy and is vital in maintaining a vibrant rural community. As agricultural and forestry business needs change and in order to ensure the longevity of a farm or forestry enterprise and maintain employment in the agricultural and forestry sector, new or extended buildings may be required."</p> <p>Finally, paragraph 5.36 should be modified as follows:</p> <p>"In bringing forward proposals, the applicant will be required to demonstrate a need for any new or extended agricultural or forestry buildings and that these are sensitively integrated into the landscape and will not cause any significant adverse impacts on amenity, human health or the environment."</p>		
MOD 20	RA18	Appendix 2, Change 13	Page 98 Policy DM 6.1	<p>"The Council will encourage and support a diverse range of retail and Complementary town centre uses* within our Borough's identified centres provided these support rather than detract from the successful functioning of the centres and their ability to meet local needs. All development proposals should contribute positively to the vitality and viability of the centre, and will be required to demonstrate that they will maintain or enhance the visual amenity of the area by providing an active and attractive frontage appropriate to the location".</p> <p>Footnote *Complementary town centre uses include cultural and community facilities, leisure, entertainment and business uses, including offices."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify the introductory text of DM 6.1, delete criterion (c) and add footnote to the term "complimentary town centre uses", page 98 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 21	RA19	Appendix 3, MA003	Page 98 Policy DM 6.2	<p>MA003</p> <p>"Proposals that would result in the loss of retail units will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that the retail use of the unit is no longer viable (e.g. evidence to show that despite marketing of the unit/building for at least 6 months there has been no interest shown) and this will not result in a concentration of non-retail uses that would be harmful to the shopping function of the centre."</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 6.2 to replace "12 months" with "6 months" at page 98 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 22	RA20		Page 98 Policy DM 6	<p>Additional paragraph to be added after DM 6.4,</p> <p>"District and Local Centres</p> <p>A Retail Assessment will be required for any development proposal that involves an increase of more than 1,000 m2 (gross) of retail floor space in District and Local Centres. The Retail Assessment should provide a proportionate response to the proposal being sought and incorporate an assessment of need, impact and the sequential test. This includes applications for an extension/s which would result in the overall</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 6 by inserting an additional paragraph after current DM 6.4 to the policy box at page 98 of the dPS in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

				development exceeding 1000 square metre gross external area."			
MOD 23	RA21	Appendix 3 MA004.A	Page 99 Para 5.42	MA004A "The aim of this policy is to protect the role, viability and vitality of town centres from the adverse impacts ..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 5.42, page 99 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA004.A'.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 24	RA22	Appendix 3 MA005.A	Page 100 Policy DM 7.1 & 7.2	See MA005A "In considering development proposals for retail use (including extensions) and other main town centre uses outside our Borough's centres, the Council will apply the following sequential test which requires that locations for new development be considered in the following order of preference: Centre sites; Edge of Centre sites; and Out of Centre locations that are, or can be made, accessible by walking, cycling and public transport."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy 7.1, page 100 of the dPS, to remove "which generate significant footfall" and "town" in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read: "In considering development proposals for retail use (including extensions) and other main town centre uses outside our Borough's centres, the Council will apply the following sequential test which requires that locations for new development be considered in the following order of preference: • Centre sites*; • Edge of Centre sites; and • Out of Centre locations that are, or can be made, accessible by walking, cycling and public transport." Dfl also directs the Council to insert an asterisk at Centre sites in the first bullet point to read: *"To be applied in the following order of Large Town Centres, Town Centres, and then District Centres." It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.A'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency, coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 25	RA23	Appendix 3 MA005.B	Page 100 Policy DM 7.2	See MA005B "Proposals for retail use and other main town centre uses in out of centre locations will only be acceptable where, having regard to the expected catchment of the development, all of the following criteria are demonstrated: All centre and edge of centre options have been assessed and discounted as unsuitable, unviable or unavailable. Where there are multiple centres within the defined catchment area, the order of preference should be to develop in the higher order centre; The scale of development proposed is appropriate to its location, and it has been shown that the proposal cannot reasonably be altered or reduced in scale to allow it to be accommodated at a sequentially preferable location;	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy 7.2, page 100 of the dPS, to delete "which generate significant footfall" and "town" in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.B'. For clarity, this should read as follows: "Proposals for retail use and other main town centre uses in out of centre locations will only be acceptable where, having regard to the expected catchment of the development, all of the following criteria are demonstrated: (a) All centre and edge of centre options have been assessed and discounted as unsuitable, unviable or unavailable. Where there are multiple centres within the	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

				There will be no significant individual or cumulative adverse effect on the vitality and viability of existing centres within the catchment; The proposal will help to meet qualitative or quantitative deficiencies; and The site can be easily accessed by a range of transport modes."	defined catchment area, the order of preference should be to develop in the higher order centre; (b) The scale of development proposed is appropriate to its location, and it has been shown that the proposal cannot reasonably be altered or reduced in scale to allow it to be accommodated at a sequentially preferable location; (c) There will be no significant individual or cumulative adverse effect on the vitality and viability of existing centres within the catchment; (d) The proposal will help to meet qualitative or quantitative deficiencies; and (e) The site can be easily accessed by a range of transport modes."		
MOD 26	RA24	Appendix 3 MA005.C	Page 101 Policy DM 7.5	See MA005C "A Retail Assessment will be required for any development proposal that involves an increase of more than 1,000 m2 (gross) of retail floor space outside any of our Borough's centres. This includes applications for an extension(s) which would result in the overall development exceeding 1,000 m2 gross external area. The Retail Assessment should provide a proportionate response to the proposal being sought and incorporate an assessment of need, impact and the sequential test."	DfI directs the Council to modify Policy DM 7.5, page 101 of the dPS in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. It is noted that the correct reference is 'MA005.C'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 27	RA25	Appendix 2 Change 18	Page 104 Policy DM 9.4	"For new hotels and guesthouses, preference will be given to developments that are physically associated with existing settlements or which involve the sympathetic conversion of a locally important building. In other cases where a guesthouse or hotel accommodation is proposed in a countryside location a specific locational need must be demonstrated."	DfI directs the Council to amend the second sentence of DM9.4, page 104 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 28	RA26		Page 105 Policy DM 9.10	"...(d) Satisfactory information is submitted for proposals in the countryside to demonstrate a robust business case for the development; The extent to which the proposal will promote a sustainable form of development and complement the Council's Tourism Strategy; and existing or planned public access to tourism assets, including landscape features and the coast, are safeguarded or enhanced."	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting an additional criterion (f) at DM9.10, page 105 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read as follows: "DM 9.10 Developers will be required to submit a supporting statement to accompany all proposals for tourism development that demonstrates how the proposal meets the following criteria: (a) The development is compatible with policies to safeguard and enhance the historic environment and natural heritage assets; (b) There is a high quality of design and the scale and nature of the development will allow for its integration into the receiving environment; (c) The development is proposed at an accessible location and adequate infrastructure arrangements can be provided (e.g. roads, parking, drainage); (d) Satisfactory information is submitted for proposals in the countryside to demonstrate a robust business case for the development;	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

					(e) The extent to which the proposal will promote a sustainable form of development and complement the Council's Tourism Strategy; and (f) Existing or planned public access to tourism assets, including landscape features and the coast, are safeguarded or enhanced."		
MOD 29	RA27	Appendix 2, Change 20	Page 112 Policy SP 3.9	"...complementary measures for the overall delivery of more sustainable travel patterns and to reduce the level of private car use."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting this additional text at the end of the second sentence of SP3.9, page 112 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 30	RA28	Appendix 2, Change 21	Page 115 Para 6.15	"The LDP will be supported by a Local Transport Study (LTS) prepared by Dfl..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by replacing the phrase "Transport Strategy" with the phrase "Transport Study", in the first sentence of paragraph 6.15, page 115 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 31	RA29	Appendix 2, Change 22	Page 118 Policy DM 10.1	"...(a) There is the capacity on the road network to accommodate the type and amount of traffic likely to be generated, or where any adverse impact can be suitably mitigated, taking into account the cumulative impacts of development; (b) Access arrangements do not prejudice road safety or significantly inconvenience the flow of people or goods; and...."	Dfl directs the Council to modify by amending criteria (a) and (b) of DM10.1, page 118 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 32	RA30	Appendix 2, Change 23	Page 119 Para 6.21	"A properly located and well-designed access* is essential for the safety and convenience..." Insert the following footnote, *For the purposes of DM 10 and DM 11 a field gate does not constitute an access.	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting an asterisk after "access" in the first sentence of 6.21 and a corresponding footnote, at page 119 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 33	RA31	n/a	Page 120	the prefix 'sub' to be deleted	Dfl directs the Council to modify by deleting the prefix "sub" in the first sentence of DM11.3(b), at page 120 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in

			Policy DM11.3(b)			consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 34	RA32	n/a	Page 121 Policy DM11.4(b)	The Plan should refer to road safety	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM11.4(b) of page 121 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. This wording has been established in paragraph 5.81 of the PAC Report on the Independent Examination and for clarity, should read : "A residential proposal, which assists in the creation of a high quality urban design without compromising standards of road safety and does not result in an excessive number of additional access points onto the Protected Route."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 35	RA33	Appendix 2, Change 24	Page 121 Policy DM12.1(b)	"... (b) Safe, convenient and attractive walking and cycle linkages to existing or programmed networks nearby;..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM12.1(b), at page 121 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 36	RA34	Appendix 2, Change 25	Page 126 Policy DM14.1(c)	See MA006 "... (c) The proposal will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.1(c), at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Please note, the reference to MA006 is incorrect. MA006 is dealt with under RA36 below.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 37	RA35	n/a	Page 126 Policy DM 14.2	Insert the word 'unacceptable' before 'adverse impacts'	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.2, at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 38	RA36	Appendix 3,	Page 126	"...(a) They avoid areas identified for their landscape importance as set out in SP 8 except where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Council that this is not feasible"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM14.3(a), at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No	The modified policy wording will have no

		MA006	Policy DM14.3(a)		Please note that this is MA006.	Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 39	RA37	Appendix 2, Change 27	Page 127 Policy DM 14.4	Amended paragraph 14.4, new paragraph 14.5 & new footnote: "DM 14.4 Proposals involving development within the vicinity of a wastewater treatment works* will only..." "DM 14.5 In assessing proposals the Council will also take into account the provisions of any relevant policy or guidance produced by Northern Ireland Water." *For the purposes of this policy a Waste Water Treatment Work (WWTW) includes a Waste Water Pumping Station (WWPS)."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM14.4, insert a new paragraph after 14.4 and insert a corresponding footnote at page 126 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 40	RA38	Appendix 2, Change 28	Page 128 Policy DM 16.4	New footnote inserted: "DM 14.6 Applications for telecommunications development by Code System Operators* or broadcasters will need to include: information about the purpose and need for the particular development including a description of how it fits into the operator's or broadcaster's wider network; details of the consideration given to measures to mitigate the visual and environmental impact of the proposal; and where the proposal relates to the development of a mobile telecommunications base station, a statement indicating the following: Its location, the height of the antenna, the frequency and modulation characteristics and details of power output; Declaring that the base station when operational will meet the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure to electromagnetic fields; and That the development shall not cause undue interference to other radio spectrum users. * As defined under The Communications Act 2003."	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting an asterisk after the term "Code System Operators" at DM16.4 and a corresponding footnote, at page 128 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Please note, reference to DM 14.6 within RA 38 is incorrect, this RA relates to DM16.4. For clarity, this should read as follows: "DM 16.4 Applications for telecommunications development by Code System Operators* or broadcasters will need to include: (a) information about the purpose and need for the particular development including a description of how it fits into the operator's or broadcaster's wider network; (b) details of the consideration given to measures to mitigate the visual and environmental impact of the proposal; and (c) where the proposal relates to the development of a mobile telecommunications base station, a statement indicating the following: • Its location, the height of the antenna, the frequency and modulation characteristics and details of power output; • Declaring that the base station when operational will meet the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure to electromagnetic fields; and • That the development shall not cause undue interference to other radio spectrum users. * As defined under The Communications Act 2003."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 41	RA39	Partially as suggested under Appendix 3,	Page 139 & 140 Para	See MA021 Additional paragraph and subsequent renumbering of relevant paragraphs:	DfI directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after 7.23, at page 140 of the dPS as follows:	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact

		MA021	7.24	<p>"7.24 For the purposes of the Plan, the definition of Affordable Housing is the same as the definition used in the Strategic Planning Policy Statement.</p> <p>7.25 In order..."</p>	<p>"7.24 The current definition of affordable housing, which is provided by the Department for Communities is contained in Planning policy, specifically the Strategic Planning Policy Statement – SPPS.</p> <p>7.25 In order..."</p>	coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	on the rural community.
MOD 42	RA40	Appendix 3, MA026	Page 143 Policy DM17.1(d)	“(d) For proposals of 20 units or more, a minimum of 20% must demonstrate how the ‘Lifetime Homes’ approach has been taken account of, to ensure that new developments are accessible to all and will assist in the creation of a more balanced community;”	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify DM17.1(d), page 143 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.</p> <p>Note: this is MA026</p>	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 43	RA41	Appendix 3, MA027	Page 144 Policy DM 17.5	<p>See MA027</p> <p>Additional paragraph and subsequent renumbering:</p> <p>“DM 17.5 Where it is demonstrated that a development is not viable, a reduced or alternative provision of affordable housing may be acceptable.”</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting a new first paragraph at DM17.5 and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, page 144 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 44	RA42	Appendix 3, MA025.A	Page 145 Para 7.34	<p>See MA025A</p> <p>Additional paragraph and renumbering of successive paragraphs:</p> <p>“7.34 Details of the requirements of the Lifetime Homes standards can be obtained from the Department for Communities website at: https://www.communitiesni.gov.uk/articles/housing-association-guide”</p>	<p>Dfl directs the Council to modify by inserting a new paragraph after 7.33 and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, page 145/146 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.</p> <p>It is noted that the correct reference is ‘MA025.A’.</p>	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 45	RA43	Appendix 3, MA029	Page 148 Policy DM18.3(b)	<p>See MA029</p> <p>“No dwellings or residential development opportunities have been sold off or transferred from the farm holding within a period of 10 years from the date of the application and no previous permissions have been granted for a farm dwelling during the same period; and.....”</p>	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM18.3(b), page 148 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 46	RA44	N/a	Page 149	“Exceptionally, where it is demonstrated that it is not possible to sensitively cluster with an established group of buildings as per DM 18.3(c), consideration may be given ... where this	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM18.4, page 149 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No	The modified policy wording will have no

			Policy DM 18.4	would have a limited impact on the character and appearance of the countryside"	"Exceptionally, where it is demonstrated that it is not possible to sensitively cluster with an established group of buildings as per DM 18.3(c), consideration may be given to locating the new farm dwelling on a well-defined site on the holding that is enclosed by significant, long established boundary planting, where this would have a limited impact on the character and appearance of the countryside"	Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 47	N/a	N/a	Page 150 & 157 Policy DM18.8		Dfl directs council to modify by deleting Policy DM18.8 and figure 9, page 150 of the dPS. Furthermore, Dfl directs council to modify by deleting the last sentence of paragraph 7.50, page 157, of the DPS.	No Modification of policy wording and amplification wording as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 48	RA45	Partially as suggested under Appendix 3, MA032	Page 150 Policy DM18.10	See MA032 "However in all cases, buildings designed and used for agricultural purposes, such as sheds, and temporary buildings, will not be eligible for replacement under this policy."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM18.10, page 150 of the dPS, for clarity this should read as follows: "However, in all cases, temporary buildings and buildings designed and used for agricultural purposes (such as sheds), will not be eligible for replacement under this policy." Note: Dfl have reworded MA032 for clarity. Furthermore, Dfl also direct council to modify the last sentence of paragraph 7.51, page 157 of the dPS, as follows: However, it should be noted that temporary buildings (such as caravans and mobile homes) and agricultural buildings (such as sheds) are not eligible for replacement under this policy.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 49	N/a	N/a	Page 154 Policy DM18 (g)		Dfl directs the Council to modify policy DM18G, paragraph DM18.29, page 154, of the dPS by inserting a footnote after the phrase "small group of dwellings in the countryside". The corresponding footnote should read: "*No more than 14 dwellings"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and certainty. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 50	RA46	Appendix 3, MA034	Page 161	See MA034 "Where a need is identified for a transit site or a serviced site which cannot readily be met within an existing settlement in	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM20.2, page 161 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact

			Policy DM 20.2	the locality, proposals will also be required to meet the provision of Policy DM 18.31".		purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 51	RA47	N/a	Page 164 Policy DM 22	the information contained in Annex A of the Addendum to PPS7 – Residential Extensions and Alterations should be replicated in the PS	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM 22.2, page 164, of the dPS, as follows: "The Council will take account of the guidance set out in Appendix B of the Plan Strategy, which replicates the details included in Annex A of the Addendum to Planning Policy Statement 7: Residential Extensions and Alterations (DoE 2008)". Dfl are content this raises no issues of copyright. It is noted relevant content will be from page 10 -20 of this document. References to "The Department" should be changed to "The Council" where appropriate, as well as references to PPS7, which will be superseded by the PS. These changes would be covered under MOD93.	No Modification of policy wording to identify location of SPG text. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 52	RA48	Appendix 2, Change 30	Page 175 Para 8.18	"Examples of significant ... may include the provision of affordable housing where a demonstrable local need....."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 8.18, page 175 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read as follows: "Examples of significant community benefit acceptable under the policy may include the provision of affordable housing where a demonstrable local need is identified or the development of a local facility which has the support of the wider community"	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of clarification and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 53	RA49	N/a	Page 178 Policy DM 24.2	Relocate DM 24.2 under the heading 'Development in the Countryside'	Dfl directs the Council to relocate DM24.2 under the heading "Development in the Countryside", page 178 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 54	RA50	Appendix 3, MA017.A	Page 178 & 179 Policy DM 24.4 (b)	See MA017A "(b) There would be an overall community benefit from a development and the particular loss of land and facilities will have no significant effect on the overall provision of facilities in the locality; or....."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM24.4(b), page 179 of the dPS, to change the word "gain" to "benefit" in accordance with the PAC Recommended Amendment. It should be noted that the correct reference is 'MA017.A'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 55	RA51	Appendix 3, MA017.B	Page 179 Policy DM 24.5	See MA017B DM 24.5 to sit under a new sub-heading entitled: "Community Facilities within Residential Developments"	Dfl directs the Council to insert a new sub-heading "Community Facilities within Residential Developments" above DM24.5, page 179 of the dPS, in accordance with the PAC Recommended Amendment. It should be noted that the correct reference is 'MA017.B'.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 56	N/a	N/a	Page 178 & 179 Policy DM 24		Further to the changes above within RA49-51, Dfl also directs council to modify DM24.2, DM24.3 and DM24.6, page 178-179, of the dPS, as detailed below. For clarity Policy DM24: Community facilities has been written out in full to include the changes at RA49-51 (above) and the further changes directed by Dfl within this modification. Policy DM24: Community Facilities Development within Settlements DM 24.1 - The Council will support proposals that provide new or enhanced community facilities and services. New facilities should be located within or adjacent to town, district or local centres or other locations that are easily accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. Development in the Countryside Edge of Settlement DM 24.2 – In exceptional circumstances, where it is demonstrated that there is no alternative site within a settlement, the Council will support a community facility, including intensive sports facilities, at an accessible location on the edge of a settlement where the proposal: (a) Represents a logical extension to the built- up area; (b) Is of an appropriate scale in relation to the size of the settlement; and (c) Will not cause any significant adverse effect on the landscape setting or character of the settlement. Other countryside locations DM 24.3 – With the exception of Intensive Sports Facilities, the Council will sympathetically view proposals for new community buildings and facilities, including appropriate outdoor recreational, sporting and play facilities at accessible locations in the countryside. All proposals will be required to demonstrate an identified local need and accord with the other policies of this plan. Reuse of Existing Community Facilities	No Modification of policy wording and amplification wording as directed by Dfl. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

					<p>DM24.4 - The Council will not support development that may be detrimental to or result in the loss of community services and facilities. In exceptional circumstances, the Council will support development, which seeks to reuse or redevelop an existing community facility for another purpose whereby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The facility is surplus to the needs of the community; (b) There would be an overall community benefit from a development and the particular loss of land and facilities will have no significant effect on the overall provision of facilities in the locality; or (c) Alternative provision or equivalent community recreational benefit is made available at a suitable location within the local area. <p>Community Facilities within Residential Developments</p> <p>DM 24.5 - New residential development should be designed to ensure good accessibility to existing services and facilities intended to serve future residents and where appropriate developers may be required to provide or contribute towards new and/or enhanced community infrastructure arising as a result of the development.</p> <p>DM 24.6 - For the purposes of this policy, community facilities includes sports and recreation facilities (including intensive sports facilities) as well as a range of community and public buildings.</p> <p>Furthermore, DfI directs council to modify the amplification text on page 179 of the dPS, by inserting new wording within paragraph 8.25, a new paragraph at 8.26 and subsequent re- numbering of remaining paragraphs.</p> <p>Amplification</p> <p>8.25 New community facilities should be located in places that promote accessibility for the communities they are intended to serve. Whilst the majority of facilities will be located within or, exceptionally, adjacent to our Borough's settlements. It is also recognised that certain facilities at an appropriate scale may also be acceptable at accessible locations in the countryside where a demonstrable case of need can be made.</p> <p>8.26 An intensive sports facility is a purpose built or outdoor resource which facilitates one or more activity fundamental to maintaining individual health and fitness. This may include stadia, sports halls, leisure centres, swimming pools, and other indoor (and outdoor) sports facilities. The precise location of such facilities can be contentious, and by their very nature and scale can give rise to particularly complex planning considerations such as impact on sustainability issues and amenity, for example, through floodlighting. Such facilities shall be located within settlements in order to maximise the use of existing infrastructure. Where it is</p>		
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					<p>demonstrated that there is no suitable site in a settlement such facilities may be permitted in an edge of settlement location subject to the criteria at DM 24.2.</p> <p>8.27 Where a proposal involves a change of use or redevelopment of an existing community facility to a non-community use, the developer will be required to demonstrate that the facility is surplus to the needs of the community and that it is no longer needed or viable for an alternative community use. This will normally entail evidence that the property has been marketed for a meaningful period for community use with no interest shown.</p> <p>8.28 The Council also considers that it is reasonable for developers to contribute towards the demand arising for new or enhanced community infrastructure as a result of their development. In such cases, the Council may seek to secure the provision or improvement of community facilities, or improved access to such facilities, by way of a planning agreement under Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. This may include provision for agreed works to be carried out by the developer or a financial contribution in lieu of such works.</p>		
MOD 57	RA52	Appendix 2, Change 32	Page 184 Policy SP 6.2	"... unique Places of the Borough and assist in the promotion of biodiversity."	DfI directs the Council to modify the SP6.2, page 184 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 58	RA53	Appendix 3, MA007	Page 185 Policy SP 6.4	See MA007 "...all proposals for 10 dwellings or more and all non-residential development of 500m2 internal floorspace or greater to be accompanied by a Design and Access Statement...."	DfI directs the Council to modify the second sentence of SP6.4, page 185 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The Council will therefore require all proposals for 10 dwellings or more and all non-residential development of 500m2 internal floorspace or greater to be accompanied by a Design and Access Statement."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 59	RA54	Appendix 2, Change 33	Page 192 Para 9.20	"...integrate into their surroundings, assist the promotion of biodiversity and to protect the amenity..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 9.20, page 192 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The aim of this policy is to promote high quality forms of development which are designed to sympathetically integrate into their surroundings, assist the promotion of biodiversity and to protect the amenity and character of our countryside."	No Modification of justification wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

						policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 60	RA55	Appendix 2, Change 34	Page 194 Policy DM 27.5	"All proposals for development in the countryside will be expected to address biodiversity impact and be accompanied..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM27.5, page 194 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "All proposals for development in the countryside will be expected to address biodiversity impact and be accompanied by a detailed landscaping scheme, which retains or reinstates traditional boundaries and augments existing planting."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 61	RA56	Appendix 2, Change 35	Page 194 Policy DM 27.6	New text "The Council will take account of the supplementary guidance document 'Building on Tradition – A Sustainable Design Guide for the Northern Ireland Countryside' (Dfl, 2012) in assessing the design of all development proposals for new buildings in the countryside."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM27.6, page 194 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 62	RA57	N/a	Page 198 Policy DM 29.2	"An advertisement proposed to be attached to, or within the curtilage of, a Listed Building should be carefully designed and located and special regard must be paid to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Advertisements in Conservation Areas and Areas of Townscape Character should not have an adverse effect on the specific character, appearance and setting of the area".	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM29.2, page 198 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 63	RA58	N/a	Page 216 Policy DM 32.4	Change 'Statement of Justification' to 'Statement of Significance'.	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM32.4, page 216 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. Furthermore, Dfl directs the council to modify the amplification text at paragraph 10.34 on page 217 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 64	N/a	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM 33.1		Dfl directs the Council to modify DM33.1, page 221 of the dPS as follows: The Council will only support development within or adjacent to a Conservation Area that enhances the character or appearance of the area where an opportunity to do so arises, or otherwise to preserve its character or appearance and that is consistent with any relevant conservation area guidance."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

						aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 65	RA59	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM33.3(a)	"The proposal accords with the Guiding Principle of Policy paragraph DM 33.2 through the appropriate design, use of materials, detailing, scale, form & massing & arrangement of such development"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM33.3(a), page 221 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 66	N/a	N/a	Page 221 Policy DM 33.5		Dfl directs Council to modify the second sentence of Policy DM33.5, page 221, of the dPS, as follows: "In such cases it must clearly be demonstrated that any redevelopment of the site will enhance the character or appearance of the area where an opportunity to do so arises, or otherwise preserve its character or appearance".	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 67	RA60	Appendix 2, Change 36	Page 236 Policy SP 8.2(b)	"....adverse impact of development, including consideration of potential cumulative effects."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the end of SP8.2(b) page 236 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read as follows: "(b) Applying policies DM37 to DM42 and other relevant policies of the Local Development Plan (LDP) to protect our Borough's natural heritage assets from the adverse impact of development, including consideration of potential cumulative effects."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 68	RA61	Appendix 2, Change 37	Page 237 Policy SP 8.4	"...the overall landscape character, seascape character and specific..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify SP8.4 page 237 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The Council will operate a presumption in favour of development that protects, and where appropriate enhances, the overall landscape character, seascape character and specific landscape features of our Borough, including its coastline with Belfast Lough."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 69	RA62	Appendix 3, MA013	Page 245 Policy DM 38.2	See MA013 "The Council will support development that is not likely to harm or have an adverse effect on any other statutorily protected species and where any impact arising, can be adequately mitigated or compensated against."	Dfl direct the Council to modify Policy DM38.2, page 245, of the dPS, for clarity this should read as follows: "The Council will support development that is not likely to have an adverse effect on any other statutorily protected	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact

					species and where any impact arising, can be adequately mitigated or compensated against." Note: DfI have amended MA013 in line with the PAC IE report at paragraph 7.16.	not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	on the rural community.
MOD 70	RA63	Appendix 3, MA011	Page 245 Policy DM 38.4	See MA011 Additional paragraph "DM 38.4 Where there is potential or evidence to suggest, that a protected species exists on the site or is likely to be impacted by a development proposal, the developer will be required to undertake a suitable ecological appraisal, including where necessary, surveys for protected species."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM38.4 page 245 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 71	RA64	Appendix 2, Change 38	Page 246 Para 11.27	"Developers will be required to undertake an ecological appraisal, including where necessary surveys for protected species, where there is potential, or evidence to suggest, that they are present on site or..."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.27 page 246 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 72	RA65	N/a	Page 247 Policy DM 39.1	"The Council will only permit development likely to result in an unacceptable adverse impact on, or damage to, the features listed below ..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM39.1, page 247 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 73	RA66	Appendix 2, Change 39	Page 247 Policy DM 39.2	"Where there is potential or evidence to suggest, that a habitat..."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM39.2, page 247 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 74	RA67	Appendix 2, Change 40	Page 250	"...as well as being important economic, recreational and cultural assets."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.35, page 250 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of justification	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact

			Para 11.35			wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 75	RA68	Appendix 2, Change 41	Page 251 Policy DM 40.2	".....assessment of landscape impacts a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment proportionate to the development"	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM40.2, page 251 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "To inform the council's assessment of landscape impacts, a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, proportionate to the development in question, will be required to accompany planning applications in the following cases:"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 76	RA69	n/a	Page 251 Policy DM40.5(b)	"Low intensity recreational uses or low intensity tourism proposals;"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM40.5(b) page 251 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 77	RA70	Appendix 3, MA011	Page 252 Policy DM40.6(b)	See MA014 "Low intensity recreational uses or low intensity tourism proposals;"	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM40.6(b) page 252 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of clarity and consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 78	RA71	Appendix 2, Change 42	Page 253 Policy DM41.1(b)	"...the qualities of the coastal landscape (including seascape character) while still protecting...".	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM41.1(b) page 253 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Other development where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will not harm the qualities of the coastal landscape (including seascape character) while still protecting its nature conservation value."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 79	RA72	Appendix 2,	Page 255	"...Coastal Policy Area should consider their impact on seascape character and how they can enhance the area ".	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first paragraph of 11.43 page 255 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No	The modified policy wording will have no

		Change 43	Para 11.43		"All development proposals along or adjacent to the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area should consider their impact on seascape character and how they can enhance the area, including its nature conservation and amenity value."	Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 80	RA73	Appendix 2, Change 44	Page 255 Para 11.44	"...policy provisions set out in this policy, all development proposals which affect or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area (which includes the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area) will also be assessed against the provisions within the UK Marine Policy Statement and the ..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify paragraph 11.44 page 255 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "It should be noted that in addition to the policy provisions set out in this policy, all development proposals which affect or might affect the whole or any part of the marine area (which includes the Belfast Lough Coastal Policy Area) will also be assessed against the provisions within the UK Marine Policy Statement and the Northern Ireland Marine Plan, once adopted."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 81	RA74	Appendix 2, Change 45	Page 256 Policy DM42.1(a)	"...native species planting and that seek to incorporate tree-lined streets within new developments."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM42.1(a), page 256 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 82	RA75	Appendix 2, Change 46	Page 262 Policy SP 9.1	"Development will be supported ... will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the environment, amenity or public safety..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the second sentence of SP9.1, page 262 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency, coherence and flexibility. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 83	RA76	N/a	Page 264 & 265 Para 12.11	MA018 Additional paragraph, "4.11 The sustainability of development schemes will also be improved through the use of an appropriate balance of new construction materials and recycled materials wherever feasible."	Dfl directs council to modify by inserting an additional paragraph after paragraph 12.11, page 264-265 of the dPS, in accordance with the Council's schedule of Minor Changes June 2022. For clarity this should read as follows: "Positive Planning Note – Adding Value: Our Borough has good potential to accommodate further renewable energy schemes in appropriate locations	No Insertion of new Positive Planning Note. Not a policy modification.	N/a

					harnessing natural resources such as the sun and wind. The potential also exists across the Borough, and in particular around Antrim and to the north west of Mallusk, for the use of both shallow and deep geothermal energy resources for the production of heat, and possibly electrical power, including at a commercial scale. To promote greater sustainability in new development, the Council encourages developers to examine the potential for renewable energy to be incorporated into their schemes, for example through the use of solar panels or ground source heat pumps."		
MOD 84	RA77	Appendix 3, MA009	Page 272 Policy DM45.2(e)	See MA009 "...avoids or adequately resolves any unacceptable adverse impacts including on the..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify DM45.2(e), page 272 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The proposal avoids or adequately resolves any unacceptable adverse impacts including on the historic and natural environment, cultural heritage, biodiversity, woodlands and tourism and recreational interests; and"	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 85	RA78	Appendix 2, Change 49	Page 275 Para 12.28	"...will be required to provide detail on decommissioning and site restoration..."	Dfl directs the Council to modify the first sentence of paragraph 12.28, page 275 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Where renewable energy development will eventually become redundant, such as wind and solar farms, applicants will be required to provide detail on decommissioning and site restoration."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 86	RA79	Appendix 2, Change 50	Page 275 Para 12.28	"...the site to its former or enhanced condition. Where proposals come forward for the re-use, refurbishment, repair or repowering of existing renewable energy development in order to prolong their life span these will be considered on their individual merits in light of the then prevailing policy. The provisions of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (NI) 1995 as amended will also apply to all such proposals".	Dfl directs the Council to modify the second sentence of paragraph 12.28, page 275 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "This is to include the removal of all aboveground infrastructure and return the site to its former or enhanced condition. Where proposals come forward for the re-use, refurbishment, repair or repowering of existing renewable energy development in order to prolong their life span these will be considered on their individual merits in light of the then prevailing policy. The provisions of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (NI) 1995 as amended will also apply to all such proposals".	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 87	RA80	Partially as suggested under Appendix 2, Change 51	Page 288 Para 13.21	Additional text to paragraph 13.21 "It should demonstrate that: (a) all sources of flood risk to and from the proposed development have been identified; and (b) there are adequate measures to manage and mitigate any increase in flood risk arising from the development."	Dfl directs the Council to modify Policy DM46.2, page 287 of the dPS, by inserting the text detailed in the PAC recommended amended into policy rather than J&A. For clarity the last sentence of Policy DM46.2 should read: "These should be set out in the accompanying FRA (flood risk assessment) and should demonstrate that: (a) All sources of flood risk to and from the proposed development have been identified; and	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.

					(b) There are adequate measures to manage and mitigate any increase in flood risk arising from the development".	policy from that originally assessed.	
MOD 88	RA81	Appendix 2, Change 52	Page 291 Policy DM 47.5	"...use of the following measures to assist in minimising flood risk: 'soft' SuDS measures e.g. green roofs; swales; soakaways; basins; ponds; wetlands; and rainwater recycling, 'hard' SuDS measures e.g. oversized storm water pipes with flow control attenuation tanks and permeable paving."	DfI directs the Council to modify DM47.5, page 291 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity this should read as follows: " In the case of development accompanied by a DA, the Council will expect applicants to demonstrate that they have considered use of the following measures to assist in minimising flood risk: 'soft' SuDS measures e.g. green roofs; swales; soakaways; basins; ponds; wetlands; and rainwater recycling, and 'hard' SuDS measures e.g. oversized storm water pipes with flow control attenuation tanks and permeable paving."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 89	RA82	Appendix 2, Change 53	Page 292 Para 13.30	" Green roofs, permeable surfaces, oversized storm pipes, water storage..."	DfI directs the Council to modify paragraph 13.30, page 292 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "Developers should consider the incorporation of SuDS as early as possible in the design process, whilst appropriate techniques may include such solutions as green roofs, permeable surfaces, oversized storm pipes, water storage (e.g. ponds), swales (shallow drainage channels), wetlands and ground water infiltration or a combination of such solutions."	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of coherence and effectiveness. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 90	RA83	Appendix 2, Change 54	Page 295 Para 13.35	Delete paragraph 13.35 and renumber subsequent paragraphs. Amend paragraph 13.36 to: "Details of Controlled Reservoirs in the Borough are available on Reservoir Flood Maps produced by DfI (Rivers) and are available to view on its website. These provide..."	DfI directs the Council to delete paragraph 13.35 and modify paragraph 13.36, page 295 of the dPS, and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment.	No Modification of amplification wording for purposes of consistency and coherence. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 91	RA84	Appendix 2, Change 55	Page 298 Policy DM 50.1	"...the development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment..."	DfI directs the council to modify the second sentence of DM50.1, page 298 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read: "The report must demonstrate that the development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on local amenity or the environment and detail how any pollution arising will be appropriately mitigated."	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 92	RA85	Appendix 3, MA008	Page 302	See MA008 "...having a likely unacceptable adverse effect..."	DfI directs the Council to modify the first sentence of DM53.2, page 302 of the dPS, in accordance with this PAC Recommended Amendment. For clarity, this should read:	No Modification of policy wording for purposes of	The modified policy wording will have no differential impact than the original in

			Policy DM 53.2		"It must be demonstrated that the proposal will bring an overall net social, environmental and economic benefit without having a likely unacceptable adverse effect:"	consistency. The modification does not change the aim/purpose of the policy from that originally assessed.	terms of its impact on the rural community.
MOD 93	N/a	N/a	N/a		As a result of the modifications contained within this direction, DfI directs the Council to ensure that any other presentational or factual amendments, typographical errors and grammatical errors are updated as necessary to the overall Plan Strategy upon adoption. These updates should not amend the nature and intent of the modifications.	No General 'administrative' modification.	N/a

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Annex C Approval and Authorisation of Equality (Sec 75) Screening Report July 2025

Screened by:	Job Title	Date
Sharon Mossman	Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control	23 June 2025
Approved by:		
Majella McAlister	Director of Economic Development and Planning	23 June 2025
Approving Committee		
ANBC Council	Council	30 June 2025

Annex D Documenting and Recording of Rural Needs Impact Assessment Report July 2025.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Sharon Mossman
Position/Grade	Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control
Division/Branch	Planning Section
Date	23 June 2025
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	Majella McAlister
Position/Grade	Director of Economic Development and Planning
Division/Branch	Planning Section
Date	23 June 2025

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