



Subject:	Equality & Diversity: Equality Screening and Rural Needs Outcome Report Quarter 4 2024-25
Date:	23 May 2025
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal & Civic Services
Contact Officers:	Russell Connelly, Policy, Research and Compliance Officer

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

☐
☐
☐
☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

☒

No

☐

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to set out the Quarterly Screening Outcome Report of equality screenings and rural needs impact assessments for Quarter 4 2024-25.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the Quarterly Screening Outcome Report which will be published on the Council's website.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Background</u>
3.1	<p>As Members will be aware, the Council has a duty to have, under section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity in relation to the nine equality categories; and Regard to the desirability of promotion good relations
3.2	<p>In addition, under section 1 of the Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and when designing and delivering public services.
3.3	<p>To this end, the Council has a process to carry out equality screening and rural needs assessment of new and revised policies. This allows any impacts related to equality of opportunity, good relations or rural needs to be identified and addressed.</p>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.4	<p>An equality screening and rural needs impact assessment template is completed by the relevant officer, in collaboration with the Equality and Diversity Unit. On a regular basis, the Unit collates all completed templates into a screening outcome report and publishes onto the Council's website along with the relevant completed templates. The current screening outcome report for Quarter 4 2024-25 is attached at Appendix 1.</p>
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.5	<p>None.</p>
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.6	<p>This report contributes to the Council's compliance with section 75 or the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Rural Needs Act 2016.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Screening Outcome Report for Quarter 4 2024-25.