

## Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)

### SECTION 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

#### 1A. Name of Public Authority.

Mid Ulster District Council

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

Provision of services for local government in compliance of the Data Protection Act 2018 that repeals the existing data protection legislation and internal policy.

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

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Designing a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Delivering a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### 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.

General Data Protection Policy

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

- To provide assurance to our employees and public that we seek to protect the information we hold and used it for legitimate purposes.
- To replace the existing Policy and ensure Council meets the requirements of the General Data Protection Act 2018
- To ensure that all appropriate staff are properly trained, kept fully informed of their obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018, and that they are aware of their personal data protection liabilities, setting out the standards expected by the Council in relation to processing of personal data and safeguarding individuals' rights and freedoms.
- To ensure the protection of personal and sensitive information of staff and our customers.
- To ensure all staff across the Council are aware of, and understand the importance of, data protection and confidentiality.
- To Assist the Council to comply with all requirements of the DPA.
- To ensure procedures are in place across the Council for staff, contractors and members regarding disclosure of personal information.
- To increase the awareness of data subjects to the amount of personal data processed and stored by the Council about them and advise them of their rights under the data protection legislation.
- To ensure all staff receive appropriate data protection training, with regular updates or when significant data protection guidance changes.

**1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?**

Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition).

☒

Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below).

☐

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

☐

*Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.*

Not Applicable

*Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.*

Not Applicable

*Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.*

Not Applicable

## 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 ☒ No ☐ If the response is NO GO TO Section 2E.

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

The policy is implemented in the same manner for rural dwellers as it is for urban dwellers.

That means in essence the policy enforces greater control on personal data on data controllers and processors, increase the right of subject of the personal data and is more reflective of the needs of society and personal data privacy.

The policy will help to inform the standard set of data protection laws across all the member countries. This should make it easier for EU citizens to understand how their data is being used, and also raise any complaints, even if they are not in the country where its located

**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.**

No there is no difference to the impact for rural dwellers. Service and rights are afforded to all residents, organisations and suppliers to the council.

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

Rural Businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state)	<input type="text"/>

**If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.**

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

### 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?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ If the response is NO GO TO Section 3E.

**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.**

- |  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Consultation with Rural Stakeholders                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Published Statistics | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Consultation with Other Organisations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Papers      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Surveys or Questionnaires  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Publications   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below). |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**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.**

- ☐ This policy is a legislative one. The legislation is new, research and analysis is based primarily on existing Data protection studies which indicated there was a requirement for greater protection of personal data to reflect the modern technological demands arising from society.

Rural dwellers are afforded the same legislation rights as urban dwellers.



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

Mid Ulster is made up of a vast number of rural settlements as well as 4 urban settlements. Certain groups and individuals can experience the effects of poverty and social isolation as a result of certain barriers presented for rural dwellers. A high percentage of personal data is now processed electronically and access to good telecommunications is a requirement and complimentary consideration of in terms of individual quality of life particularly in relation to issues such as social connectedness, wellbeing, improving knowledge and skills and enhanced confidence, pleasure and enjoyment. Research shows that although internet services have improved in many of the rural areas within Mid Ulster over recent years, quality of access is still poorer for rural than urban premises. It is worth noting that these needs can be experienced both on an individual basis and collectively in many of our rural settings.

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

**3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

Not applicable

## **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.**

Whilst this policy is largely as a result of the introduction of the new Data Protection Act 2018, Mid Ulster District Council's Community Plan places s strong emphasis on the role of many of the district's smaller towns and villages with an innovative approach taken to local village planning that sees many actions (identified by local rural communities) fulfilling and meeting the needs of local residents and businesses. Additionally, the Community Plan further recognises a need for more new and innovative approaches to dealing with the issues in rural areas which take account of particular circumstances which people in rural areas face.

## 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 ☐ No ☒ If the response is NO GO TO Section 5C.

**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.**

**If the response to Section 5A was YES GO TO Section 6A.**



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


The policy has been designed with all stakeholders being considered. The data Protection policy reflects a summary of the legislative instrument ,i.e. the requirement for the Council, the rights afforded to individuals and the greater controls and consequences to the Council .

When the policy was being developed, it was recognized that only 4 settlements are classed as 'urban' therefore the focus of the policy is district wide.

## 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:	Barry O'Hagan
Position/Grade:	Head of IT
Division/Branch	Finance
Signature:	
Date:	
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	JJ Tohill
Position/Grade:	Director of Finance
Division/Branch:	Finance
Signature:	
Date:	22/08/2018

