

Report on	Annual Progress Return to the Equality Commission for 2023/2024
Date of Meeting	10 July 2023
Reporting Officer	Joseph McGuckin, Head of Strategic Services and Engagement
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Policy Engagement and Equality Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To consider Mid Ulster District Council's Annual Progress Report for the period 2023-24 on meeting the statutory equality and good relations duties as detailed within Section 75(1) and 75(2) of the N Ireland Act 1998.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council is bound by Section 75 of the N Ireland Act 1998. Section 75(1) requires that the council gives due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between groupings/categories as detailed within the Act and Section 75(2) requires that regard be given to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.
2.2	The council's overarching document and framework around which it fulfils its statutory duties is its Equality Scheme. The Annual Progress Report (2023-2024) sets out to what extent the Council has demonstrated fulfilment of its statutory duties to promote equality and good relations through its Equality Scheme.
2.3	The Equality Commission has requested that a progress report be made available and published on Council's website.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Annual Progress Report for the period 2023-24 is attached as Appendix A. It reports on aspects of the council's Equality Scheme and how it has been implemented over the period.
3.2	The Annual Progress Report for the reporting period 2023-24 is required to be submitted to the Equality Commission by the end of August.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: An RNIA of this information would not be appropriate or proportional.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Council approves the Annual Progress Report (2023-24) on the implementation and activity surrounding its Equality and Good Relations statutory duties.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Mid Ulster District Council Annual Progress Report (2023-24)