



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**Appendix 2**

**Part 1 Policy scoping**

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy under consideration. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy, being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

Public authorities should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

**1. Policy Details**

Name of the policy

Marking the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the construction of Parliament Buildings

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Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

New

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What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)

1. Open up Parliament Buildings and encourage more visitors through the provision of information regarding the construction of Parliament Buildings;
2. Celebrate and exploit Parliament Buildings as an architectural asset through the marking of its construction 80 years on;
3. Familiarize the public with the architectural significance of the building;
4. Allow other future proposals, on a range of activities, to be presented to the Assembly Commission for consideration on the appropriate marking of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (which may include good relations and outreach issues).

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

Yes  No

If so, explain how.

This policy deals with the marking of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Parliament Buildings.

It should be made clear that marking this anniversary is based on celebrating and exploiting the building as an architectural asset. It would not include the politics that has existed within the building in the last 80 years.

At the Assembly Commission meeting held on 19 April 2012 it was agreed that Commission Members would discuss the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary submission paper (AC1203) with their Parties, and proposals on how this could be marked would be presented at the next meeting of the Assembly Commission. A paper was presented to the Commission on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (AC1610) and the actions were agreed.

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Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Office of the Speaker.

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Who owns and who implements the policy?

The Office of the Speaker owns the policy.



## 2. Implementation factors

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

Yes  No

If yes, are they

Financial

Legislative

Other, please specify: The decision on to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Parliament Buildings was agreed by the Assembly Commission, which is made up of representatives from the five main parties, at their meeting held on 25 September 2012.

### 3. Main stakeholders affected

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

- ✓ Staff
- Service users
- other public sector organisations
- voluntary/community/trade unions
- Other, please specify : All existing and potential users of the building.

### 4. Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are these policies? Please list:

- Internal Good Relations Audit
- Northern Ireland Assembly Corporate Strategy 2012-2016
- Engagement Strategy for the NI Assembly 2009
- Good Relations Action Plan 2010-2011
- Dignity at Work Policy

## 5. Available evidence

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

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

An Ipsos MORI survey was carried out in December 2009 and January 2010 to understand public attitudes towards the NI Assembly and to measure the level of public engagement with the Assembly on an on-going basis. The data below is based on responses provided by the 1,025 participants in the Ipsos MORI survey who have visited Parliament Buildings. \* denotes a statistically significant difference.

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
Religious belief*	It was found that significant fewer persons who considered themselves as being Catholic (21%) compared with (35%) who considered themselves Protestant visited Parliament Buildings.
Political opinion*	It was found that significantly fewer Nationalists (23%) compared with (38%) of Unionists have ever visited Parliament Buildings.
Racial group	(30%) of those surveyed considered themselves to be British/Irish White and (16%) considered themselves as 'other'.
Age*	A significant difference was found in the following age bands: 16-34 age band (24%) 35+ (32%)
Marital status	Married/living as married (32%) visited Parliament Buildings compared to (27%) of those who were single.

Sexual orientation	Gay/Lesbian/bisexual visiting Parliament Buildings (28%) Compared to (30%) Heterosexual.
Men and women generally	Male (29%), Female (30%)  In addition to the Ipsos Mori Survey data above, data collected by Assembly Commission staff for 2011 found that 69,585 persons visited Parliament Buildings through attendance at functions, tours or education programmes.
Disability	Those with a disability/long-term illness (26%) compared to (30%) without a disability visited Parliament Buildings.
Dependants*	A significant difference was found in terms of those with dependents who visited Parliament Buildings.  With children under 16 years old (25%)  Without children under 16 years old (32%)

## 6. Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, 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.

The data above presents the Assembly Commission with an opportunity to target under-represented groups (religious belief, political opinion, age, dependents) and to ensure that arrangements are put in place.

The event to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012 offers a variety of activities related to the architecture of the building which may be of interest to a range of Section 75 categories, see Annex A e.g. story telling by children's storyteller Liz Weir, Performance by "The Plantin" Foyleview Special School. In respect of any **future proposals** to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the construction of Parliament Buildings a separate screening form will be completed.

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	Invites and flyers will be issued to all MLAs so as they can be placed in all constituency offices as a means of highlighting the event to constituents.
Political opinion	Invites and flyers will be issued to all MLAs so as they can be placed in all constituency offices as a means of highlighting the event to constituents.
Racial group	Not applicable in the current screening decision
Age	Children's activities and activities for those of all ages have been put in place. Flyers will be issued to all schools and universities.
Marital status	No data
Sexual orientation	No data

Men and women generally	Flyers will be issued to Community and Voluntary groups, Section 75 groups, local Councils, contact lists, information will be added to current tour script, tourism media (e.g. Go Belfast, NI 4 Kids) will be contacted to make them aware of the event, event details placed on Assembly website (including video of the Speaker talking about the event), facebook, twitter, press releases will be issued.
Disability	Accessibility to the building is adhered to under the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995. The newly installed ramps to the frontage of the Parliament Buildings will be used to access this event; however the official opening for the new frontage of the building will be marked in due course. A quiet room is available, a changing places facility, autism champions, loops, clipboards for the tours (for those with hearing impairments), autism standards are implemented and other standards will reflect our 'Action on Hearing Loss' Award and our award from the National Autistic Society on Autism Standards. All other systems regarding disability and access will be in place as is standard.
Dependants	Accessibility to the building as above.

## Part 2

### Screening Questions

#### Introduction

In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, you should consider your answers to the questions above.

In addition, the five screening questions below further assist you in assessing your policy and must be completed. Two of these questions require you to assess the level of impact of the proposed policy on “equality of opportunity” and “good relations”. The scale used when assessing this impact is either “None”, “Minor” or “Major”. The following paragraphs set out what each of these terms mean.



If your conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then you may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, you should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

If your 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 your 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.

### **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 marginalised 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.

Taking into account the evidence presented above, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations for those affected by this policy, in any way, for each of the equality and good relations categories, by applying the screening questions given overleaf and indicate the level of impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

## Screening questions

The current decision to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the construction of Parliament Buildings has been deemed as having no impact.

**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	Details of impact.	none
Political opinion	Details of impact.	none
Racial group	Details of impact.	none
Age	Details of impact.	none
Marital status	Details of impact.	none
Sexual orientation	Details of impact.	none
Men and women generally	Details of impact.	none
Disability	Details of impact.	none
Dependants	Details of impact.	none

**2** Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?

Section 75 category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide reasons
Religious belief	enter details	No, see above
Political opinion	enter details	No, see above
Racial group	enter details	No, see above
Age	enter details	No, see above
Marital status	enter details	No, see above
Sexual orientation	enter details	No, see above
Men and women generally	enter details	No, see above
Disability	enter details	No, see above
Dependants	enter details	No, see above

**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.

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief		none
Political opinion		none
Racial group	Details of impact.	none

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

Good relations category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide reasons
Religious belief		No
Political opinion		No
Racial group		No

**5 Disability Duties?**

Consider whether the policy:

- a) Discourages disabled people from participating in public life and fails to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people.  
It does not.
  
- b) Provides an opportunity to better positive attitudes towards disabled people or encourages their participation in public life.  
Not applicable at this time.

## Additional considerations

### Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?

*(For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).*

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

No data available

### Part 3 Screening decision

1. If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment (*none*), please provide details of the reasons.

This policy can be viewed as having no impact in respect of marking the construction of Parliament Buildings. The politics housed within the building over the last 80 years will not be discussed. This is purely celebrating the architecture of the building.

2. If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment, but the policy has minor equality impacts which can be mitigated/provided by an alternative policy, and therefore does not require an EQIA (*minor*), provide details of the reason for the decision with proposed changes/amendments for an alternative policy to be introduced.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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



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#### 4. Timetabling and prioritising

Factors to be considered in timetabling and prioritising policies for equality impact assessment.

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

On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority 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	Click
Social need	Click
Effect on people's daily lives	Click
Relevance to a public authority's functions	Click

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 list of priorities will assist the CCSU in timetabling.

Details of the Equality Impact Assessment Timetable will be included in the quarterly Screening Report.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide details

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## Part 4 Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impact arising from the policy which may lead the Commission to conduct an equality impact assessment, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

The Equality Commission for NI (ECNI) recommends that where a policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, the public authority should monitor more broadly for adverse impact.

See ECNI Monitoring Guidance for use by Public Authorities (July 2007) pages 9-10, paragraphs 2.13 – 2.20

What data are required in the future to ensure effective monitoring?

In any future proposals to be considered the Commission will look at how to collect and compare data against any existing baseline data.

## Part 5 - Data Protection

1. If applicable, has legal advice been given due consideration?

Yes  No  N/A

2. Has due consideration been given to information security in relation to this policy?

Yes  No

## Part 6 - Approval and authorisation

<b>Screened by:</b>	<b>Position/Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Peter Hall  Louise Close Robin Ramsey Dr Robert Barry Maria Bannon Christine Dodson	Head of Outreach and Education  Outreach Manger Advisor to the Speaker Senior Researcher Equality Manager Clerical Supervisor	23/4/2012
<b>Approved by:</b>		

Note: A copy of the Screening Template, for each policy screened should be 'signed off' and approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

A copy of the completed screening template and any other relevant associated documentation should be forwarded to the Equality team.

The Equality team will make the completed screening template available on our website as soon as possible following completion, and approval, and it will also be made available on request.



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012**  
**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**  
**Programme**  
 Parliament Buildings

<b>Time:</b>	<b>Event:</b>
11.00	Parliament Buildings, Grounds and Restaurants Open for Visitors
11.00 onwards	Vintage Cars Display – East and West Plateau of Parliament Blds
11.00 onwards	Traditional Craft Demonstrations Linen Making, Stone Masonry, French Polishing, Stained Glass Production, Gold Leaf Painting & Floristry Long Gallery
11.00 onwards	Children Activities Education Suite
11.30	Themed Tour of Parliament Buildings commences in Great Hall <b>Tours every 30 minutes</b>
11.30	Story telling by Liz Weir Assembly Library
11.45 & 12.15	Performance by “The Plantin” Foyleview Special School Great Hall
12.00	Horse and Carriage rides commence
12.30	1930s Radio Play Performance by Wireless Mystery Theatre Assembly Library
12.45 & 13.15	Performance by Ulster Orchestra Brass Quintet Great Hall
13.00	Drum Circle Workshop Commences by Releasing Rhythms Coffee Lounge
13.30	Story Telling by Liz Weir Assembly Library
13.45 & 14.15	Interactive Performance by BelleHoppers dance group Great Hall

14.30	Radio Play Performance by Wireless Mystery Theatre Assembly Library
14.45 & 15.15	Performance by Releasing Rhythms African Drums Great Hall
15.30	Horse & Carriage rides finish
15.30	Story Telling by Liz Weir Assembly Library
15.45 & 16.15	Performance by Donaghadee Male Voice Choir Great Hall
16.00	Final tour of Parliament Buildings commences in Great Hall
16.00	Drum Circle Workshop Commences by Releasing Rhythms Coffee Lounge
16.30	Last orders for Afternoon Tea in Members' Dining Room
17.00	Parliament Buildings Closed