

# Equality & Disability Duties Screening Template

*Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*

# Screening flowchart and template (taken from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 – A Guide for public authorities April 2010 (*Appendix 1*)).

## Introduction

**Part 1. Policy scoping** – asks public authorities to provide details about the policy, procedure, practice and/or decision being screened and what available evidence you have gathered to help make an assessment of the likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.

**Part 2. Screening questions** – asks about the extent of the likely impact of the policy on groups of people within each of the Section 75 categories. Details of the groups consulted and the level of assessment of the likely impact. This includes consideration of multiple identity and good relations issues. This section also includes two questions related to the Disability Duties.

**Part 3. Screening decision** – guides the public authority to reach a screening decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment (EQIA), or to introduce measures to mitigate the likely impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

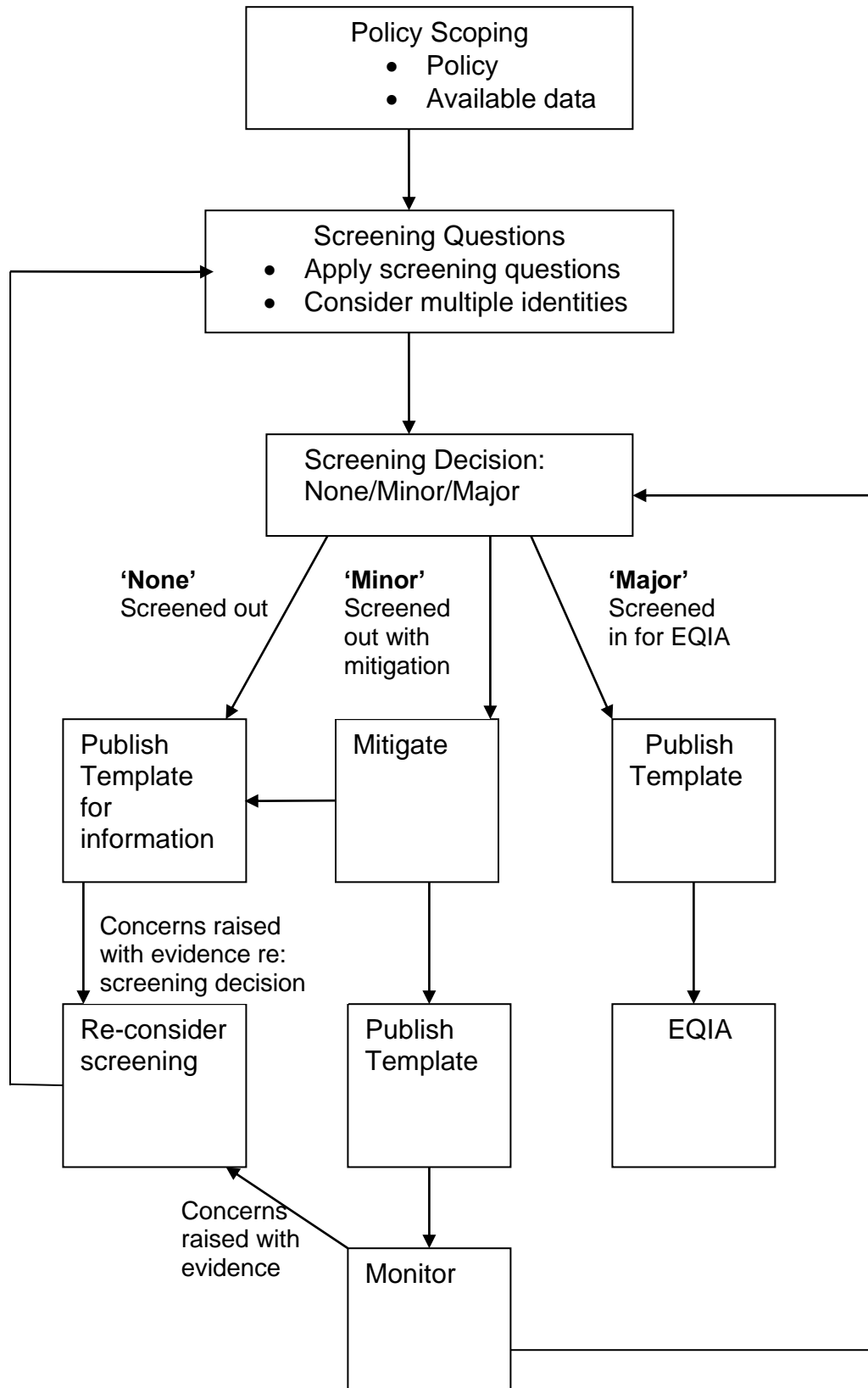
**Part 4. Monitoring** – provides guidance to public authorities on monitoring for adverse impact and broader monitoring.

**Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights** – please note this is not a Human Rights Screening form but rather a prompt that impacts on Human Rights should be considered.

**Part 6. Approval and authorisation** – verifies the public authority's approval of a screening decision by a senior manager responsible for the policy.

A screening flowchart is provided overleaf.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## **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).

### **Information about the policy**

#### **Name of the policy**

Revisions to Public Intervention and/or Private Storage Aid in Northern Ireland.

#### **Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?**

This is a revision to the existing legislative framework for the operation of Public Intervention (PI) and Private Storage Aid (PSA) as provided for in retained EU regulations, as amended following the UK's exit from the EU.

#### **What is it trying to achieve? (Intended aims/outcomes)**

The proposed amendments to the relevant retained EU regulations will tailor the statutory framework for PI and PSA schemes applying in Northern Ireland so that they are better suited to domestic circumstances. They would remove the retained EU framework in relation to the mandatory opening of PI schemes which require the administration to buy and store certain products when they fall below a published price. They are not considered an effective method of market support and have a weak economic rationale. The framework for PSA would be amended to remove the requirement for inspections to be carried out whilst the product is in storage: the product is inspected when it is placed into storage and when it is removed. In addition the requirement for a trader to provide a financial security upon submitting the product into PSA would be removed, as payment of the aid is not made until the end of the storage period.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

There has been limited use of the schemes here in the last 20 years.

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

**If so, explain how.**

No

**Who initiated or wrote the policy?**

The original policy was initiated by the European Commission. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is responsible for the proposed amendments, to reflect the UK's exit from the EU.

**Who owns and who implements the policy?**

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) owns and implements the policy.

**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 delete as appropriate)**

**Legislative** - Legislative change required to amend existing retained EU legislation

**other, please specify** This section 75 screening is being prepared at a time when there is no functioning NI Executive or NI Assembly. It is expected that a decision to revise the existing (retained EU) policy would be dependent upon the views of an incoming Minister and Assembly.

**Main stakeholders affected**

**Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon? (please delete as appropriate)**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

**Staff** – A *minimal number* of DAERA staff (less than five), who have previously undertaken checks when PI and/or PSA have previously operated in Northern Ireland.

**other, please specify** – The anticipated impact would be mainly on agri-food processors, traders (and indirectly upon producers), particularly those involved in the milk and milk products sector: this will be minimal (less than ten) given the historical low use of these mechanisms for support.

**Other policies with a bearing on this policy -**

- **What are they?**

The possibility of schemes for assisting the agricultural industry provided by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954, and/or under the Schedule 6 to the Agriculture Act 2020.

Frameworks for the operation of PI and PSA, as they apply in England.

- **Who owns them?**

Department of Environment, Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## 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. The Commission has produced this guide to [signpost to S75 data](#).

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

- 2011 Northern Ireland Census
- 2021 Northern Ireland Census
- The Fair Employment Monitoring Report No.31
- The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2021
- DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018

*Please ensure all data used is the most current and up to date available. You should verify this by contacting the Departmental Statisticians.*

### Religious belief evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

Consideration has been given to the Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (2020)<sup>1</sup>, the 2021 Census of Northern Ireland<sup>2</sup> and the DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018<sup>3</sup> ('Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers'). In the 2020 Life and Times Survey 41% of the respondents viewed themselves as part of the Protestant Community, 26% as Catholic and 33% as

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2020/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/InteractiveMapTheme.aspx?themeNumber=136&themeName=Census%202011>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/equality-indicators-report>

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

neither. 4% of respondents considered themselves as part of a minority ethnic community while 93 % did not.

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland found that 45.7 per cent of the population were either Catholic or brought up as Catholic, while 43.5 per cent belonged to or were brought up in Protestant, other Christian or Christian-related denominations. A further 1.5 per cent belonged to or had been brought up in Other Religions and Philosophies, while 9.3 per cent neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in, a religion.

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report October 2018 ('Equality Indicators for Northern Ireland Farmers') stated that 51% of farms in Northern Ireland were farmed by a member of the Protestant community and 42% by a member of the Catholic community. Catholics were more likely than Protestants to farm on very small farms, with 85% of Catholics farming small farms compared with 68% of Protestants, and only 2% having large farms compared with 10% of Protestant farmers. Catholic farmers were also more likely to be engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, with over three quarters (77%) engaged in this type of farming activity compared with less than half (45%) of Protestant farmers. In contrast, a much higher proportion of Protestant (16%) than Catholic (5%) farmers were dairy farmers, and twice as many Protestant (25%) as Catholic (12%) farmers were lowland cattle and sheep farmers.

The Fair employment Monitoring Report No 31 published by the Equality Commission presents an aggregated summary of the 3,807 valid monitoring returns received during 2020 from 105 public authorities and 3,702 private sector concerns. These returns were mostly received between 1st January and 31st December 2020, with a period of extension granted to some companies due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This report shows the Protestant community share of the monitored workforce was [50.2%] and the Roman Catholic community share was [49.8%].

**Political Opinion** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The Northern Ireland life and Times Survey 2020 found that 19% of the NI population describe themselves as nationalist, 35% as unionist and 42% held neither political opinion.

The DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators Report 2018 suggested that national identity is a reasonable proxy indicator for the Unionist/Nationalist divide. 44% of farmers have reported their identity as British only, 26% as Irish only and 23% as Northern Irish only with 8% stating another identity or a combination of more than one identity.

Information on political opinion was not collected in the Population Census 2011. However, as a question on National Identity was included, responses were analysed against farm size, type and land characteristics as a proxy metric for political opinion. Overall, 44% of farmers reported their identity as British only, 26% as Irish only and 23% as Northern Irish only, with 8% stating another identity or a combination of more than one identity. However, the religious profile varied across farm characteristics, with the proportions stating a British only identity increasing with farm size, from 40% of those in very small farms to 65% of those in large farms.

A higher proportion of those stating an Irish only or Northern Irish only identity farmed on very small farms (85% and 81% respectively) than those stating a British only identity (69%). In contrast, the proportion of those stating a British only identity farming on large farms (9%) was more than double that of those who stated Irish only (2%) or Northern Irish only (4%) identities. High proportions of dairy farmers (62%) and those engaged in mixed farming (63%) stated a British only identity. More than three quarters of those describing their identity as Irish only (77%) and two-thirds of those with a Northern Irish only (68%) identity were engaged in cattle and sheep farming in Less Favoured Areas, compared to less than half (48%) of farmers of British only identity.

In contrast, those stating a British only identity were much more likely to be engaged in farming cattle and sheep in lowland areas, dairy farming, or other types of farming activity, than those stating an Irish only or Northern Irish only identity. Farmers with an Irish only identity were almost twice as likely to farm in

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

Severely Disadvantaged Areas (55%) than farmers with a British only identity (28%). The proportion of those with a Northern Irish identity farming in Severely Disadvantaged Areas was also very high at 48%. On the other hand, the proportion of those describing themselves as British only who farmed in lowland areas (39%) was more than twice that of those with an Irish only identity (15%) and much higher than those with a Northern Irish only identity (24%).

### **Racial Group** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland found that 96.55% of the population state their ethnic origin to be white. The largest other ethnic groups identified were :- 0.76% identified as “mixed”, 0.52% as Indian, 0.5% as Chinese. The other racial groups identified were Irish Traveller, Roma, Filipino, Pakistani, Arab , Other Asian and Black African.

The 2011 census indicated that 99% of the rural population are white and the farming population has a similar pattern. DAERA’s Equality Indicators Report (2018) stated the proportion of farmers stating an ethnicity other than white was too small to examine differences by farm characteristics. This would support the view that the future agricultural policy proposals for Northern Ireland are likely to affect largely white beneficiaries as this reflects the makeup of the population.

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021<sup>4</sup> figures indicate there are around 53,000 people living here in 2019 who were born in the rest of the EU (excluding UK and Ireland). A small number of migrant workers are employed within the farming industry.

### **Age** evidence/information:

---

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%203%20March%202021\\_0.pdf](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%203%20March%202021_0.pdf)

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2021 Census of Northern Ireland showed that 82.85% of the population were under 65 and 17.15% of the population were over 65.

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that 36% of principal farmers are 65 years and over with 8% under forty years of age, with the average age being 59 years.

### **Marital Status** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2011 Census showed that around 48% of the population were married or in a civil partnership, and 36% were single.

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators Report 2018 showed that around 73% of all farmers are married and living with a wife/husband.

### **Sexual Orientation** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

There is no data on the number of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) persons in NI a present. The 2011 Census showed that those in a registered same-sex civil partnership was 0.09%. The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2021 reported 93% heterosexual, 2% homosexual, 4% bisexual and 1% other. There is a question in the 2021 census regarding sexual orientation, but the results have not yet been published.

---

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## **Men & Women generally** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2021 Census showed that 49% of the population were male and 51% female.

The estimated employment rate in NI for those aged 16-64 in 2020 was 74.8% for males (432,000) and 66.5% for females (392,000). The estimated economic inactivity rate (16-64) was 22.8% for males (132,000) and 31.6% for females (186,000). The number of self-employed (aged 16+) in Northern Ireland was estimated at 134,000 in 2019, equivalent to just over 15% of all employed people aged 16+. Self-employment was more likely among employed men than women, 22% of all employed men were self-employed, compared with 8% of all employed women.

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey shows that for August-October 2021 the self-employment rate for men in NI was 17.4% (75,000) compared with 6.9% (29,000) for women.

The DAERA Farm Equality Indicators 2018 data showed that 91% of farmers in Northern Ireland are males. Female farmers were more likely than their male counterparts to farm on very small farms - 87% of women farmers had small farms compared to 75% of male farmers. Farmers engaged in 'other types' of farming (such as running specialist horse farms) were twice as likely to be women as were farmers engaged in other activity types.

## **Disability** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland showed that around 12% of the population found their day to day activities to be limited a lot due to a disability

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

and around 9% found their activities limited a little. In Northern Ireland it is estimated that 22% of the population have some form of disability; amongst farmers this figure is slightly higher. The 2021 census results have not yet been published.

The DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators 2018 data indicated, that almost a third of farmers (30%) suffered from a disability limiting their day to day activities with the incidence of disability inversely related to farm size. The proportion of farmers of very small farms stating that their activities were limited a lot (16%) was twice that of farmers of large farms (8%). Farmers in disadvantaged areas (16%) were slightly more likely than lowland farmers (12%) to state that their activities were limited. Some of the differences in farm characteristics by disability may be partly due to the variation in age profiles of those with and without disabilities. The incidence of those reporting that their activities were limited either a little or a lot rises steeply with age.

#### **Dependants** evidence/information:

PI and PSA aid are designed to influence market prices and thus the market returns available to primary producers. Therefore, the direct recipients of the payments (i.e. processors and traders) are not the beneficiaries of these mechanisms (i.e. farmers).

The 2011 Census of Northern Ireland showed that 31% of family households contained dependant children. The 2021 census results have not yet been published.

2018/19 Family Resources Survey, Northern Ireland<sup>5</sup> indicated that 33% of NI households have dependent children (Those aged 0-16 and person aged 16-19 who is unmarried and in full time non-advanced education).

The most recent data from the 2018 DAERA Farmer Equality Indicators report revealed that almost 40% of households supported by family farms included one or more dependants. Households of medium sized farms were slightly more likely than smaller or larger farms to contain dependants, as were the households of farmers engaged in pig, poultry or mixed farming. Farm

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/system/files/publications/communities/frs-household-1819-tables.XLSX>

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

households in Disadvantaged Areas (41%) were slightly more likely than those in lowland areas (38%) to contain dependants.

NI: IN PROFILE Key statistics on Northern Ireland (nisra.gov.uk) 2021 reports that one in three households have a dependent child<sup>6</sup>. NISRA Women in Northern Ireland 2020 report indicates that over the past 10 years there have been consistently more economically inactive women than men. The most common reason for inactivity among women was family and home commitments. 76% of women with dependent children were economically active, compared with 92% of men with dependent children.

---

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%20February%202020\\_0.pdf](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI%20IN%20PROFILE%20-%20February%202020_0.pdf)

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## 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 of the needs, experiences and priorities for each of the Section 75 categories below:**

***Religious belief*** - None. The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Political Opinion*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Racial Group*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Age*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Marital status*** - None.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Sexual orientation*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Men and Women Generally*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Disability*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

***Dependants*** - None.

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

## **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, the public authority should consider its answers to the questions 1-4.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



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

If the public authority's 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 public authority's 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.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

### **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 amendment, which will have no significant impact on market prices, 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.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## Screening questions

### 1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?

Please provide details of the likely policy impacts and determine the level of impact for each S75 categories below i.e. either minor, major or none.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Religious belief*:** None

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*:** None

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:** None

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Age*:** None

**What is the level of impact?** None

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Marital Status*: None**

**What is the level of impact** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Sexual Orientation*: None**

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Men and Women*: None**

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Disability*: None**

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Dependants*:** None

**What is the level of impact?** None

The proposed amendments, which would limit the use of these mechanisms by amending the PI and PSA statutory frameworks to ensure that they are more appropriate to domestic agricultural sector circumstances, will not significantly impact market prices.

2. **Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?** Yes/No (please delete as appropriate)

Detail opportunities of how this policy could promote equality of opportunity for people within each of the Section 75 Categories below:

**Religious Belief – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different religious belief, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

**Political Opinion - No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different political opinion, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

**Racial Group – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different racial groups, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

### **Age – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different age groups, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

### **Marital Status – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different marital status, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

### **Sexual Orientation - No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different sexual orientation, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

### **Men and Women generally - No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people of different gender, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

**Disability – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people with disability, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

**Dependants – No**

These proposals are neutral as regards people with dependents, and it is not envisaged that equality of opportunity will be affected for this equality category. The proposed legislative changes are of a largely technical nature with the aim of making the operation of the existing regime for the support of agricultural products more appropriate to domestic circumstances; it is anticipated they will not significantly impact market prices.

**3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

Please provide details of the likely policy impact and determine the level of impact for each of the categories below i.e. either minor, major or none.

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Religious belief*: (insert text here)**

The proposed changes will have no impact on good relations between people of religious beliefs. The proposed amendments are aimed at providing a statutory support framework for agricultural producers that is more reflective of domestic circumstances. No impacts on this Sec 75 category are anticipated.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Political Opinion*: (insert text here)**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

The proposed changes will have no impact on good relations between people of religious beliefs. The proposed amendments are aimed at providing a statutory support framework for agricultural producers that is more reflective of domestic circumstances. No impacts on this Sec 75 category are anticipated.

**What is the level of impact?** None

**Details of the likely policy impacts on *Racial Group*:** (insert text here)

The proposed changes will have no impact on good relations between people of religious beliefs. The proposed amendments are aimed at providing a statutory support framework for agricultural producers that is more reflective of domestic circumstances. No impacts on this Sec 75 category are anticipated.

**What is the level of impact?** None

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

Detail opportunities of how this policy could better promote good relations for people within each of the Section 75 Categories below:

***Religious Belief - No***

The proposals are neutral as regards people of different religious belief and consequently there is no opportunity to better promote good relations.

***Political Opinion - No***

The proposals are neutral as regards people of different political opinion and consequently there is no opportunity to better promote good relations.

**Racial Group - No**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



The proposals are neutral as regards people of different racial group and consequently there is no opportunity to better promote good relations.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## 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? If so, please detail below.

*(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.**

There is no evidence that there will be any potential impacts from these proposed amendments to retained EU regulations in relation to the PI and PSA frameworks on people with multiple identities. The proposed amendments to legislation will seek to make the frameworks more appropriate for domestic Northern Ireland circumstances.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

DAERA also has legislative obligations to meet under the [Disability Discrimination Order](#). Questions 5 – 6 relate to these.

### Consideration of Disability Duties

5. **Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity for DAERA to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?**

No, the proposal does not provide an opportunity for DAERA to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people.

6. **Does this proposed policy or decision provide an opportunity to actively increase the participation by disabled people in public life?**

No. The proposal does not provide an opportunity for DAERA to actively increase participation of disabled people in public life.

### Part 3. Screening decision (Please delete as appropriate)

1. “Screened out” without mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted

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

The decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment as no impacts or opportunities were reported during the screening exercise. These proposals will not have any negative or differential impacts on people within the equality categories.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

Consultees will be asked for any specific s 75 comments that they wish to make during our stakeholder engagement and this draft s75 screening will be updated in light of those comments.

**If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment the public authority should consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced - please provide details.**

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

All public authorities' equality schemes must state the authority's arrangements for assessing and consulting on the likely impact of policies adopted or proposed to be adopted by the authority on the promotion of equality of opportunity. The Commission recommends screening and equality impact assessment as the tools to be utilised for such assessments. Further advice on equality impact assessment may be found in a separate Commission publication: [A Practical Guide to Equality Impact Assessment](#)

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## 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 so, give the reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.**

Not Applicable

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## 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	
Social need	
Effect on people’s daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority’s functions	
<b>Total score</b>	

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 public authority in timetabling. Details of the Public Authority’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?**

**If yes, please provide details.**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## Part 4. Monitoring

Section 75 places a requirement on DAERA to have equality monitoring arrangements in place in order to assess the impact of policies and services etc; and to help identify barriers to fair participation and to better promote equality of opportunity. Please note the following excerpt from The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland in relation to monitoring:

*A system must be established to monitor the impact of the policy in order to find out its effect on relevant groups. The results of ongoing monitoring must be reviewed on an annual basis. The public authority is required to publish the results of this monitoring. And they must be included in the public authorities' annual review on progress to the Equality Commission. The Equality Scheme must specify how and where such monitoring information will be published. It is therefore essential that monitoring is carried out in a systematic manner and that the results are widely and openly published.*

*If the monitoring and analysis of results over a two year period show that the policy results in greater adverse impact than predicted, or if opportunities arise which would allow for greater equality of opportunity to be promoted, the public authority must ensure that the policy is revised to achieve better outcomes for the relevant equality groups.*

Further advice on monitoring can be found at: [ECNI Monitoring Guidance for Public Authorities](#)

**Outline what data you will collect in the future in order to monitor the impact of this policy or decision on equality, good relations and disability duties.**

### **Equality:**

The consultation will issue to a range of key agri-food sector stakeholders whose members represent a number of Section 75 groups. Comments from any and all of the stakeholders are welcome, especially if they consider that any group is significantly affected by the proposals.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## Good Relations:

The consultation will issue to a range of key agri-food sector stakeholders whose members represent a number of Section 75 groups. Comments from any and all of the stakeholders are welcome, especially if they consider that any group is significantly affected by the proposals.

## Disability Duties:

The consultation will issue to a range of key agri-food sector stakeholders whose members represent a number of Section 75 groups. Comments from any and all of the stakeholders are welcome, especially if they consider that any group is significantly affected by the proposals.

## Part 5. Consideration of Human Rights

7. **The Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998 brings the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and it applies in N Ireland. Indicate below by deleting Yes/No as appropriate, any potential adverse impacts that the policy or decision may have in relation to human rights issues.**

See Annex A for brief synopsis on each of the Human Rights Articles & Protocols

Right to Life	<b>Article 2</b>	No
Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment	<b>Article 3</b>	No

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



Prohibition of slavery and forced labour	<b>Article 4</b>	No
Right to liberty and security	<b>Article 5</b>	No
Right to a fair and public trial	<b>Article 6</b>	No
Right to no punishment without law	<b>Article 7</b>	No
Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	<b>Article 8</b>	No
Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	<b>Article 9</b>	No
Right to freedom of expression	<b>Article 10</b>	No
Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association	<b>Article 11</b>	No
Right to marry and to found a family	<b>Article 12</b>	No
The prohibition of discrimination	<b>Article 14</b>	No
Protection of property and enjoyment of possessions	<b>Protocol 1 Article 1</b>	No
Right to education	<b>Protocol 1 Article 2</b>	No
Right to free and secret elections	<b>Protocol 1 Article 3</b>	No

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

8. **Please explain any adverse impacts on human rights that you have identified** - No adverse impacts identified.

9. **Please indicate any ways which you consider the policy positively promotes human rights** – None identified.

## **Part 6 - Approval and authorisation**

### **Screening Checklist**

Before signing off this screening template please confirm that you have completed all the actions listed below.

I can confirm that all the actions listed below have been completed –

- I have explained any technical issues in plain English (easily understood by a 12 year old)
- I have used the most relevant, current & up to date data available
- I have added evidence and explained my assessments in full
- I have provided a brief note to justify my decision to ‘Screen In’ or ‘Screen Out’
- A copy of this screening template and the final decision has been sent to the Equality Unit for their consideration before it has been forwarded for sign-off

**Screening assessment completed by (Staff Officer level or above) -**

**Name:** John Murphy

**Grade:** Deputy Principal

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

**Branch:** Sustainable Agri-food Development Division

**Date:** 12.05.23

**Signature:** please insert a scanned image of your signature

**Screening decision approved by (must be Grade 3/Deputy Secretary or above) -**

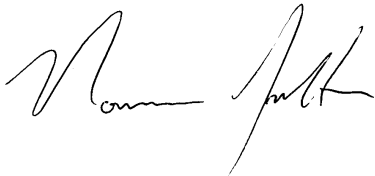
**Name:** Norman Fulton

**Grade:** 3

**Branch:** FFG

**Date:** 21/7/23

**Signature:** please insert a scanned image of your signature



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, made easily accessible on the public authority's website as soon as possible following completion and made available on request.

Please save the final signed version of the completed screening form in the CM container (AE2-19-11940) below as soon as possible after completion and forward the CM link to Equality Branch at [equality@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equality@daera-ni.gov.uk). The screening template must be saved to the container in **HTML format** (not PDF) in order to comply with accessibility requirements. The screening form will be placed on the DAERA website and a link provided to the Department's Section 75 consultees.



Strategic  
Management DAERA

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

For more information about equality screening, contact –

DAERA Equality Unit  
Staff Engagement, Equality & Diversity Branch  
Jubilee House  
111 Ballykelly Road  
LIMAVADY  
BT49 9HP

Email: [equality@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:equality@daera-ni.gov.uk)

[Tel: 028 7744 2027](tel:02877442027)



## **Annex A**

### **Synopsis of Human Rights Act Articles & Protocols**

#### ***ARTICLE 2***

##### ***Right to life***

1. Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law. No one shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of a sentence of a court following his conviction of a crime for which this penalty is provided by law.
2. Deprivation of life shall not be regarded as inflicted in contravention of this Article when it results from the use of force which is no more than absolutely necessary:
  - (a) In defense of any person from unlawful violence;

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

- (b) In order to effect a lawful arrest or to prevent the escape of a person lawfully detained;
- (c) In action lawfully taken for the purpose of quelling a riot or insurrection.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### ***Prohibition of torture***

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### ***Prohibition of slavery and forced labour***

1. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.
2. No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.
3. For the purpose of this Article the term “forced or compulsory labour” shall not include:
  - (a) Any work required to be done in the ordinary course of detention imposed according to the provisions of Article 5 of this Convention or during conditional release from such detention;
  - (b) Any service of a military character or, in case of conscientious objectors in countries where they are recognised, service exacted instead of compulsory military service;
  - (c) Any service exacted in case of an emergency or calamity threatening the life or well-being of the community;
  - (d) Any work or service which forms part of normal civic obligations.

### **ARTICLE 5**

#### ***Right to liberty and security***

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law:
  - (a) The lawful detention of a person after conviction by a competent court;

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

- (b) The lawful arrest or detention of a person for non-compliance with the lawful order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation prescribed by law;
  - (c) the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence or when it is reasonably considered necessary to prevent his committing an offence or fleeing after having done so;
  - (d ) the detention of a minor by lawful order for the purpose of educational supervision or his lawful detention for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority;
  - (e) The lawful detention of persons for the prevention of the spreading of infectious diseases, of persons of unsound mind, alcoholics or drug addicts or vagrants;
  - (f) The lawful arrest or detention of a person to prevent his effecting an unauthorised entry into the country or of a person against whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or extradition.
2. Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a language which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.
  3. Everyone arrested or detained in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1(c) of this Article shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorised by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release pending trial. Release may be conditioned by guarantees to appear for trial.
  4. Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.
  5. Everyone who has been the victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this Article shall have an enforceable right to compensation.

## **ARTICLE 6**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## ***Right to a fair trial***

1. In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interest of morals, public order or national security in a democratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly necessary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.
2. Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.
3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:
  - (a) To be informed promptly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him;
  - (b) To have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defense;
  - (c) To defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of justice so require;
  - (d) To examine or have examined witnesses against him and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on his behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against him;
  - (e) To have the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court.

## ***ARTICLE 7***

### ***No punishment without law***

1. No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

2. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

##### ***Right to respect for private and family life***

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

#### **ARTICLE 9**

##### ***Freedom of thought, conscience and religion***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance.
2. Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

#### **ARTICLE 10**

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations



## ***Freedom of expression***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.
2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

## ***ARTICLE 11***

### ***Freedom of assembly and association***

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This Article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State.

## ***ARTICLE 12***

### ***Right to marry***

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and to found a family, according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right.

#### **ARTICLE 14**

##### ***Prohibition of discrimination***

The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.

#### **Protocol 1**

##### **ARTICLE 1**

##### ***Protection of property***

Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law.

The preceding provisions shall not, however, in any way impair the right of a State to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest or to secure the payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties.

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

## **Protocol 1**

### ***ARTICLE 2***

#### ***Right to education***

No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.

## **Protocol 1**

### ***ARTICLE***

#### ***3 Right to free elections***

The High Contracting Parties undertake to hold free elections at reasonable intervals by secret ballot, under conditions which will ensure the free expression of the opinion of the people in the choice of the legislature

Please note: **DO NOT** add **tables** to this template as it will render it non-compliant with our accessibility obligations

**All enquiries to:**

Sustainable Agri Food Development Division  
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs  
1st Floor West  
Clare House  
303 Airport Road West Belfast  
BT3 9ED

**Email:** [PIPSAconsultation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:PIPSAconsultation@daera-ni.gov.uk)