**Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council**

**Equality and Good Relations Screening - Awakening the Gateways**

**Part 1. Policy scoping**

**Information about the policy**

# Name of the Policy

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| **Awakening the Gateways** |

# Is this policy

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| An existing policy? |  | A revised policy? |  | A new policy? | **X** |

**Introduction and background to the project**

Through funding from Department for Communities (DFC) the Council are delivering a Gateways initiative improve the sense of welcome and arrival for visitors to Lisburn City Centre.

The proposed Gateways project has previously been highlighted in the revised Lisburn City Centre Masterplan as a key project to be taken forward by the Council in partnership with statutory bodies. One of the key objectives of the Masterplan is to create a more welcoming and better connected city centre and to create a positive sense of arrival and ensure that the expanded city centre is easy to access.

Awakening the Gateways will consider the various entry points residents and visitors use to access the City Centre and improve these with the lighting and attractive installations by linking them to the heart of the city, namely the public realm space in market square where day to day outdoor city life takes place and where people can meet to socialise, shop or simply watch the world go by.

Feature Lighting is being installed on the outside of Lisburn Bus Station and umbrellas will be installed in key lanes and entries leading into Lisburn City Centre, primarily supporting regeneration and revitalisation whilst also raising the profile of the Mayoral charities. It is proposed to suspend a number of umbrellas in each gateway which will be lit up from below. There will be a total of 64 umbrellas across the City Centre. Proposed locations have been identified as follows:

* + Haslems Lane
  + Access to Graham Gardens adjacent to Pound stretcher – McKeown Street
  + Access to Graham Gardens adjacent to Crèma Coffee Shop.

Interpretative signage will be installed at each location to provide information on the purpose of the project and a background to the charity.

It is also proposed that additional resources available through the Awakening the Gateways initiative will be utilised to replace the damaged vinyls in Haslems Lane, will provide additional alleyway lighting where possible and provide deep cleaning across the City Centre.

What are the intended aims/outcomes the policy is trying to achieve?

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| * *‘To improve the sense of arrival and welcome for visitors to Lisburn City Centre’*   By linking the gateways and entries into Lisburn City Centre to the heart of the city, namely the pedestrian space in market square where day to day outdoor city life takes place and where people can meet to socialise, shop or simply watch the world go by. |
| * *‘To enhance permeability through creative place making’*   To enable visitors to navigate easily throughout Lisburn City Centre. |
| * *‘Promote way-finding / navigation through City Centre’*   Considering the various entry point’s visitor’s use to access the city and looking at how we can improve the sense of welcome for visitors and create a sense of connection to the heart of the city. |
| * *‘A more welcoming and better connected city centre’*   Provide a carefully curated visitor experience, including events which attract people to the city. Create a positive sense of arrival and ensure that the expanded city centre is easy to access and get around by a wide choice of modes of travel. |
| * *‘A city centre public realm of distinction’*   Continued transformation of the character of key streets and spaces via distinctive and high quality public realm design, including contrasting spaces which support a range of activities and help to animate the city throughout the day and evening. |

Are there any expected benefits to the Section 75 categories/groups from this policy? If so, please explain

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| Awakening the Gateways project aims to create a more welcoming and better connected City Centre. This project is intended to benefit and be enjoyed by all residents and visitors to Lisburn City Centre regardless of religion, race, gender, etc.  However, there may be particular benefits for some groups. For example, there may be particular benefits for older people and people with a visual impairment through improved lighting installations and signage resulting in enhanced accessibility to the City Centre. |

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

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| Economic Development Unit, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) |

Who owns and who implements the policy?

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| Economic Development Unit, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) will take the lead in the delivery of the project alongside an external consultancy company. |

**Implementation factors**

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

If yes, are they

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial? | **X** | Legislative? |  | Other? | **X** |

If other, please detail below

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| **Financial:** Awakening the Gateways project will be jointly funded through LCCC and the Department for Communities (DfC)  **Time:** The project is required to be delivered within timeframes agreed between DfC and LCCC. We anticipate the project to be finished by September 2022. |

**Main stakeholders affected**

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

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| --- | --- |
| Staff | Y |
| Service Users & Delivery Partners | Residents and Visitors of Lisburn City Centre  Local Business Owners  Department for Communities (DfC) |
| Other Public Sector Organisations | Y |
| Voluntary/Community/Trade Unions | Y |

If other, please detail below

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| --- |
| Elected members and collaboration with the private sector will be essential to achieve the long term vision. |

##### [Other policies with a bearing on this policy](#Onefour)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of policy** | **Who owns or implements policy?** |
| City Centre Master Plan | Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council  https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/WST148\_Lisburn\_Masterplan\_Update\_Final\_Approved\_02\_reduced.pdf |
| Corporate Plan 2021-24 | Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council  https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/ICP\_2021\_Final.pdf |
| Community Plan 2017 –  2032 | Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council  <https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/Community_Plan_2017-2032_EMAIL.pdf> |
| Economic Development  Action Plan 2015 – 2017 | Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council  https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/3\_Employment\_and\_Economic\_Development\_-\_Final.pdf |
| Regeneration and Investment Action Plan | Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council  https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/LCCC\_Investment\_Programme\_2019\_.pdf |
| Tourism Strategy | LCCC  https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/planning/SUBDOC-073%20LCCC%20Tourism%20Strategy%202018.pdf |
| [Urban](https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/disability-action-plan) Regeneration Community Development Framework | Department for Communities https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/Castlereagh\_Integrated\_Development\_Framework\_for\_web.pdf |

**Available evidence**

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

**Please note:**

The following evidence was gathered to inform this policy:

* 2011 NI Census Data
* LCCC City Centre Masterplan (Awakening the Gateways has been informed by consultation and feedback from the public that has been reflected in the City Centre Masterplan).

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| --- | --- |
| **Sec 75 Category** | **Details of evidence/information** |
| **Religious Belief** | The 2011 NI Census recorded the following statistics with regard to religious belief in the Lisburn and Castlereagh area;  67% Protestant (or other Christian)  24% Catholic  8% Other  1% None |
| **Political Opinion** | The 2011 NI Census recorded the following statistics with regard to political opinion in the Lisburn and Castlereagh area;  65.39% indicated that they had a British national identity, 14.83% had an Irish national identity and 30.46% had a Northern Irish national identity\*. |
| **Racial Group** | The 2011 NI Census recorded the following statistics with regard to racial groups in the Lisburn and Castlereagh area;  2.36% were from an ethnic minority population and the remaining 97.64% were white (including Irish Traveller). |
| **Age** | In 2015 the following statistics with regard to age in the Lisburn and Castlereagh area were recorded to inform the Corporate plan;  20% Children were aged 0-15 years  30% of people aged 16 -39 years  33% aged 40 – 64 years  17% aged 65 years and older  The population of the Council area aged 65 and over will increase by 9% by 2025 and 13% by 2030.  Extract from the City Centre Masterplan:  A range of interventions could be considered to improve the sense of arrival and welcome for visitors. This could include street tree planting, lighting, public art and banners.  A series of improvements to gateway spaces would aid this transition and create a sense of welcome to the city centre at key points of arrival |
| **Marital Status** | The 2011 census records the following statics with regard to the marital status of persons over the age of 16 for the LCCC area;  Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) – 30.7%  Married – 53.8%  In a registered same-sex civil partnership – 0.1%  Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership) – 3.3%  Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved – 5.5%  Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership – 6.7% |
| **Sexual Orientation** | ONS (Office for National Statistics) figures (2016) suggest at least 2% of the NI population identify as Lesbian, Gay or Bi-sexual. However, LGB support groups suggest this is a significant under-estimate based on lack of willingness/confidence to identify as LGB.  Government Equalities Office research suggests over 4% of the 18-25 year age group identify as LGB, confirming that younger people are more likely to be open about sexual orientation. |
| **Men & Women Generally** | The estimated population of Lisburn And Castlereagh Local Government District at 30 June 2019 was 146,002, of which 71,654 (49.1%) were male and 74,348 (50.9%) were female.  There is no official statistic on the number of people in N Ireland who identify as Transgender or non-binary but referrals to advice services are increasing year on year which suggests a small but growing minority. |
| **Disability** | The 2011 Northern Ireland Census collected data on ‘persons with a limiting long-term illness’ which covered any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits daily activities or work. Statistics for Lisburn and Castlereagh showed;   * **18.29%** of people had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities; * **82.13%** of people stated their general health was either good or very good   *Extract from the City Centre Masterplan:*  A range of interventions could be considered to improve the sense of arrival and welcome for visitors. This could include street tree planting, lighting, public art and banners.  A series of improvements to gateway spaces would aid this transition and create a sense of welcome to the city centre at key points of arrival |
| **Dependants** | Dependants can include children, older people and those with disabilities.  **12.51%** of people in the 2011 Census stated that they provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others. |

### 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

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| --- | --- |
| **Sec 75 Category** | **Details of needs/experiences/priorities** |
| **Religious Belief** | There is a need for the city centre to be welcoming and attractive to all regardless of religious or political background, including newcomer communities, and welcoming to visitors from all over |
| **Political Opinion** | There have been no specific needs identified for people with different political opinions. |
| **Racial Group** | There have been no specific needs identified for people who belong to different racial groups. |
| **Age** | Older people need clear signage and good lighting to help accessibility and navigation throughout the City Centre. |
| **Marital Status** | There have been no specific needs identified for people of different marital status. |
| **Sexual Orientation** | There have been no specific needs identified for people of different sexual orientations in relation to this project. |
| **Men & Women Generally** | There have been no specific needs identified for men and women generally. |
| **Disability** | People with disabilities need clear signage and good lighting to help accessibility and navigation throughout the City Centre. People with certain physical disabilities need clear, uncluttered public spaces that enable them to navigate safely. |
| **Dependants** | There have been no specific needs identified for people with dependants. |

**Part 2. Screening questions**

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Sec 75 equality categories? (minor/ major/ none)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sec 75 Category** | **Details of policy impact** | **Level of impact (minor/major/none)** |
| **Religious Belief** | No particular impact on equality of opportunity – any enhancements should be experienced equally by all who visit or use the city centre, regardless of religious belief | None |
| **Political Opinion** | No particular impact on equality of opportunity – any enhancements should be experienced equally by all who visit or use the city centre, regardless of political opinion | None |
| **Racial Group** | No particular impact on equality of opportunity – any enhancements should be experienced equally by all who visit or use the city centre, regardless of racial group. | None |
| **Age** | The project may have a minor positive impact across different age groups.  Improved lighting installations and signage may result in enhanced accessibility to the City Centre. | Minor - positive |
| **Marital Status** | No particular impact on equality of opportunity related to marital status. | None |
| **Sexual Orientation** | No particular impact on equality of opportunity related to sexual orientation. | None |
| **Men & Women Generally** | No differential impact identified by gender. | None |
| **Disability** | The project may have a minor positive impact for some people with disabilities. Improved lighting installations and signage may result in enhanced accessibility to the City Centre. | Minor - positive |
| **Dependants** | The project may have minor positive impact for some people with dependants. For example, improved lighting installations and signage may result in enhanced accessibility to the City Centre for some who have elderly or disabled dependants or young children. | Minor - positive |

2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Sec 75 equality categories?

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sec 75 Category** | **IF Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide details** |
| **Religious Belief** |  | None identified |
| **Political Opinion** |  | None identified |
| **Racial Group** |  | None identified |
| **Age** | Following initial consideration, identified that some of the planned umbrellas could be used to promote the Mayoral charities, one of which supports young people (MACS) |  |
| **Marital Status** |  | None identified |
| **Sexual Orientation** |  | None identified |
| **Men & Women Generally** |  | None identified |
| **Disability** | Following initial consideration, identified that some of the planned umbrellas could be used to promote the Mayor’s charities, one of which is ADD-NI |  |
| **Dependants** |  | None identified |

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)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good Relations Category** | **Details of policy impact** | **Level of impact (minor/major/none)** |
| **Religious Belief/ Political Opinion/ Racial Groups** | The city centre is used by both main communities and people from all racial backgrounds so is a shared space but the proposed enhancements will not impact directly on good relations. | No direct impact identified in relation to any of these groups. |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Good Relations Category** | **IF Yes, provide details** | **If No, provide details** |
| **Religious Belief/ Political Opinion/ Racial Group** |  | The city centre is used by both main communities and people from all racial backgrounds so is a shared space but the proposed enhancements will not impact particularly on good relations. |

**Additional considerations**

**Multiple identity**

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

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| LCCC recognises that all individuals are not exclusive to just one designated group. “Multiple identity” has been given consideration within this screening exercise. |

**Part 3. Screening decision**

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

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| Screening Decision: Screen out without mitigation.  It has been concluded that a detailed equality impact assessment is not necessary as all the potential impacts identified are minor and positive. No additional mitigations are needed. |

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.

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| N/A |

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

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| N/A |

**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?

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

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| **N/A** |

**Timetabling and prioritising N/A**

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 |  |
| Total Rating Score |  |

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

**Part 4. Monitoring**

This project will be monitored on an ongoing basis initially and its operation reviewed annually or whatever is appropriate for such projects.

**Part 5 - Approval and authorisation**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Screened by:** | **Position/Job Title** | **Date** |
| Yvonne Burke | Regeneration Officer | 24.02.22 |
| Mary McSorley | Equality Officer | 24.02.22 |
| **Approved by:** |  |  |
| Paul McCormick | Head of Economic Development | 24.02.22 |

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.

Appendix 1

**Awakening the Gateways**

**Project Description and Background:**

Awakening the Gateways will consider the various entry points residents and visitors use to access the City Centre and improve these with the lighting and attractive installations by linking them to the heart of the city, namely the public realm space in market square where day to day outdoor city life takes place and where people can meet to socialise, shop or simply watch the world go by.

Feature Lighting is being installed on the outside of Lisburn Bus Station and umbrellas will be installed in key lanes and entries leading into Lisburn City Centre, primarily supporting regeneration and revitalisation. However, following initial consideration of the plans, it was identified that this project could also be used to raise the profile of the Mayoral charities, ADD NI and MACS. ADD NI works with those who have ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and MACS supports 6 – 25 years old who haven’t had a fair start in life whether that is because of homelessness, mental wellbeing or other issues.

It is proposed to suspend a number of umbrellas in each gateway which will be lit up from below. There will be a total of 64 umbrellas across the City Centre. Proposed locations have been identified as follows:

* Haslems Lane
* Access to Graham Gardens adjacent to Pound stretcher – McKeown Street
* Access to Graham Gardens adjacent to Crèma Coffee Shop.
* Interpretative signage will be installed at each location to provide information on the purpose of the project and a background to the charity
* It is also proposed that additional resources available through the Awakening the Gateways initiative will be utilised to replace the damaged vinyls in Haslems Lane, will provide additional alleyway lighting where possible and provide deep cleaning across the City Centre

The project is to be completed in 2 phases and if there are any major changes in the delivery/provision of the project, it will be documented accordingly. The project was to be completed by March 2022, but has now been extended until September 2022 due to a number of delays.

**Aims of the Project:**

The aim of the Awakening the Gateways Project is;

* To improve the sense of arrival and welcome for visitors to Lisburn City Centre

This will be achieved by enhancing the frontage of Lisburn bus Station and by delivering an umbrella project in the archways in the City Centre.

**Project Duration:**

The duration of the project is 1 year (COVID Dependent).

**Phase 1 (2022)** will see the design of the lighting installations to be erected at Lisburn Bus Station.

**Phase 2 (2022)** will see installation of umbrellas to various entry points in the City Centre.