

Invest NI Section 75 Screening

Summary of Policy Proforma Invest NI

TITLE: Sustainable Development Consultancy Framework

Invest NI is committed to achieving a successful economy in Northern Ireland which will provide equal opportunities for all. It is fully mindful of its responsibilities across the spectrum of Equality, Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy and Human Rights.

Section 75 of the NI Act 1998 requires Invest NI, in carrying out all its functions, powers and duties, relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:

- between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
- between men and women generally;
- between persons with a disability and persons without
 - to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people,
 - to encourage participation by disabled people in public life; and
- between persons with dependents and persons without.

What does this policy/programme aim to achieve for the customer? (who does it mainly affect)?	The framework aims to support SME client companies to scope or implement material or energy saving projects over the period 2008/09 to 2010/11.
What does this policy/programme aim to achieve for Invest NI? (provide the main objectives).	To improve the productivity of client companies and raise awareness of the benefits of resource efficiency and energy saving techniques. Up to 5 days consultancy will be provided for each project. Projects will have the potential to save companies at least 4 times the cost of the project and will improve the efficiency of Businesses in Northern Ireland.
Where did the policy/programme originate? (ie is this solely an Invest NI programme or are we working in partnership with any other	This programme is funded and managed by Invest NI. Delivery is carried out by external consultants on behalf of Invest NI.

department/ organisation ?)	
How is this policy /programme delivered or implemented?(ie by delivery agents, client executives, senior management, other agencies?)	<p>Suitable client projects are identified by client executives and/or technical advisers and implemented by the company with support from external consultants. External consultancy work is awarded by means of a secondary tendering exercise from a primary tender list.</p> <p>The programme is solely funded by Invest NI.</p>
What are the constraints on this policy/programme? (budgetary, legislative, EU directives etc).	<p>There is a set budget for each financial year.</p> <p>Change of government strategic thinking with regards to waste management and energy saving.</p>
How does Invest NI monitor the delivery of this policy/programme?	Each project is monitored on a weekly basis in line with agreed objectives.
What other feedback, research, consultation or additional information is available to assess and screen the impact of this policy/programme? (ie consultative reports, evaluations, surveys, complaints ,monitoring etc).	<p>A consultants report is received by both Invest NI and the company at the end of the project. In addition each client company is given an assessment form to comment on project effectiveness, Invest NI programme management and the performance of the external consultant.</p> <p>At the end of the current approvals a post project evaluation will be carried out.</p>
Are any groups specifically targeted through this policy/programme? If so please detail which groups (e.g. young men, older people or people from ethnic minority backgrounds etc).	The programme is promoted to businesses only, in particular, SME's which are risk adverse and do not have the technical capability to progress projects without assistance.

Equality Evidence Matrix

1. Is there any evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake by different groups?

	Yes (please specify)	No	Not known
Religious belief		X	
Political opinion		X	
Racial group		X	
Age		X	
Marital status		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender		X	
Disability		X	
Dependency		X	

Please Comment:

At this time Invest NI does not anticipate that the programme will have an adverse impact on any of the nine Section 75 grounds but will continue to monitor outcomes from this programme in line with our emerging monitoring strategy.

2. Is there evidence or indications that different groups have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to this policy issue?

	Yes (please specify)	No	Not known
Religious belief		X	
Political opinion		X	
Racial group		X	
Age		X	
Marital status		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender		X	
Disability		X	
Dependency		X	

Please Comment:

At this time there is no evidence to suggest that this programme impacts on the different needs, experiences, issues and priorities of Section 75 groups.

3. Have consultations/research with relevant groups, organisations or individuals indicated that policies of this type create problems that are specific to them? (The user engagement guide and protocol provide useful support.)

	Yes (please specify)	No
Religious belief		X
Political opinion		X
Racial group		X
Age		X
Marital status		X
Sexual orientation		X
Gender		X
Disability		X
Dependency		X

Please Comment:

There is no indication that policies of this type create problems that are specific to them.

a) List the organizations/groups/individuals both internal and external, that you contacted during the development of the policy

b) Specify how comments were incorporated into the final draft policy

c) If ideas from groups weren't included please indicate why not

4. In relation to implementing this policy, is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations by altering the policy or by working with others in Government or in the larger community?

Yes No

If Yes, please comment:

5. Have you identified opportunities to:
a) promote positive attitudes towards disabled people;
b) encourage participation by disabled people in public life?

Please Specify:

6. Monitoring Information: What data will be required to ensure effective monitoring of the policy following implementation?

The policy will be monitored in line with the Invest NI Equality Monitoring Strategy.

7. Have you any other comments on the policy and/or screening exercise?

Summary of Screening

Section 75 Category	Is there any evidence of potential under-representation of any Section 75 groups in this policy/programme?	Is there any evidence that people from any S75 groups have any issues / difficulties /problems with this policy/programme?	In your assessment is any further additional action required to address any under representation or problems associated with this policy/programme?	If yes, is an Equality Impact Assessment required to further assess the impact of the policy/programme on this group? Give reasons for your answer
Religion	NO	NO	NO	
Political Opinion	NO	NO	NO	
Age	NO	NO	NO	
Gender	NO	NO	NO	
Disability	NO	NO	NO	
Sexual Orientation	NO	NO	NO	
Dependants	NO	NO	NO	
Marital Status	NO	NO	NO	
Racial Group	NO	NO	NO	

Human Rights Impact Assessment

Articles as identified by European Convention of Human Rights.

- Article 2 - Right to life
- Article 3 - Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment
- Article 4 - Prohibition of slavery and forced labour
- Article 5 - Right to liberty and security
- Article 6 - Right to fair and public trial
- Article 7 - Right to no punishment with law
- Article 8 - Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence
- Article 9 - Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Article 10 - Right to freedom of expression
- Article 11 - Rights to freedom of assembly and association
- Article 12 – Right to marry and to found a family
- Article 14 – The prohibition of discrimination
- Protocol 1 Article 1 – Protection of Property
- Protocol 1 Article 2 - Right to education

Definitions of degree of risk of infringement of each article:

High risk – It is foreseeable that this policy is very likely to breach this Article.

Medium risk – This policy is likely, in certain circumstances, to breach this Article.

Low risk – It is possible, though very unlikely, that this policy will breach this Article.


1. Indicate any potential Human Rights implications associated with this policy, the perceived degree of risk (see above) and who the victim may be.

	Has this policy the potential to infringe the rights (Please Tick)		If yes indicate here the degree of risk – High, Medium or Low (See definitions above)	If yes indicate here who the potential victim(s) would be
	Yes	No		
Article 2		X		
Article 3		X		
Article 5		X		
Article 6		X		
Article 8		X		
Article 9		X		
Article 10		X		
Article 11		X		
Article 12		X		
Article 14*		X		
Article 1 of Protocol 1		X		
Article 2 of Protocol 1		X		

Finally are there any other ways in which Invest NI might be able to improve this policy/programme area in terms of improving the equality of opportunity? (ie conducting any further consultations, gathering monitoring data, liaising with other departments or organisations etc.)

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Summary of Decision

Name(s) of Screening Personnel:	Fiona Walker
Role:	Manager of Programme Administrative Support
Decision to Conduct Equality Impact Assessment: YES / NO:	No
Date:	12/08/2009
Signed: (Screening Personnel):	
Approved: (Director):	