

# Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)

## Section 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

### 1A. Name of Public Authority

Belfast City Council

### 1B. Please provide a short title, which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to the Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Development of an Inclusive Growth Strategy for Belfast City Council

### 1C. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to.

Developing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Adopting a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Revising a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Designing a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Delivering a Public Service	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### 1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan for Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

Draft Inclusive Growth Strategy

### 1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

Belfast City Council has developed a draft Inclusive Growth Strategy. The Belfast Agenda, the city's first community plan, sets out a long-term vision for Belfast up to 2035 and one of our commitments in the Belfast Agenda is to create an inclusive economy. It is essential that everyone across the city benefits from economic growth.

To drive this inclusive growth we have committed to a number of actions for Belfast. The draft Inclusive Growth Strategy looks at what we are going to do as an organisation and in collaboration with others, to create a truly inclusive city. At the heart of these commitments is the belief that public sector organisations, business, the

voluntary and community sector and local people across the city must work towards a common vision to bring opportunity for everyone.

It sets out how we will use, amongst other things our employment, procurement and investment powers to drive inclusive growth.

Our draft strategy initially focuses on four cohorts;

- Workless residents;
- Residents with low skill levels;
- In work, low earning individuals, and
- Young people not in education, employment or training.

## Section 2 – Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

**2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?**

Yes  No  If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

**2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.**

n/a

**2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.**

n/a

**2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.**

Rural Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state) <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A**

**2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.**

The default definition of “rural” used in Northern Ireland is those settlements with populations of less than 5,000 together with open countryside. The rural population of Belfast ( 2016 mid year population estimates, NISRA) is approximately 1,484, including the small settlements of Edenderry, Hannahstown and Loughview.)

The draft Inclusive Growth Strategy is designed to help **all** citizens of Belfast benefit from economic growth, initially focusing activity on the identified four cohorts. The impact of this strategy will apply across the city and we have no evidence to suggest that there will be any differential impact on people in rural areas.

**Section 3 – Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas**

**3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?**

Yes  x  If the response is **NO GO TO Section 3E.**

**3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public**

**Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.**

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>	Published Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation with Other Organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surveys or Questionnaires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).			<input type="checkbox"/>

**3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.**

n/a

**3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority**

n/a

**If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A**

**3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

The draft Inclusive Growth Strategy aims to ensure that the success of the city reaches every citizen and to connect all residents with economic growth and we have no evidence to suggest that there will be any differential impact on people in rural areas.

As the various elements of the strategy are developed it will be the responsibility of the relevant officer to carry out any additional rural needs impact assessment.

**Section 4 – Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas**

**4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.**

n/a

## Section 5 – Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

**5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?**

Yes  No  If the response is **NO GO TO Section 5C.**

**5A. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified?**

n/a

**If the response to Section 5A was YES GO TO Section 6A**

**5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.**

As highlighted earlier, the draft Inclusive Growth Strategy aims to ensure that the success of the city reaches every citizen and to connect **all** residents with economic growth. As the various elements of the strategy are developed it will be the responsibility of the relevant officer to carry out any additional rural needs impact assessment

## SECTION 6 – Documenting and Recording

**6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.**

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled. x

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<b>Position / Grade:</b>	<b>Policy and Performance Analyst</b>
<b>Division / Branch:</b>	<b>Strategy, Policy and Partnerships</b>
<b>Signature:</b>	

<b>Date:</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> October 2019</b>
<b>Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:</b>	<b>Christine Robinson</b>
<b>Position / Grade:</b>	<b>Strategy, Policy and Partnerships Manager</b>
<b>Division / Branch:</b>	<b>Strategy, Policy and Partnerships</b>
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> October 2019</b>