

PBNI Equality Impact Screening

Part 1 Policy Scoping

Information about the policy

This form should be read in conjunction with the Equality Commission's revised Section 75, "A Guide for Public Authorities" April 2010 and available via the following link [S75 Guide for Public Authorities April 2010](#). Staff should complete a form for each new or revised policy for which they are responsible (see page 6 for a definition of policy in respect of section 75).

The purpose of screening is to identify those policies that are likely to have an impact on equality of opportunity and/or good relations and so determine whether an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) is necessary. Screening should be introduced at an early stage when developing or reviewing a policy.

1.1 Name of the policy

Intensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Project (IRRP)

1.2 Is this an existing, revised or a new policy?

New

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

To provide intensive support to offenders leaving prison to offending create an environment that assists the individual to stop offending, creating safer communities. This is a preventative approach, targeting a high risk group and seeks to reduce recalls to prison. We know that a significant proportion of males are recalled, and this often happens within the first few weeks of release, because they have been unable to make positive choices on their own

1.4 Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how.

Men make up around 85% of offenders

1.5 Who initiated or wrote the policy?

PBNI

1.6 Which Dept. owns and who implements the policy?

PBNI

Implementation factors

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

yes

If yes, are they

financial

legislative

other, please specify

Main stakeholders affected

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

staff

service users

other public sector organisations

voluntary/community/trade unions

other, please specify

1.9 Other policies with a bearing on this policy

- what are they?

- who owns them?

Available evidence

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

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information																								
Religious belief	<p>Service User Data on those who started an order in 2011/12</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="496 674 751 763">Religious Belief</th> <th data-bbox="751 674 927 763">PSRs N=3,002 (49%)</th> <th data-bbox="927 674 1102 763">New Orders N=1,670 (46%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 763 751 797">Roman</td> <td data-bbox="751 763 927 797">52%</td> <td data-bbox="927 763 1102 797">52%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 797 751 831">Protestant</td> <td data-bbox="751 797 927 831">36%</td> <td data-bbox="927 797 1102 831">38%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 831 751 864">Other Christian</td> <td data-bbox="751 831 927 864">2%</td> <td data-bbox="927 831 1102 864">2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 864 751 898">Muslim</td> <td data-bbox="751 864 927 898">*</td> <td data-bbox="927 864 1102 898"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 898 751 931">Other</td> <td data-bbox="751 898 927 931">1%</td> <td data-bbox="927 898 1102 931">1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 931 751 965">None</td> <td data-bbox="751 931 927 965">8%</td> <td data-bbox="927 931 1102 965">8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Religious Belief	PSRs N=3,002 (49%)	New Orders N=1,670 (46%)	Roman	52%	52%	Protestant	36%	38%	Other Christian	2%	2%	Muslim	*		Other	1%	1%	None	8%	8%			
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Disability

Service User Data on those who started an order in 2011/12

Disability	PSRs N=2,964 (48%)	New Orders N=1,647 (45%)
None	63%	66%
Mental Health Condition	22%	21%
Physical Impairment	9%	7%
Long Term Illness	6%	5%
Learning Disability/ Autism	5%	4%
Sensory Impairment	1%	1%
Other	4%	4%

Dependants

Service User Data on those who started an order in 2011/12

Dependants	PSRs N=2,993 (48%)	New Orders N=1,658 (45%)
None	53%	56%
Child/ Children	45%	42%
Person with disability	2%	2%
Elderly Person	2%	1%

Needs, experiences and priorities

1.11 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

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified
Political opinion	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified
Racial group	Foreign national offender while small in number may especially find this service of great assistance in accessing support and local knowledge.
Age	The majority of offenders are younger people
Marital status	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified
Sexual orientation	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified
Men and women generally	The majority of offenders are male
Disability	The offending population has higher rates of mental health disabilities than the societal average.
Dependants	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified

Part 2 Equality Screening Questions

SCREENING QUESTIONS

- 2.1** In making a decision as to whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment, consider questions 2.5 -2.8 listed below.
- 2.2** If the conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 equality of opportunity and/or good relations categories, then the decision may to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out' as having no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations, give details of the reasons for the decision taken.
- 2.3** If the 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:
- i.measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or
 - ii.the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.
- 2.4** If the 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.

2.5 Equality Impact

What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? Minor Major None		
Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Minor Major None
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial group	Foreign Nationals can expect to benefit from one to one mentoring and this will assist with the promotion of equality buy ensuring that they can tap into local knowledge in relation to local services and opportunities – albeit that the number affected will be low.	Minor
Age	The majority of offenders are young males and therefore this multi-identity group will benefit from the provision of this project.	Major
Marital status	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified	None
Sexual orientation	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified	None
Men and women generally	The majority of offenders are young males and therefore this multi-identity group will benefit from the provision of this project.	Major
Disability	With higher levels of mental health disabilities in the sentenced population this group will benefit significantly in relation to one to one mentoring provision.	Major

Dependants	No specific needs, experiences or priorities have been identified	None
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2.6 Promotion of Equality

Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?		
Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		As this is proposed work, it is difficult to assess if there are opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity until the project gets underway, however we assess that equality consideration will be incorporated in the procedures that will guide this project.
Political opinion		As above
Racial group		As above
Age		As above
Marital status		As above
Sexual orientation		As above
Men and women generally		As above
Disability		As above
Dependants		As above

2.7 Good Relation Impact

To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? Minor Major None		
Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact Minor Major None
Religious belief	The indented benefit is to reduce offending as offenders return to the communities where they reside, therefore making communities safer for everyone.	Minor
Political opinion	As above	Minor
Racial group	As Above	Minor

2.8 Promotion of Good Relations

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 reasons
Religious belief	This project is intended to create safer communities and therefore potentially better community relations	
Political opinion	As Above	
Racial group	As Above	

Additional considerations

Multiple identities

2.9 Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?
(For example; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

The majority of offenders affected by this initiative will be young males.

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

Assistance will be offered to help ex-prisoners to stop their offending behaviour and lead more productive lives

2.11 Is there an opportunity through this policy for PBNI to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people or encourage the participation of disabled people in public life?

Yes

No

If answered yes detail how this will be achieved: -

The support offered will greatly assist offenders with disabilities as each person will receive a tailored packager of support to address their unique needs.

Part 3 Screening decision

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

The overall impact of the project is designed to reduce offending by offering an intensive package of support to meet the unique needs of ex-prisoners. PBNI believes that the impact of such a scheme will promote equality of opportunity for ex-prisoners and benefit society generally.

3.2 If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment consider if the policy should be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced.

N/A

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

N/A

Mitigation

3.4 When the likely impact is 'minor' an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, mitigation may 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 and if so, give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

N/A

Date Screening Completed: 2.12.14

Department Completing this Screening: PBNI Assistant Director Rural, Human Resources Department.