



Information to be compiled by Public Authorities under Section 3(1)(a) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

(To be completed and included in public authorities' own annual reports and submitted to DAERA for inclusion in the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report).

Name of Public Authority:

Belfast City Council

Reporting Period:

April 20 22 to March 20 23

The following information should be compiled in respect of each policy, strategy and plan which has been developed, adopted, implemented, or revised and each public service which has been designed or delivered by the public authority during the reporting period.

<i>Description of the activity undertaken by the public authority which is subject to section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016¹.</i>	<i>The rural policy area(s) which the activity relates to².</i>	<i>Describe how the public authority has had due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing, or revising the policy, strategy or plan or when designing or delivering the public service³.</i>
Corporation Street & Exchange Street Placemaking Brief	N/A	This project has considered the impacts on a range of existing and potential stakeholders. We do not consider this policy to have relevance to the social and economic needs of persons in rural areas.
Heritage Trail Sign Policy – City Hall	Other – Good Relations	The Heritage Trail Policy – City Hall applies only to the installation of interpretive signs at City Hall in Belfast City

		Centre and is not likely to impact people in rural areas. Therefore, the council has not taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.
Development of a Commercial Plan	N/A	The draft Commercial Plan aims to contribute to the Council's investment plans, its efficiency programme and to 'recovering' and 'rebuilding' from the COVID-19 pandemic. This will assist to safeguard services that are delivered in all our local communities (both urban and rural). That being the case, it is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on people in rural areas. The draft Commercial Plan was not adopted by Council and therefore the Council is not implementing it at this time.
Naming a new public park in Colin as Páirc Nua Chollann	Other – Good Relations	The name of the new park has no implications for the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.
Onboarding of Council Services and return to the office for office-based staff	Internal	Some Council staff live in and travel from rural areas. However the current proposals to recover all Council service provision and return to the workplace, office based staff, who have been working remotely during the pandemic, will revert staff to their contracted pre Covid working patterns/ working locations.
Introducing a Car User Policy	Internal	The policy is for use by internal staff of Belfast City Council and has no impact on people in rural areas.
Reopening of Knockbreda Road entrance to Cherryfield Playing Fields	Other – Good Relations	No rural needs were identified in planning the Knockbreda Road entrance gate into Cherryvale Playingfields and park having given due regard to likely users coming from a localised vicinity to the proposed reopening of the access point.
Hub of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (HUB IN) Belfast Roadmap	N/A	The roadmap will have no direct impact on people in rural areas as it is focused on digital innovation and creative industries on the Maritime Mile.
Age Friendly Belfast Plan 2022-26	Transport services or infrastructure/ businesses/ housing/ training & community	The plan does not make specific proposals for rural areas at this stage, however more detailed planning in relation to the specific actions will consider any potential differential

	safety in rural areas	impacts on rural areas as they are progressed.
Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund	Poverty/ Deprivation	We will ensure the support available through the Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund will reach those most in need in both rural and urban areas on an equitable and inclusive basis through the application of pre-set eligibility criteria and effective monitoring and verification processes built into the project management system.
Additional leave provisions for bereavement, miscarriage and fertility treatment	Internal	The policy is for use by internal staff of Belfast City Council and has no impact on people in rural areas.
Smart Belfast Urban Innovation Framework 2022-2026	Rural businesses/ tourism	The framework will have no direct impact on people in rural areas as it is focused on urban innovation. A public consultation carried out on the framework did not identify any specific issues for people in rural areas or any likely adverse rural impact.
Security Unit Shift Rota	Internal	The policy is for use by internal staff of Belfast City Council and has no impact on people in rural areas.

NOTES

1. This information should normally be contained in section 1B of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
2. This information should normally be contained in section 2D of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
3. The information contained in sections 3D, 4A & 5B of the RNIA Template should be considered when completing this section.