

## Rural Needs Impact Assessment

### Section 1: Define activity subject to Section 1(1) of Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

**1A. Short title describing activity being undertaken that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016:**

Introduction of Carparking Access Criteria for Staff

**1B. Are you Developing, Adopting, Implementing or Revising a Policy a Strategy or a Plan? (Underline or Circle)  
Or are you delivering or designing a public service? (Underline or Circle)  
What is official title of this Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public service (if any)?**

Carparking Strategy

**1C. Give details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service:**

- To support the Trust and Department of Health in complying with strategic direction and policy with regard to Trust-wide car parking.
- To support the Trust's environmental objective to reduce the number of single occupant car journeys to our Trust sites.
- To operate equitable and fair arrangements for allocation of staff parking to support the delivery of services and to meet organisational need.
- To reduce onsite congestion, improve traffic flow and maintain clear access for all emergency vehicles
- To have regard for the impact of those accessing our sites by car, on the surrounding streets and local road networks.

**1D. What definition of 'rural' is the Trust using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service:**

Those settlements with populations of less than 5,000 together with the open countryside.

### Section 2 - Understanding impact of 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 response is NO Go To Section 2E. Yes

**2B. How is it likely to impact on people in rural areas?**

Those staff travelling to work from rural areas are likely to be more dependent on a car as their mode of travel to work as alternative travel options may be limited. The car parking access criteria provides points for those who live further from base, making it more likely that they will secure access to car parking. The impact therefore is potentially positive.

**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?**

Staff living in urban areas will have access to more frequent public transport services and those living within Belfast may additionally have the option of cycling or walking to work. Staff living in rural areas do not have the same access to frequent public transport services and will be more dependent on a car to commute to work. The car parking access criteria recognise this difference and staff with a lengthy commute in either distance or time are more likely to secure a car parking permit than those living in Belfast or other urban areas.

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

Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas		Community Safety or Rural Crime		Agriculture-Environment	
Education or Training in Rural Areas		Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas		Other, please state below; Impacts on staff living in rural areas and commuting to Belfast.	
Rural Development		Broadband/Mobile Communications in Rural Areas			
Poverty or Deprivation in Rural Areas		Rural Business, Tourism or Housing			

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

**If you completed 2E above GO TO Section 6**

### **SECTION 3 - Identifying Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas**

**3A. Has the Trust taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas, relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service? Yes  No  if the response is NO, GO TO Section 3D No**

**3B. Which of following methods or information sources were used by the Trust to identify these needs?**

**Consultation with relevant stakeholders / Survey or Questionnaire / Research / Statistics / Publications / Other methods.  
Please provide details:**

**3C. What social and economic needs of the people in rural areas have been identified?**

**3D Please explain why no steps were taken by the Trust to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

It won't have a bearing on the application of the new car parking application process.

### **SECTION 4 - Considering Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas**

**4A. What issues were considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

None

**SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service**

**5A. Has the policy, strategy, plan or public service been changed by consideration of the rural needs identified?**  
 Yes  No  if the response is NO, GO TO Section 5C Yes

**5B. If yes, how have rural needs influenced the policy, strategy plan or public service?**  
 Knowing that staff have to travel from rural areas and their travel option are limited, one of the carparking access criteria awards points to staff who have a public transport journey that involves one or more changes, including park and ride and exceeds 1 hour of a commute.

**5C. If no, why have the rural needs identified not influenced the policy, strategy, plan or public service?**

**Section 6: Documentation:**

**6A.** Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Trust 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.

<b>Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:</b>	Mandy Magee		
<b>Job Title/Directorate</b>	Senior Manager Logistics Services/ Nursing & User Experience		
<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	29/3/2022
<b>Approved by:</b>	Louise Neeson		
<b>Job Title/Directorate</b>	Planning & Equality Manager		
<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	31/3/2022