South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Equality, Good Relations and Human Rights Screening Template

Completed Screening Templates are public documents and will be posted on the Trust's website

See Guidance Notes for further background information on the relevant legislation and for help in answering the questions on this template (follow the links).

(1) Information about the Policy/Proposal

(1.1) Name of the policy/proposal *Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 Internal Review Policy& Procedure*

(1.2) Is this a new, existing or revised policy/proposal? *New*

(1.3) What is it trying to achieve (intended aims/outcomes)? *Inform staff about the FOI review process within the Trust in accordance with the FOI Act 2000.* *Inform them of their roles and responsibilities in line with the legislation and Trust procedure.*

(1.4) Are there any Section 75 categories (see list in 3.1) which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy/proposal? *Inclusive to all*

(1.4) Who owns and who implements the policy/proposal - where does it originate, for example DHSSPS, HSCB?

The Freedom of Information Act 2000

(1.5) Are there any factors that could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/proposal/decision? (Financial, legislative or other constraints?)

No

(1.7) Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy/proposal/decision could impact upon? (staff, service users, other public sector organisations, , trade unions, professional bodies, independent sector, voluntary and community groups etc)

Trust staff

Partner organisations internal and external to the HSC and including the voluntary sector

Trust population notably patients and clients

(1.8) Other policies with a bearing on this policy/proposal **(**for example regional policies) - what are they and who owns them?

Records Management Procedures

Records Management Policy

Data Protection Policy

ICT Strategy

Email management policy

Legislation

South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Freedom of Information Act 2000

(2) Available evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Details of evidence/information
In order to develop this Policy reference was made to the following documentation:- *Freedom of Information Act 2000 Policy* *Freedom of Information Act 2000* *ICO Guidance on managing and an organisation's responsibilities in processing FOIs* *As there has been no change to the legislation the Policy did not require significant amendment/revision.*

(3) Needs, experiences and priorities

(3.1) Taking into account the information above what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the Section 75 categories and for both service users and staff.

Category	**Needs, experiences and priorities**	
	Service users	***Staff***
Gender	This policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed.	This policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed.
Age		
Religion		
Political Opinion		

Marital Status		
Dependent Status	This policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed.	This policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed.
Disability		
Ethnicity		
Sexual Orientation		

(3.2) Provide details of how you have involved stakeholders, views of colleagues, service users and staff etc when screening this policy/proposal.

The policy was subject to internal consultation via the Safe & Effective Care Department. Advice and guidance was also sought by the Head of Information Governance from the local Information Commissioner's Office.

(4) Screening Questions

You now have to assess whether the impact of the policy/proposal is major, minor or none. You will need to make an informed judgement based on the information you have gathered.

(4.1) What is the likely impact of equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy/proposal, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?			
Section 75 category	***Details of policy/proposal impact***		***Level of impact? Minor/major/none***
	Services Users	***Staff***	
Gender			None
Age			None
Religion			None

Political Opinion			None
Marital Status			None
Dependent Status			None
Disability			None
Ethnicity			None
Sexual Orientation			None

(4.2) Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within Section 75 equality categories?	
Section 75 category	***Please provide details***
Gender	The policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed
Age	
Religion	
Political Opinion	
Marital Status	
Dependent Status	
Disability	
Ethnicity	
Sexual Orientation	

(4.3) *To what extent is the policy/proposal 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/proposal impact***	***Level of impact Minor/major/none***
Religious belief		none
Political opinion		none
Racial group		none

(4.4) Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?	
Good relations category	***Please provide details***
Religious belief	The policy is designed to meet the needs of all categories listed
Political opinion	
Racial group	

(5) Consideration of Disability Duties

(5.1) How does the policy/proposal encourage disabled people to participate in public life and promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?
The Policy is developed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Act seeks to promote openness and transparency. This enables the public to legitimately seek information held by Public Bodies (subject to provision of appropriate exemptions).

Information leaflets are available to both staff and members of the public. Information is also provided on the Trust website.

(6) Consideration of Human Rights

(6.1) Does the policy/proposal affect anyone's Human Rights?
Complete for each of the articles

Article	Positive impact	Negative impact = human right interfered with or restricted	Neutral impact
Article 2 – Right to life			×
Article 3 – Right to freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment			×
Article 4 – Right to freedom from slavery, servitude & forced or compulsory labour			×
Article 5 – Right to liberty & security of person			×
Article 6 – Right to a fair & public trial within a reasonable time			×
Article 7 – Right to freedom from retrospective criminal law & no punishment without law			×
Article 8 – Right to respect for private & family life, home and correspondence.			×
Article 9 – Right to freedom of thought, conscience & religion			×
Article 10 – Right to freedom of expression			×
Article 11 – Right to freedom of assembly & association			×
Article 12 – Right to marry & found a family			×
Article 14 – Prohibition of discrimination in the enjoyment of the convention rights			×
1st protocol Article 1 – Right to a peaceful enjoyment of possessions & protection of property			×
1st protocol Article 2 – Right of access to education			×

Please note: If you have identified potential negative impact in relation to any of the Articles in the table above, speak to your line manager and/or Equality Unit. It may also be necessary to seek legal advice.

(6.2) Please outline any actions you will take to promote awareness of human rights and evidence that human rights have been taken into consideration in decision making processes.

- *Monitor levels and severity of complaints received with regard to the processing of FOI requests.*
- *Review ICO Decision Notices online*
- *Ensure publicity materials about the process are current and available to all.*

(7) Screening Decision

(7.1) Given the answers in Section 4, how would you categorise the impacts of this policy/proposal?

Major impact	
Minor impact	
No impact	×

(7.2) Do you consider the policy/proposal needs to be subjected to ongoing screening

Yes	
No	×

(7.3) Do you think the policy/proposal should be subject to and Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)?

Yes	
No	×

(7.4) Please give reasons for your decision and detail any mitigation considered.

- *Monitor levels and severity of complaints received with regard to the processing of FOI requests.*
- *Review ICO Decision Notices online*
- *Ensure publicity materials about the process are current and available to al*

(8) Monitoring

Please detail how you will monitor the effect of the policy/proposal for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights?

- *Monitor levels and severity of complaints received with regard to the processing of FOI requests.*
- *Review ICO Decision Notices online*
- *Ensure publicity materials about the process are current and available to all*

Approved Lead Officer: Lynda McAree

Position: Head of Information Governance

Date: 06/02/2013

Policy/proposal screened by: Lynda McAree

Please forward completed schedule to:

Susan Thompson
Equality Manager
Lough House, Ards Hospital
Newtownards
BT23 4AS
Telephone: 028 9151 2177
Textphone: 028 9151 0137
e: susan.thompson@setrust.hscni.net

Kathey Neill
Equality Officer
Lough House, Ards Hospital
Newtownards
BT23 4AS
Telephone: 028 9151 2122
Textphone: 028 9151 0137
e: kathey.neill@setrust.hscni.net