

Screening Outcome Report 1st September 2021 to 31th Dec 2021

Introduction

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires the Trust, when carrying out its functions in relation to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between nine categories of persons, namely:

- between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
- between men and women generally;
- between persons with a disability and persons without; and
- between persons with dependants and persons without.

Without prejudice to its obligations above, the Trust must also have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

The Equality Scheme outlines how we propose to fulfil our statutory duties under Section 75. Within the Scheme, the Trust gave a commitment to apply the screening methodology below to all new and revised policies and if necessary to subject policies to equality impact assessment. (EQIA)

Screening Methodology

For new or revised policies/proposals the Trust will consider the following four screening questions as per ECNI guidance:-

- What is the likely impact of equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy/proposal, for each of the Section 75 equality categories?
- Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within Section 75 equality categories?
- To what extent is the policy/proposal likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?
- Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

In keeping with the Trust's commitments in its Equality Scheme the Trust has applied the above screening criteria to new policies and proposals.

The screening process is used to identify which policies are likely to have an impact on equality of opportunity and/or good relations. Screening assesses the likely impact of the policy as major, minor or none.

If it is decided that a policy/proposal is likely to have major issues relating to equality, it is then necessary to consider carrying out a more detailed exercise called an equality impact assessment.

This screening report outlines the screening outcomes from the date of formal approval of the Trust's revised Equality Scheme i.e. 14th September 2011 to 31st March 2012 and will be produced each quarter thereafter.

Communication & Engagement

In order to carry out our functions there is a need to continue to effectively engage and work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders including Trust staff, Trade Unions, service users, carers, commissioners, voluntary/community sector, public representatives and independent providers.

The Trust is committed to promoting personal and public involvement in all its activities. The development of new policies and proposals will be supported by effective engagement processes to ensure that staff, service users and all interested parties are fully involved. Planning for, and delivering safe, clinically effective and cost effective services requires close collaboration at many levels.

If you have any queries about this document, and its availability in alternative formats (including Braille, disk and audio cassette, and in minority languages to meet the needs of those who are not fluent in English) then please contact:

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Outcome of Screening

The screening outcomes are outlined below. Four possible outcomes are recorded:

- 1 The policy has been **‘screened in’ for equality impact assessment;**
- 2 The policy has been **‘screened out’ with mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted;**
- 3 The policy has been **‘screened out’ without mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted.**
- 4 The policy will be **subjected to ongoing screening.** For more detailed strategies or policies that are to be put in place through a series of stages, screening should be considered at various times during implementation.

Description of Policy or Proposal	Screening Outcome	Reason for Reaching Screening Outcome
<p><u>Fire Safety Policy</u></p> <p>This is a revised policy (Supersedes SET/Gen (14) 2017) intended to mitigate the risks of fire related incidents posing a threat to people and Trust infrastructure.</p>	<p>Out</p>	<p>The Policy was deemed to have no impact and was screened out. The Trust undertakes to monitor the effect of the policy for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust fire safety sub comity • complaints

Description of Policy or Proposal	Screening Outcome	Reason for Reaching Screening Outcome
<p><u>Identifying and Recording of Next of Kin for those over 16 years</u></p> <p>This is a revised policy which covers all staff who may be involved in identifying/recording and utilising next of kin information(in those over 16 years); this includes all service users of the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust (the Trust)., therefore will support staff to identify the same</p>	Out	<p>This is a review of a current policy. There has been no impact detected on any of the S75 groups.</p> <p>The Trust undertakes to monitor the effect of the policy for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints • incident reporting
<p><u>Empirical Antimicrobial Therapy Guidelines for Hospitalised Adults (aged 16 years and above)</u></p> <p>This is a revised policy which aims to improve the quality of prescribing of antibiotics within the Trust.</p>	Out	<p>The Policy was deemed to have no impact and was screened out. The way the Trust undertakes monitoring of the effect of the policy for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular audits of antimicrobial prescribing in the Trust.
<p><u>ICT - Mobile Device Policy</u></p> <p>This is a revised policy. The purpose of the policy is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximise financial benefit • ensure data security • health and safety of users and clients. 	Out	<p>The Policy was deemed to have no impact and was screened out. The way the Trust undertakes monitoring of the effect of the policy for equality of opportunity and good relations, disability duties and human rights by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring excessive usage on an ongoing case by case basis • Checks and measures have been established where possible to mitigate unauthorised use of mobile devices
<p><u>Cleaning & Decontamination of the Care Environment & Equipment;- Guidance & Principles</u></p> <p>This is a revised policy. The aim of this policy is to determine the effectiveness of the cleaning and decontamination of equipment and the care environment.</p>	Out	<p>The Policy was deemed to have no impact and was screened out. The trust has not monitoring outcome in place to measure this policy.</p>