

## **Annex 2**

### **SCREENING FOR EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

#### **The Waste Management Licensing (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007**

#### **Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Section 75) - Statutory Equality Obligations**

##### **1. Introduction**

1. Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires all public authorities, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between:

- persons of different religious beliefs;
- persons of different political opinions;
- persons of different racial groups;
- persons of different ages;
- persons of different marital status;
- persons of different sexual orientation;
- men and women generally;
- persons with a disability and persons without; and
- persons with dependants and persons without.

2. To satisfy this requirement, government departments carry out Equality Impact Assessments of policies and legislation to test whether they could have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity between any of the nine groups listed above. While it is acknowledged that Section 75 puts a duty on public authorities to look at all its policy areas and not just those relating to equality issues, it is accepted that not all policies need to be assessed to the same extent. Screening aims to identify those policies that are likely to have the greatest impact on equality of opportunity and therefore should be subject to a full equality impact assessment.

##### **Aims of the Regulations**

3. The proposed 2007 Regulations will provide for exemptions to allow certain waste recovery and disposal operations in relation to agricultural waste to be carried out under an exemptions regime, whilst preventing abuse and ensuring protection of the environment and human health.

##### **Screening Analysis**

- (i) Is there any evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake by different groups within any of the nine categories?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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- (ii) Is there any evidence that particular groups have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to the particular main policy area?

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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4. The Waste Management Licensing (Amendment) Regulations relate to improving standards in waste management and disposal for the benefit of the environment. There is no evidence that particular groups have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to this topic.

- (iii) Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good community relations by altering policy or working with others in Government or the community at large?

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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- (iv) Have consultations in the past with relevant groups, organisations or individuals indicated that particular policies create problems that are specific to them?

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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5. We issued consultation papers on proposals for the new system of waste management in Northern Ireland in June 2003 and March 2005. Comments received on those papers indicated wide acceptance of the principles of the proposed changes.

#### Equality Impact Assessment Decision

6. Full Equality Impact Assessment procedure is confined to those policies considered likely to have significant implications for equality of opportunity. As a result of the screening analysis above, it is considered that there will be no significant implications for equality of opportunity as a result of the policy and legislation contained in the proposed Waste Management Licensing (Amendment) Regulations. There is therefore no need to submit a full Equality Impact Assessment.