



Western Health
and Social Care Trust

Draft Equality Screening Report

1 January 2023 – 31 March 2023

This document can be made available
in alternative formats on request

Introduction

The Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHSCT) must consider by law, Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, how we promote equality and remove discrimination for people who use our services and for members of staff. Our obligations are set out in our Equality Scheme. The 9 groups that are specified in the Equality Scheme are:

Black and Minority Ethnic People	Different Marital Status e.g. Single, Married, Divorced, Civil Partnership, Widowed	Disabled People
Carers	Different Political Opinions	Men and Women
Different Ages - Young People/Older People	Different Religious Beliefs	People who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual

We also have to consider how we can promote good relations between people with different religious beliefs, political opinions or racial group (including people from the Travelling Community).

Within the Equality Scheme, the Trust gives a commitment to apply equality screening processes to all new and revised policies/proposals and, where necessary, to subject new policies/proposals to a full equality impact assessment. This process helps us to:

- assess the impact/consequences of our decisions on the people within the 9 equality groups;
- consider how we might better meet their needs (promote equality of opportunity);
- reduce any negative impacts/consequences (mitigating actions).

The Trust is required to have evidence that the following questions have been considered in relation to all policy development, strategic planning and general decision making:

- What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy/proposal, for each of the Section 75 categories? (minor/major/none)
- Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 categories?
- To what extent is the policy/proposal likely to impact on good relations, between people of a different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? (minor/major/none)

- Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of a different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

(From 'Section 75 of the NI Act: A Guide for Public Authorities': ECNI).

The Trust's Equality Screening process provides this evidence.

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 a full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

Equality screening for all the policies/initiatives detailed has highlighted the need to ensure that information relating to them/the service is made available, throughout, to support those service users/families/carers who do not have English as a first language, including the use of foreign language interpreters and written translations etc., in line with Trust guidelines. In addition, service users, their families, carers or staff who require additional communication support including e.g. provision of information in Braille, sign language interpreters, large font or audio, will be provided with this.

Should you wish to obtain a copy of any of the policies and/or screening forms referred to in this document, or require them in an alternative format, please contact:

Equality Team
Western Health & Social Care Trust
Tyrone & Fermanagh Hospital
Omagh
BT79 0NS
Telephone: 028 8283 5834
Email: equality.admin@westerntrust.hscni.net

Western Health and Social Care Trust: Screening Outcomes for the Period 1 January 2023 – 31 March 2023

Medical			
Title of Policy and Description	Outcome of Equality Screening	Reason for Outcome	Date Compl'd
<p>Claims Management Policy</p> <p>This policy sets out the Trust's arrangements for handling clinical and social care practice negligence (i.e. medical/professional negligence), employers liability, public/occupiers liability and employment law claims.</p> <p>The policy gives a broad overview of the Trust's corporate Risk Management philosophy and methodology placing the management of claims in a wider risk and organisational context.</p> <p>The policy details the various roles and responsibilities of key officers of the Trust who contribute to and manage the claims management process.</p>	<p>Green: No Impact: A full EQIA is not recommended</p>	<p>The Trust will continue to raise awareness of risks in general and is committed to the establishment of a supportive, open and learning culture that encourages staff to report mistakes, adverse events/incidents and near misses, and to continuously learn and improve from these, in accordance with the Trust's Incident Reporting Policy and Procedures.</p> <p>The Trust will continue to apply an approach, which will ensure that all claims are dealt with promptly, efficiently and comprehensively in an environment of openness that encourages parties to resolve.</p> <p>The policy will be communicated to staff via Trust Communication and shared by the Litigation Department when necessary. It will also be available on the staff intranet.</p>	<p>24/2/23</p>
<p>Infection control precautions for respiratory viral infections including influenza & respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in healthcare settings</p> <p>This is an update to the 'Infection Control Precautions (IPC) to Minimise Transmission of Influenza/ Influenza-Like Illness (FLI) in Healthcare Settings (November 2019)'</p> <p>This guideline is aimed at giving advice to all staff working within WHSCT to assist in minimising the risk of</p>	<p>Green: No Impact: A full EQIA is not recommended</p>	<p>The policy and guidelines will continue to be audited to ensure that staff are compliant with measures designed to minimise the risk of infection. In addition to this there will be continuous surveillance by the infection prevention and control team to ensure that there is not a rise in infection rates that can be attributed to the provision of guidance by the infection prevention and control team.</p> <p>In addition to this consideration and actions shall be</p>	<p>27/2/23</p>

<p>transmission of viral respiratory infections to other patients, staff and the public.</p> <p>This guideline now also includes specific IPC advice for the management of Round Syncytial Virus.</p>		<p>taken following any comments or complaints in relation to practice that has been identified as not having consideration for equality and human rights.</p>	
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