

Equality and Human Rights Screening Report

Jan-Mar 2023



Patient and Client Council
Your voice in health and social care



**Children's Court
Guardian Agency**



Northern Ireland
Blood Transfusion Service

for Northern Ireland

Equality and Human Rights Screening Report

Introduction

The Equality Unit in the Business Services Organisation is responsible for providing equality support to the ten partner organisations shown on page 1.

Each organisation is committed to embedding equality, human rights and diversity into their policies and practices. In accordance with guidance from the Equality Commission issued in April 2010 (Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act: A Guide for Public Authorities) this is undertaken by conducting a screening exercise. Screening is an important tool that allows a more systematic examination of how any of our policies and practices might impact on staff, service users or the public differently. Screening helps organisations to think about what might need to be undertaken to mitigate any identified inequalities. It allows greater consideration of ways that we could better promote equality of opportunity.

Why are we reporting our screening outcomes?

The purpose of publishing the screening outcomes report is to ensure that our ten partner health and social care organisations make their policies and screening outcomes accessible. It provides opportunities for feedback. It also contributes to our belief in the importance of ensuring that we make the work that we do and the decisions that we take more open and transparent. We have all offered this commitment within our Equality Schemes.

Quarterly publication of our screening activity is one way of providing evidence, externally, on the mainstreaming of the equality duties.

What is included?

Listed in each quarterly report are the screening exercises undertaken during that period by each organisation. This includes a short description of the policy or process, the screening outcomes, including mitigation, and any additional recommendations.

Your views

If you have comments that you wish to share in relation to the contents of this screening report you can forward these to the Equality Unit in the Business Services Organisation where staff will raise with organisations for consideration.

Contact details:

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Should you require this document in an accessible format such as Braille, audio format, other language etc. please contact us.

We hope that you find this report helpful.

Thank you

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Table 1 includes published screening for the period **Jan-Mar 2023**. All policies and screening templates listed can be viewed on the Business Services Organisation's [website](#). If you would like paper copies or alternate formats please contact us – contact details above.

Table 1

*1	'screened in' for equality impact assessment (EQIA)
2	'screened out' with mitigation
3	'screened out' without mitigation

Org.	Policy / Procedure and Screening Documentation	Policy Aims	Date	*Screening Decision
BSO	Acting on concerns raised within a classroom setting (Dec 2022) V1	The aim of this policy is to provide a clear description of the process expected by any member of staff should any concerns be raised in a classroom setting when delivering a teaching session for the Clinical Education Centre (CEC). The policy outlines the key strategic context of the policy, the roles and responsibilities in terms of teaching staff and operational managers and how the incident should be recorded.	Feb-23	Screened out without mitigation
BSO	BSO Secondment Guide	The aim of this policy is to outline the clear arrangements that are in place for employees accessing a secondment and the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders within the secondment process	Jan-23	Screened out without mitigation

BSO	Vital Signs Paediatrics. Undertaking and recording for Senior Healthcare Assistants (SHCA)	This programme is for senior healthcare assistants who work with infants and children and are required to obtain, record and escalate their vital signs to a health professional. Overall aim is to help participants develop the necessary knowledge and skills to safely undertake, record and report the vital signs of an infant or child.	Jan-23	Screened out with mitigation
BTS	Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service (NIBTS) implementation of anti-hepatitis B core (anti-HBc) testing.	Following the report of two probable transfusion transmitted cases of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) from donors who had not been identified by routine screening, later identified as having Occult Hepatitis B infection (OBI), the Advisory Committee on Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO) established a working group in September 2019 to investigate the risk from OBI donors to the blood supply in the UK and what changes could be made to	Feb-23	Screened out with mitigation

		screening strategies to reduce this risk.		
PHA	Procurement of a Shared Reading Service in the NI Criminal Justice Setting.	PHA will lead a competitive tendering process, to secure a formal contract with one provider to deliver a shared reading service across all NI adult prison sites	Feb-23	Screened out with mitigation