

## POLICY SCREENING FORM FOR EQUALITY IMPACT

<b>Name of Policy/Procedure/Decision:</b> safefood Knowledge Networks 2016-2018	<b>Date of Screening:</b> 16.2.16
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**In which directorate does this policy sit and who is responsible for it:**  
 Food Science – Linda Gordon, Chief Specialist Food Science and Gary Kearney, Director Food Science

**Name and roles of staff completing the screening. Indicate who is the lead:**  
 Patricia McCarthy, HR and Administrative Executive, Aileen McGloin, Communications Manager, Digital and Health, Angela Cahill, Corporate Operations Manager and Linda Gordon, Chief Specialist Food Science (Lead)

**Describe the aims, objectives and context for this policy (include whether it is linked to other policies and whether new/existing/revised):**

It is a revised policy to further develop multi-disciplinary and cross jurisdictional relationships between food safety professionals. The aim of the Knowledge Networks is to develop multi-disciplinary and cross-jurisdictional working relationships between food safety professionals operating across academia, food production, relegation and other public bodies. In the broadest sense, Knowledge Networks seek to promote cooperation, collaboration and synergies between key professionals in the food safety arena.

**Does the policy relate to functions carried out in Northern Ireland? (If not, go to Page 9) YES**

**Are there any particular equality categories which might be expected to benefit from the policy? (Explain how) No**

<p><b>Are there any factors which could contribute/detract from intended aim/outcome of policy/decision? If yes, are they:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial, please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislative, please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Government, please specify</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:</p>	<p><b>Who are the main stakeholders?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Consumers</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public sector organisations/Sponsoring Departments/NSMC</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary/Community Groups</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other – please specify: Food Industry, Academia, Research and regulatory bodies</p>
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**AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, NEEDS AND PRIORITIES**

Is there any relevant equality data/information (both qualitative and quantitative) available to inform impact of this policy? Please provide a note of any consultations/meetings that have taken place with any equality groups. Using this information, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the equality categories in relation to this particular policy?

Section 75 Category	Details of Evidence and Information	Details of Groups Needs/Experiences and Priorities
Religion/Belief	<p><b>Previous Knowledge Networks programmes ran by <i>safefood</i> have not indicated any exclusions or inclusions of a particular equality group at the professional and scientific level within the public sector/Environmental Health Officer/scientific institutes and business/private sector industries and food safety environment.</b></p>	
Political Opinion		
Race		
Age		
Marital Status		
Sexual Orientation		
Gender		
Disability		
Dependency Status		

**SCREENING QUESTIONS.**

Taking into account the information presented above, consider the likely impact on promoting equality of opportunity and good relations for those affected by this policy.

Section 75 Category	1. What is the likely impact (Major, Minor or None) on equality of opportunity giving details?	2. Are there better opportunities to promote equality of opportunity – Yes/No giving reasons
Religious Belief	<p><b>It is considered that the aim of the Networks is to promote and foster good relationships across the professional food chain environment on the island of Ireland. Therefore, it is believed that this creates a better opportunity to promote equality of opportunity and has no impact on that aim.</b></p>	
Political Opinion		
Racial Group		
Age		
Marital Status		
Sexual Orientation		
Gender		
Disability		
Dependency Status		

3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between different equality groups in society?	4. Are there opportunities to better foster good relations between different groups in society?
<p><b>As the aim is to promote good relations, it is hoped that the Knowledge Networks will cross equality groups within the scientific community. The Training and Mobility programmes give access to information sharing on an all-island basis.</b></p>	<p><b>No</b></p>

**Additional considerations**

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration are there any potential impacts on people with multiple identities? Provide details of the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities and specify the relevant categories:

**No identified impacts.**

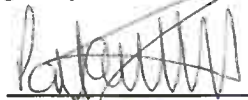


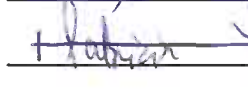
Also, consider if the policy can help to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and to promote participation in public life?

**No.**

**Screening Decision for EQIA** - Does a fuller equality analysis through an EQIA need to be conducted on this policy?:

<p><b>No</b></p>	<p><b>Specify reasons:</b> This programme is aimed at the scientific communities on the island of Ireland. There is no indication that this will impact unfavourably on any one particular group.</p>
<p><b>No provided minor mitigations adopted</b></p>	<p><b>Specify reasons and mitigations:</b></p>
<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p><b>Specify reasons:</b></p>

**Screening Report Final Recommendation:** No EQIA required.

<b>Signed:</b> <u></u>	<b>Name:</b> <u>PATRICIA C MCCARTHY</u>	<b>Date:</b> <u>29.2.16</u>
<b>Signed:</b> <u></u>	<b>Name:</b> <u>AILEEN MCGLOIN</u>	<b>Date:</b> <u>30/12/16</u>
<b>Signed:</b> <u></u>	<b>Name:</b> <u>Angela Cahill</u>	<b>Date:</b> <u>8.3.16</u>
<b>Signed:</b> <u></u>	<b>Name:</b> <u>Robert Fitzgerald</u>	<b>Date:</b> _____

At least two members of the Policy Screening Group and the appropriate decision maker/policy lead officer must sign above.

**Final approval Signature:**  **CEO/Director Corporate Operations** **Date:** 16 March 2016

