

Policy Title: Building name change – MU Teaching Block

Decision: Screen out for EQIA

Contact: Nuala Dalcz

Date of Completion: 15 June 2023

## Part 1: Policy Scoping

### Information about the policy

Name of the Policy

The proposal to rename Building MU Teaching Block on the Derry~Londonderry campus to the “John & Pat Hume Building” is in recognition of the life and work of John and Pat Hume. John Hume is professor Emeritus at Ulster University – a peacemaker, politician and humanitarian who, with his wife Pat, remain a continued source of inspiration for our University community. This proposed name change acknowledges the deep links between the Hume family and Ulster University as well as commemorating their work in Northern Ireland during the period of negotiations for and implementation of the Belfast Good Friday Agreement (BGFA).

Is this an existing, revised, or new policy?

This is a proposal to rename Building MU Teaching Block on the Derry~Londonderry campus, in line with the Policy on the Naming of Ulster University Buildings and Spaces.

According to this policy, the naming of buildings or spaces is generally associated with the following scenarios:

- To honour individuals for particular achievement;
- To recognise significant benefaction;
- As part of a commercial contract or agreement.
- To reflect the brand, ethos, history and heritage and the connections (local and global) of the University (For example, Aberfoyle House, The Orpheus Building, The Loughview Suite)

The Policy includes specific guidance on honorary naming of buildings and spaces (such as, using names of people from outside the University for building [or space] names where they have been associated with events or achievements of major significance, such as a landmark achievement in an academic discipline or major humanitarian contribution, compatible with the University’s mission and goals.

What is it trying to achieve? (For example, intended aims and outcomes)

This naming proposal aims to honour and commemorate the close relationship between Ulster University and John & Pat Hume; a relationship that still endures today through INCORE and collaboration with the Hume Foundation.

Ulster University has had a close relationship with John and Pat Hume - and now the Hume Foundation - for decades. Professor John Hume is Professor Emeritus at Ulster University and was bestowed an honorary degree from the University in 1998. Pat Hume received her honorary degree in 2010.

From 2002- 2009 John Hume, in his honorary capacity as Tip O'Neill Chair in Peace Studies at Ulster University, brought an unparalleled group of international figures (including Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, Kofi Annan), to the Magee campus in Derry~Londonderry to lecture on peace. Hume was co-recipient of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize with David Trimble, and also received both the Gandhi Peace Prize and the Martin Luther King Award. He is the only person to receive the three major peace awards.

This naming proposal not only recognises John Hume, but crucially, his wife Pat, the highly regarded rock and anchor in the life of her Nobel peace laureate husband John. From the very early years of the Northern Ireland Troubles in the late 1960s to the peace process and the Good Friday agreement three decades later, Pat provided sanctuary, support and often vital advice to John as he worked determinedly for a peaceful compromise to the conflict.

Together, they worked side by side for decades to bring positive change to the lives of the people of Derry~Londonderry and Northern Ireland.

The BGFA was signed 10 April 1998. This year represents the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BGFA. The name change in turn acknowledges the public significance of the life and work of John and Pat Hume in Northern Ireland during the period of negotiations for and implementation of the Belfast Good Friday Agreement (BGFA).

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the policy? If so, explain how below.

No. This Building will continue to be available to all stakeholders regardless of their Section 75 category.

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

The Policy was compiled by: Development and Alumni Relations Office in consultation with the Chief People Officer, Provosts, Director of Marketing and Communications and Deputy Director of Physical Resources.

Who owns and implements the policy?

The Ulster University Provost owns the 'Naming of Building and Spaces Policy'. The Director of Estates Services implements the policy.

## Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to or weaken the intended aim or outcome of the policy?

No

## Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

- Staff
- Students
- Local Community

## Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they and who owns them?

Policy: Statutes and Ordinances

Policy owner: University Secretary

Policy: GDPR Policy

Policy owner: University Secretary

Policy: People, Place and Partnership – Delivering Sustainable Futures for All Strategy

Policy owner: The Vice-Chancellor

Policy: Equal Opportunities Policy

Policy owner: Chief People Officer

Policy: Wayfinding Strategy

Policy owner: Director of Estates Services

Policy: UUSU Student Council Mandate on Bilingual Signage

Policy owner: Students' Union

## Available evidence

What evidence or information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Please specify details for each of the Section 75 categories below.

**Note:** Evidence can come from many sources. Examples include the University's management information systems, internal or external research, surveys or consultation exercises. The Equality Commission has produced a guide to [signpost to S75 data](#). Anecdotal evidence, such as feedback from service users may also be used.

### Religious Belief

The University's EO data were reviewed. On 6 February 2022, our staff profile was 48.9% Protestant, 51.1% Catholic. Compared with 6 February 2017, this indicates a 4.7% increase in Catholic staff.

In the Academic Year (AY) 2021/22, 66.8% of our students identified as Christian and 10.9% identified as having 'No religion'. Compared with AY 2016/17, 76.3% identified as Christian and 13.5% identified as having 'No religion'.

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### Political Opinion

The University does not collect information on Political Opinion or make assumptions regarding Political Opinion based on Community Background.

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### Racial Group

The University's EO data were reviewed. On 6 February 2022, our staff profile was 94% White, 6% Black and Minority Ethnic (BME). This indicates a 1.7% increase in BME staff compared with 2017.

In AY 2021/22, 7.3% of our students identified as BME. This indicates a 2.7% increase in BME students compared with AY2016/17.

Our BME profile suggests that we are twice as diverse as the local population. The Northern Ireland Census 2021 suggests that 3.45% of the NI population is BME.

## Age

The University's EO data were reviewed. On 6 February 2022, over one third (34.5%) of our staff were in the '46-55' age band. 25.8% of staff were in the '36-45' age band and 26% of staff were aged '56 and above', which represents a 4% increase in '56 and above' compared to 2017 (22%).

In AY 2021/22, the majority of students (65.3%) were aged 21 and under 40. This indicates a 4.1% increase in students within this age band compared with AY 2016/17.

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## Marital Status

The University's EO data were reviewed. In February 2022, 58.4% of staff were 'Married or in a Civil Partnership', a decrease of 5.2% compared to 2017 (63.6%). In AY 2021/22, 69.6% of students were 'Single', an 8.2% decrease compared with AY2016/17.

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## Sexual Orientation

The University's EO data were reviewed. In 2022, 72% of staff were 'Heterosexual'; 3% were 'LGBT+' and 25% were 'Not Known'.

Although we collect student data on sexual orientation, this is not considered to be reliable.

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## Men and Women generally

The University's EO data were reviewed. In 2022, 57.2% of staff were 'Female'. This indicates a 2% increase in female staff compared with 2017.

In AY 2021/22, 59.2% of students were 'Female', a 2.8% increase compared with AY2016/17.

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## Disability

The University's EO data were reviewed. In 2022, 5.2% of staff declared a disability, an increase of 0.3% compared with 2017.

In AY2021/22, 14.6% of students declared a disability, an increase of 5% compared with AY2016/17.

Our disability declaration rate is lower than expected, compared with the local population. The NI Census (2021) found that 24% of the NI population stated that their day-to-day activities were limited because of a health problem or disability.

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## Dependants

The University's EO data were reviewed. In 2022, 44.2% of staff had dependants. This indicates a decrease of 4.3% compared with 2017.

In AY2021/22, 13.3% of students declared they had dependants, a decrease of 3.2% compared to A/Y 2016/17.

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## Needs, experience and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy or decision? (Please specify for each of the Section 75 categories below the needs, experiences and priorities)

### Religious Belief

Ulster University prides itself on its strong sense of civic responsibility as articulated within its 'People, Place and Partnership: Delivering Sustainable Futures for all' Strategic Plan.

The naming / renaming of facilities (or any location) is complex and potentially emotionally evocative because assigning a name, and in particular the name of an individual, can be a powerful and permanent identity for a public space and facility.

The University recognises that in all 'naming' decisions it should seek to provide or maintain fair participation on all its campuses, ensuring that its services and facilities are widely utilised by all sections of the community. The Equality Commission's 'Promoting a Good and Harmonious Working Environment: A Guide for Employers and Employees, 2009' provides further guidance in this regard.

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### Political Opinion

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This proposal for the naming in honour of John & Pat Hume, primarily recognises the long a lasting relationship between the University and the Humes. A relationship where both John and Pat received honorary degrees, John is Professor Emeritus at the University, INCORE ([International Conflict Resolution Institute](#)) continues much of the work initiated by Professor Hume and a close relationship prevails with the Hume Foundation. While John Hume held his political office on the basis of his membership of a political party his significance derives from his public leadership and important

contribution made to the delivery of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. Pat remained out of the political spotlight, instead supporting her husband, family and community.

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**Racial Group**

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**Age**

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**Sexual Orientation**

The University recognises that in all 'naming' decisions it should seek to provide or maintain fair participation on all its campuses, ensuring that its services and facilities are widely utilised by all sections of the community. The Equality Commission's 'Promoting a Good and Harmonious Working Environment: A Guide for Employers and Employees, 2009' provides further guidance in this regard.

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**Men and Women generally**

The University recognises that in all 'naming' decisions it should seek to provide or maintain fair participation on all its campuses, ensuring that its services and facilities are widely utilised by all sections of the community. The Equality Commission's 'Promoting a Good and Harmonious Working Environment: A Guide for Employers and Employees, 2009' provides further guidance in this regard.

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## **Consultation**

Consultation with relevant groups, organisations or individuals about the policy can provide useful information about issues or opportunities which are specifically related to them (that is evidence to inform the policy).

Please indicate whether you carried out or intend to carry out any consultation exercises prior to equality screening?

Yes

Consultations have taken place with the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Development and Alumni Relations Office, Regional Engagement and Estates Services. Additionally a staff/stakeholder consultation was undertaken on 11 January 2018 which included participation by 30 members of staff in a consultation roundtable

## Part 2: Screening questions

### Introduction

The answers to the following screening questions will assist the University in making a decision whether or not there is a need to carry out an equality impact assessment on the policy. The following information is provided to help you to identify and comment on the level of likely impact of the policy in question 1 to 4.

#### Select 'major' impact if:

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there are insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and it would be appropriate to conduct an equality impact assessment in order to better assess them;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns amongst affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

#### Select 'minor' impact if:

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunities for particular groups of disadvantaged people;

- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations;
- e) Differential impact observed and opportunities exist to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

**Select 'none' if:**

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations;
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations.

**Taking into account the evidence presented in Part 1, please complete the screening questions (Question 1 to 4).**

## Screening questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 categories? Please provide details of the likely policy impacts and determine the level of impact for each Section 75 category below.

### Details of the likely policy impacts on **Religious Belief**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of religious belief.

What is the level of impact?

None

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### Details of the likely policy impacts on **Political Opinion**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of their Section 75 category. While John and Pat Hume were closely linked with one political party, their contribution was such that it helped contribute to the development of peace in Northern Ireland, clearly delivering a significant benefit to all regardless of their political opinion.

Level of impact

None

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### Details of the likely policy impacts on **Racial Group**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of racial group.

Level of impact

None

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### Details of the likely policy impacts on **Age**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of age.

Level of impact

None

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Details of the likely policy impacts on **Marital Status**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of marital status.

Level of impact

None

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Details of the likely policy impacts on **Sexual Orientation**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of sexual orientation.

Level of impact

None

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Details of the likely policy impacts on **Men and Women generally**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of sex.

Level of impact

None

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Details of the likely policy impacts on **Disability**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of disability.

Level of impact

None

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Details of the likely policy impacts on **Dependants**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
This renamed building will continue to be available to all stakeholders, regardless of dependants.

Level of impact

None

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2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 categories?

**Religious Belief**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of religious belief.

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**Political Opinion**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category.  
It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of political belief.

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**Racial Group**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of racial group.

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### **Age**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of age.

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### **Marital Status**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of marital status.

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### **Sexual Orientation**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of sexual orientation.

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### **Men and Women generally**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of sex.

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### **Disability**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of disability.

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### **Dependants**

No. This proposal is unlikely to impact on equality of opportunity for this category. It is envisaged that the new name of the MU Building will have no impact on the experience of stakeholders. This is regardless of dependants.

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3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

### **Religious Belief**

Details of the likely policy impacts on **Religious Belief**

This proposal is unlikely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief.

Level of impact

None

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### **Political Opinion**

Details of the likely policy impacts on **Political Opinion**

This proposal is unlikely to have an adverse impact on good relations between people of different political opinion.

The proposed name is not considered to unlawfully discriminate or be party-political in intention or use. While John and Pat Hume were linked with one political party the building will continue to provide access for all stakeholders regardless of political opinion.

Level of impact

None

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### **Racial Group**

Details of the likely policy impacts on **Racial Group**

This proposal is unlikely to have an adverse impact on good relations between people of different racial group.

Level of impact

None

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

### **Religious Belief**

No. This proposal is unlikely to have an adverse impact on good relations between people of different religious belief.

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### **Political Opinion**

No. The proposed name is not considered to unlawfully discriminate or be party-political in intention or use. While John and Pat Hume were linked with one political party the building will continue to provide access for all. It is unlikely to have an adverse impact on good relations between people of different political opinion.

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### **Racial Group**

No. This proposal is unlikely to have an adverse impact on good relations between people of different racial group.

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## **Additional considerations**

### **Multiple identity**

5. Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy or decision on people with multiple identities? (For example, disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men, and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

Please specify the relevant Section 75 categories concerned below.

Provide details of the policy impact and data which describes the policy impact.

None

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## Disability Duties

6. Does the policy provide an opportunity to encourage disabled people to participate in University life?

Yes. The University recognises that in all 'naming' decisions it should seek to provide or maintain fair participation on all its campuses, ensuring that its services and facilities are widely utilised by all sections of the community.

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7. Does the policy provide an opportunity to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

Yes. The University recognises that in all 'naming' decisions it should seek to provide or maintain fair participation on all its campuses, ensuring that its services and facilities are widely utilised by all sections of the community.

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## Part 3: Screening decision

Based on the evidence considered and outlined in Part 1 and the responses to the screening questions (Part 2), please indicate the screening decision for this policy.

**Note:** The University should take particular care not to screen out policies that have a procurement aspect if there is potential to promote equality of opportunity through the procurement of services.

- ☐ **Screen in** the policy (that is, subject to an Equality Impact Assessment). The likely impact is **major** in respect of one, or more of the equality of opportunity or good relations categories.
- ☒ **Screen out** the policy without mitigation or an alternative policy proposed to be adopted (that is, **no** Equality Impact Assessment). The likely impact is **none** in respect of all of equality of opportunity or good relations categories.
- ☐ **Screen out** the policy and **mitigate the impacts on equality by amending or changing the policy**, or by **developing an alternative policy or action** (that is, **no** Equality Impact Assessment). The likely impact is **minor** in respect of one or more of the equality of opportunity or good relations categories.

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If the decision is to subject the policy to an equality impact assessment (that is, 'screen in' the policy), please provide details of the reasons.

Not applicable

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If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment (that is, 'screen out' the policy), please provide details for the reasons.

The likely impact is none in respect of all of equality of opportunity or good relations categories. This is a proposal to rename Building MU Teaching Block on the Derry~Londonderry campus to the "John and Pat Hume Building", in line with the Policy on the Naming of Ulster University Buildings and Spaces.

This naming proposal aims to honour and commemorate the close relationship between Ulster University and John & Pat Hume; a relationship that still endures today through INCORE and collaboration with the Hume Foundation.

Ulster University has had a close relationship with John and Pat Hume - and now the Hume Foundation - for decades. Professor John Hume in Professor Emeritus at Ulster University and was bestowed an honorary degree from the University in 1998. Pat Hume received her honorary degree in 2010.

In line with University Policy, this proposal will be reviewed one year after implementation.

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If the decision is not to conduct an equality impact assessment (that is, 'screen out' the policy), and mitigate the impacts on equality of opportunity by amending or changing the policy, or by developing an alternative policy or action, please provide reasons to support your decision, together with the proposed changes, amendments or alternative policy.

Not applicable

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## Timetabling and prioritising

If the policy had been '**screened in**' for an equality impact assessment, then please answer the following questions to determine its priority for timetabling the equality impact assessment.

On a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for equality impact assessment.

### **Priority rating for timetabling the equality impact assessment in terms of effect on equality of opportunity and good relations:**

Not Applicable

### **Priority rating for timetabling the equality impact assessment in terms of social need**

Not Applicable

### **Priority rating for timetabling the equality impact assessment in terms of effect on people's daily lives**

Not Applicable

### **Priority rating for timetabling the equality impact assessment in terms of relevance to the University's functions**

Not Applicable

**Note:** The Total Rating Score will be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for equality impact assessment. This list of priorities will assist the University in timetabling. Details of the University's Equality Impact Assessment Timetable will be included in its quarterly Screening Reports.

Is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities?

Not Applicable



## Approval and authorisation

Screened by:



Position or Job Title: The University Provost

Date screened: 10.09.2023

Approved by:



Position or Job Title: Chief People Officer

Date approved: 12.09.23

## Review

This policy is due for review (in terms of its impact on equality of opportunity and good relations) by the policy owner on: 12 September 2024