

INITIAL EQUALITY SCREENING FORM

DIVISION: Food and Drink TEAM: Food and Drink Consumer Insights Team

Name of Policy/Decision/Practice to be Equality Screened

Data Purchase Grant and associated Consumer Insights Consultant Register

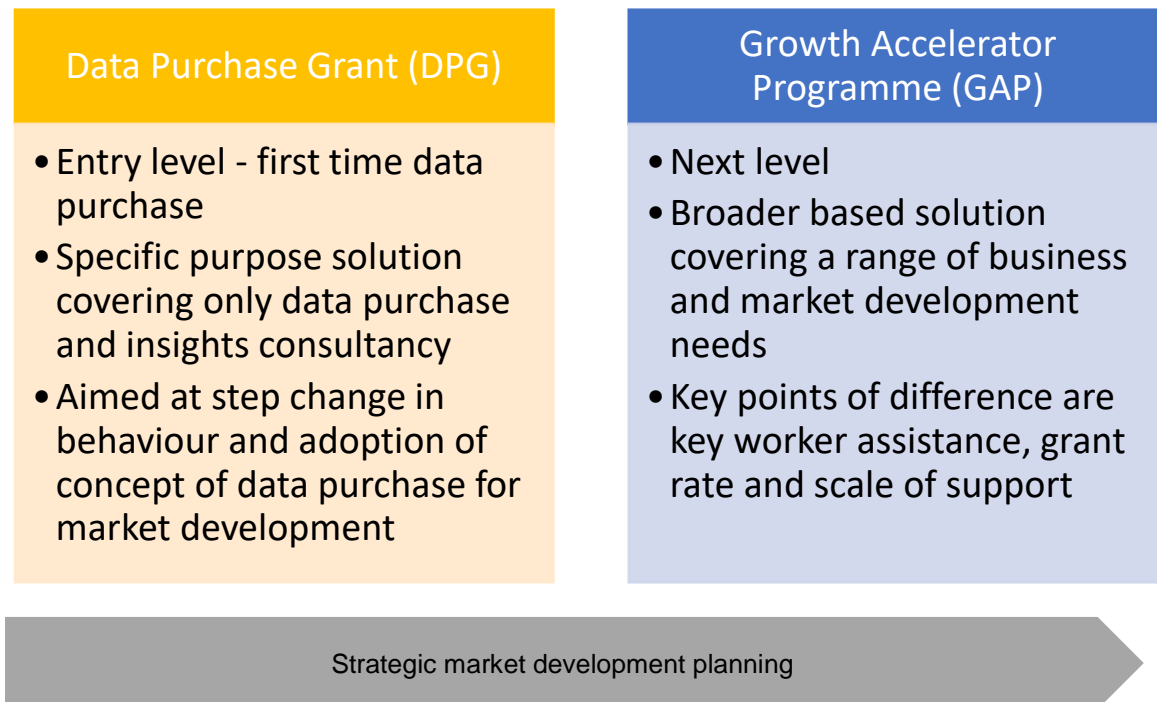
Is it New or Revised? New

Who Does the Policy Effect, e.g Service Users/Staff: Service Users

Question 1 – Define the aim of the Programme or Policy. What is it trying to achieve? (Intended aims/outcomes)

DPG is a new Food and Drink Consumer Insights Team support solution developed collaboratively by the Food and Drink Division, the Business Solutions & Compliance Team (BSCT), and the Finance and Operations teams.

DPG will offer financial assistance to existing INI customers segmented above Export Opportunity, to a maximum of £10k at a 50% support rate for Data Purchase and at a 30% support rate for Insights Consultancy. This is a new stand-alone offering on the continuum of market development support; the DPG is positioned as follows:



DPG will provide the following customer benefits:

- A customer-focused food business development solution with a streamlined & efficient digital application and claims process, designed to minimise the administrative burden to customers;
- A rate of support designed to incentivise food market development activity when cash-flow is a major concern and business development investment could suffer / recovery opportunities could be missed;

- New areas of focused food market development support – data purchase and consumer insights consultancy; and
- A first base for enhanced strategic business development engagement with Invest NI Consumer Insights team.

DPG also presents a number of important advances for Invest NI in respect of its approach to the delivery of food market development support to customers:

- The DPG application, casework, claims & monitoring processes align with mainstream INI grant protocols & procedures and thereby promote consistency across the organisation.
- Improved efficiency, governance & risk management in service delivery to customers with added productivity benefits in the scope to bundle multiple data purchase transactions into one;

DPG will be negotiated by Consumer Insights Team in consultation with Client Executives and will follow INI's mainstream processing protocols and procedures.

Consultancy process: in advance of applications opening a process will be undertaken to establish an approved list of consultants to undertake the work.

Question 2 – Does the Programme or Policy have the potential to have an impact on the promotion of equality impact for any of the Section 75 groupings? (See Question 4 for list of equality groups.)

No

If no go to Question 7 – Consultation

If yes please continue.

Consideration of Available Date/Research

Question 3 – What evidence is there available – statistics or perception – to help you decide who the Programme or Policy might affect the most? i.e. What evidence, qualitative or quantitative, have you gathered to inform your decision making process?

Assessment of Impact

Question 4 – Explain if what you plan to do is likely to be perceived as having a high, medium or low impact upon the 9 Equality groupings according to their needs. Also if what you are planning to do is likely to be perceived as having a positive or negative effect upon the 3 different groups in relation to the promotion of good relations.

9 Equality Groups	Perceived Impact High – (H) Medium - (M) Low – (L)	Why this rating?	Promotion of Good Relations (Yes/No)	Why this rating?
Religious Belief			-	
Racial/Ethnic Group			-	
Political Opinion			-	
Age			-	
Gender			-	
Marital Status			-	
Sexual Orientation			-	
Disability			-	
Dependants			-	

Opportunities to better promote Equality of Opportunity

Question 5 – Are there steps which could be taken to reduce any adverse impact upon the Section 75 groups as identified in Question 4?

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Good Relations

Question 6 – Is there an opportunity in what you are trying to do to better promote Good Relations between the 3 groupings as identified in Question 4?

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Consultation

Question 7 – Tell us about who have talked to about your proposals internally or externally to help you decide if the Policy needs further or no further equality investigation.

Invest NI Equality Manager

Question 8 – In light of the above should the Policy be

Screened Out – No Equality Issues – Please provide rationale for this decision.

No specific needs identified in relation to this programme. No impact on equality of opportunity has been identified that would require an EQIA.

Screened Out with some adjustments. – What adjustments have you made?

Screened In for a deeper level of analysis of what is being considered or intended to be undertaken. (EQIA) – Please provide rationale for this decision.

Signed: *Thelma Fitzgerald*
Policy /Programme Owner

Date: 08/12/2020

Approved *Pamela Marren*
Equality Manager

Date: 10/12/2020

Modifications made.

Date: _____

Date: _____
Approved by Equality Manager