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| **INITIAL EQUALITY SCREENING FORM** |
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| DIVISION**:** | Technology Solutions, Compliance & NPD |  **TEAM:** | E Business Team |
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| **Name of Policy/Decision/Practice to be Equality Screened** |
| Digital selling capability grant (DSCG) scheme |
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| **Is it New or Revised?** | New |
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| **Who Does the Policy Effect, e.g Service Users/Staff:** | Service Users, specifically Retail/Wholesale SME’s |
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| **Question 1** – Define the aim of the Programme or . What is it trying to achieve? (Intended aims/outcomes) |
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| The DSCG aims to provide financial assistances to established businesses in the retail/wholesale sector wishing to improve their online sales by enhancing their website and/or digital marketing strategy towards driving increased online sales. |
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| **Question 2** – Does the Programme or 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** |
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| If no go to Question 6 – Good Relations. | If yes please continue. |
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| **Consideration of Available Date/Research** |
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| **Question 3** – What  is there available – statistics or perception – to help you decide who the Programme or might affect the most? i.e. What evidence, qualitative or quantitative, have you gathered to inform your decision making process? |
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| **Assessment of Impact** |
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| **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. |
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| **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 |       |       | No |       |
| Racial/Ethnic Group |       |       | No |       |
| Political Opinion |       |       | No |       |
| Age |       |       | - |       |
| Gender |       |       | - |       |
| Marital Status |       |       | - |       |
| Sexual Orientation |       |       | - |       |
| Disability |       |       | - |       |
| Dependants |       |       | - |       |
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| **Opportunities to better promote Equality of Opportunity** |
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| **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** |
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| **Question 6** – Is there an opportunity in what you are trying to do to better promote Good Relations between the groups relating to Religious Belief or Racial/Ethnic Group or Political Opinion? |
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| No, the programme will specifically help businesses to sell online. |

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| **Consultation** |
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| **Question 7** – Tell us about who have talked to about your proposals internally or externally to help you decide if the needs further or no further equality investigation. |
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| Members of the E Business team have discussed internally and with the Invest NI equality manager and given the nature of the scheme do not see any impact on Section 75 groups or on Good Relations. |
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| **Question 8** – In light of the above should the be |
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| [x]  | Screened Out – No Equality Issues – Please provide rationale for this decision. |
| No equality issues arising. |
| [ ]  | Screened Out with some adjustments. – What adjustments have you made? |
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| [ ]  | 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. |
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| Signed: | Kevin Johnston | Date: | 27/09/21 |
|  | Policy /Programme Owner |  |  |
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| Approved | Pamela Marron | Date: | 27/09/21 |
|  | Equality Manager |  |  |
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| Modifications made. | Date: |       |
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| Date: |       |
| Approved by Equality Manager |  |  |