

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE – Council Meeting 7 May 2024

	RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	SUBMISSION BY
1.	Department for Work and Pensions	Options for Defined Benefit Schemes	19 April 2024 (received 3 April 2024)
	<p>This is a consultation on aspects of private sector Defined Benefit schemes, which seeks stakeholder feedback for the future pensions market.</p> <p>The aim of this consultation is to introduce reforms to the private sector Defined Benefit pensions system that jointly benefit scheme members, sponsoring employers and the wider economy.</p> <p>Although pension schemes are in surplus, under current legislation it is difficult and costly for many scheme trustees to share this upside with employers and scheme members. This consultation proposes a number of new measures intended to balance enhanced options for trustees with prioritising the security of member benefits.</p> <p>This consultation is being conducted in line with the revised Cabinet Office consultation principles published in March 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options for Defined Benefit Schemes 		
2.	Department for the Economy	Design Considerations for a Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan	19 April 2024 (received 26 March 2024)
	<p>DfE is seeking stakeholders views on the shape of NI's Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan (SSFP). The SSFP is a path forward for the policy developments needed to deliver the Executive's Energy Strategy, and the energy side of the Climate Change Act decarbonisation targets.</p> <p>DfE wishes to advise that it has received a number of requests for a longer consultation period (due to Easter and other issues). To ensure better quality responses DfE has extended the closing date for the consultation on Design Considerations for a Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan by one week, from 12 April to Friday, 19 April 2024.</p>		
3.	Department of Justice	Vehicle recovery storage and disposal statutory charges review	13 June 2024

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<p>Summary</p> <p>This consultation seeks your views on the levels of fees set by the Department of Justice in relation to the removal, storage and disposal of vehicles in specified circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/vehicle-recovery-storage-and-disposal-statutory-charges-review 		
<p>4. Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs</p>	<p>Rethinking Our Resources: Measures for Climate Action and a Circular Economy in NI</p>	<p>27 June 2024</p>
	<p>The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has published a consultation entitled ‘Rethinking Our Resources: Measures for Climate Action and a Circular Economy in NI.’ DAERA would now like to hear your views on proposals aimed at improving the quality and quantity of household and non-household municipal recycling, how to improve reductions in food waste, how to cut landfill rates and how to get businesses on board to increase recycling rates.</p> <p>The aim of this consultation is to bring forward new policy options for the DAERA Minister to consider. Proposals and questions focus on issues such as how new measures might best be implemented, considering views on practicality, economic barriers and how the future of recycling in Northern Ireland might look.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/rethinking-our-resources-measures-climate-action-and-circular-economy-ni-consultation 	
<p>5. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council</p>	<p>Proposed Performance Improvement Objectives 2024 – 2025</p>	<p>21st May 2024</p>
	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council is conducting a consultation to seek your views on its proposed Performance Improvement Objectives for 2024 to 2025.</p> <p>The Local Government Act (NI) requires Councils to ensure continuous improvement whilst carrying out their functions and delivering services. Councils are also required to set improvement objectives and put in place arrangements to achieve these.</p> <p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council is keen to ensure their performance improvement objectives have a positive impact on the quality of life for stakeholders across the Borough – that residents, businesses and all stakeholders are confident of Council’s commitment to deliver services that are efficient, economic and of a high standard.</p>	

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	<p>The purpose of this consultation is to seek your views on: the PROPOSED Performance Improvement Objectives which Council wishes to include in its Performance Improvement Plan for 2024 to 2025; the Equality Policy Screening form and; the Rural Needs Impact Assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://armaghbanbridgecraigavon.citizenspace.com/performance-audit/proposedperformanceobjectives2024-25/ 		
6.	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	Draft Corporate Plan 2024-2030	26 May 2024
	<p>The Council is seeking views on the draft Corporate Plan 2024-2030, which sets out our ambitions and objectives under four main strategic themes, Place, People, Prosperity and Planet. The consultation runs to 26 May 2024, and we would value your feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://consultations.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/customer-services/corporate-plan-2024-2030/ 		
7.	Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)	Consultation to amend legacy EU schemes Fruit and Vegetable Aid ('FVAS') and Agri-food Information and Promotion ('promotions schemes') in Northern Ireland.	27 May 2024
	<p>Summary Views are being sought on a proposal to bring forward new legislation that would provide scope for the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (the Department) to amend the legislation that governs two legacy EU schemes, Fruit and Vegetable Aid ('FVAS') and Agri-food Information and Promotion ('promotions schemes'), in Northern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-proposed-bill-amend-legacy-eu-common-market-organisation-cmo-schemes 		
8.	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Draft Corporate Plan 2024-2027	31 May 2024
	<p>Building upon the progress and achievements of our first eight years, it sets out our strategic objectives and key actions and is our commitment to provide progressive leadership and deliver high quality and best value public services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.newrymouredown.org/nmddc-draft-corporate-plan-2024-2027 		

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9.	Newry Mourne and Down District Council	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Consultation on draft Performance Improvement Objectives 2024-25	31 May 2024
	<p>Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is inviting views on its draft performance improvement objectives 2024-25. The Local Government Act (NI) 2014 sets out a General Duty of Improvement for local government, whereby all District Councils are required to put in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions. As part of this duty, the Council is required to set performance improvement objectives for the services it provides and to have in place arrangements to achieve these objectives.</p> <p>Link to the draft Performance Improvement Objectives 2024-25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • file:///C:/Users/keenj/Downloads/Appendix%201%20-%20Draft%20Performance%20Improvement%20Objectives%202024-25.pdf <p>Link to submit your views by completing and submitting the online questionnaire on the Speak NMD website at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://speaknmd.commonplace.is/en-GB/proposals/nmd-draft-performance-improvement-objectives-2024-25-consultation/step1 		
10.	Ulster University	Equality screening of new and revised policies	5 July 2024
	<p>In fulfilling the University's obligations under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the University's Equality Scheme includes a commitment to consult on the implementation of new and revised policies, as defined by the Equality Commission NI, with regards to equality of opportunity and good relations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.ulster.ac.uk/peopleandculture/employee-benefits/equality-diversity/equality-scheme/consultation-exercises 		

Available to View

RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	PUBLISHED
Department for Communities	Policies equality screened and published by the Department for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfC Equality Department for Communities (communities-ni.gov.uk)

RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	PUBLISHED
	Communities from 01 January – 31 March 2024	
Department for the Economy	Section 75 Screening Report - 01 January 2024 – 31 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfE Equality Department for the Economy (economy-ni.gov.uk)
Department of Finance	Policy screening template for The Public Service Pensions (Exercise of Powers, Compensation and Information) (Amendment) Directions (Northern Ireland) 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Screening Template - The Public Service Pensions (Exercise of Powers, Compensation and Information) (Amendment) Directions (Northern Ireland) 2024 Department of Finance (finance-ni.gov.uk)
Department of Finance	Neurodiversity: NICS Toolkit for Line Managers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications Department of Finance (finance-ni.gov.uk)
Department of Finance	Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) 2023 Pay Awards Equality Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) 2023 Pay Awards Equality Impact Assessment Department of Finance (finance-ni.gov.uk)
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council	Policy Screening Report Under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, 1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/council/equality/#equalityscreeningreports
Northern Health and Social Care Trust	Northern HSC Trust Causeway Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/2024/03/21/vision-for-causeway-hospital-paves-the-way-to-bright-future/

Open Consultations (previously Listed)

Nil