

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE – Council Meeting 3 August 2021

	RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	SUBMISSION BY
1.	Translink	Section 75 Report	27 July 2021
<p>Translink have completed an Audit of Inequalities to revise the Section 75 report. We are now reaching the closing date for consultation on this report. As one of our key consultee groups we would welcome any feedback you may have during the consultation period.</p> <p>The Section 75 report is available on our website by following the below link:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.translink.co.uk/corporate/publicationsanddocuments/nithcreports 			
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2.	Ulster University	Screening of New / Revised policies (November 2020 – April 2021)	13 August 2021
<p>In accordance with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and commitments made within our Equality Scheme, the University is consulting on the equality screening of the following new and revised policies, as defined by the Equality Commission (NI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emergency Leave Covid-19 - Interim Policy for Recording Online Lectures during the Covid-19 pandemic - Research Excellence Framework 2021 (REF 21) Process for Identifying Category A Eligible/Category A Submitted Academic Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.ulster.ac.uk/peopleandculture/employee-benefits/equality-diversity/equality-scheme/consultation-exercises 			

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3.	Department of Finance	Department of Finance Equality Scheme - 5-year Review	27 August 2021
<p>The Department of Finance has statutory duties arising from Section 75(1) and 75(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, which are to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity, and • regard to the desirability of promoting good relations. <p>The Equality Commission (the 'Commission') requires each Public Authority to produce an Equality Scheme (the 'scheme') setting out how they will meet these statutory duties, which should be approved by the Commission. The Department's current scheme, which is available on our website here, was approved by the Commission in 2011. It describes the arrangements the Department has established and which it is obliged to apply and follow as a means of fulfilling its statutory duties.</p> <p>The Department is obliged to review the scheme every 5 years. We are now seeking your views to help examine how these arrangements have been applied and to assess how effective they have been in assisting the Department to comply with the Section 75 duties.</p>			
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4.	Department of Health	Public Consultation on the introduction of a statutory Duty of Candour in Northern Ireland	31 August 2021 (extended)
<p>Summary</p> <p>The Department of Health is consulting on policy proposals to enact a statutory Duty of Candour in Northern Ireland, developed by the Duty of Candour Workstream and its Being Open Subgroup as part of the Hyponatraemia Implementation Programme. The policy proposals set out an approach to implement the recommendations relating to a statutory Duty of Candour made by the Inquiry Into Hyponatraemia-Related Deaths. We would welcome your views on the draft Strategy during this consultation period. Responses can be submitted online via the link below, or via email/post.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/duty-of-candour 			
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5.	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)	Rural Policy Framework for Northern Ireland Consultation	6 September 2021
<p>Summary The Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) have published a consultation on the Rural Policy Framework for Northern Ireland (NI) and look forward to hearing your views. We are interested in your feedback on whether or not the proposed Rural Policy Framework for NI is a relevant and appropriate means of creating a sustainable rural community where people want to live, work and be active. This exercise will inform the Rural Policy Framework for Northern Ireland and the subsequent interventions and Programme of support stemming from it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/rural-policy-framework-northern-ireland-consultation 			
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6.	DAERA Veterinary Service Animal Health Group	Consultation on the Department's proposed Implementation and Next Steps of the bTB Eradication Strategy for Northern Ireland	10 September 2021
<p>Summary The Department is seeking views on the next steps in a strategy to eradicate bovine tuberculosis from Northern Ireland. The consultation paper outlines a range of enhanced cattle measures which it intends to implement and is not consulting on. It also details what is proposed in relation to the compulsory use of gamma testing of cattle where deemed appropriate following a veterinary assessment; the introduction of legislation to enable the department to test non-bovines for TB; a preferred approach to badger intervention; and changes to the current level of compensation paid to farmers following the removal of test positive cattle. It is in relation to these areas that we are seeking your views.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-departments-proposed-implementation-and-next-steps-btb-eradication-strategy-northern 			
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7.	Department of Health	Targeted Consultation on the Future Planning Model - Integrated Care System NI - Draft Framework Document	17 September 2021

	<p>Summary A programme of work has commenced to develop a Future Planning Model to replace the existing commissioning arrangements and processes in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This work will see the development of a new Integrated Care System (ICS) model in NI, whereby local providers and communities would be empowered to come together to plan, manage and deliver care for their local population based on a population health approach, with regional and specialised services planned, managed and delivered at a regional level. We are consulting and seeking your views on the Draft Framework as this document will provide a blueprint for the future of planning and managing health and social care services in Northern Ireland. The document provides an overview and guidance on the proposed model to allow the system to design and adopt the relevant approaches, policies and structures required to bring the model forward.</p> <p>Two workshops which will give stakeholders the opportunity to get involved with the consultation have been arranged for 2pm on 3 August 2021 and 2pm on 3 September 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/future-planning-model-targeted-stakeholder-consultation 		
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8.	Local Government Boundaries Commissioner for Northern Ireland	Consultation on the Local Government Boundaries Commissioner’s Provisional Recommendations. These Provisional Recommendations are the outcome of work completed over the last number of months by the Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972, as amended.	21 September 2021
	<p>Summary</p> <p>The Local Government Boundaries Commissioner (LGBC) for Northern Ireland, Sarah Havlin, is seeking views on her Provisional Recommendations. The Commissioner’s Provisional Proposals report outlines the recommendations in respect of the number, boundaries and names of the 11 local government districts and the number, boundaries and names of the wards into which each district is divided. This process is undertaken in order to independently provide electoral equality in that all the wards within a district should, as far as possible, have a similar number of electors. The review has used the latest mapping technology to increase accessibility and transparency around the recommended changes. The Provisional Recommendations report also details the Commissioner’s approach to her Review, her</p>		

	<p>interpretation of the relevant legislation and the Commissioner’s methodology. We are now seeking your views on these Provisional Recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.lgbc-ni.org.uk/consultation 		
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9.	Department of Health	Draft Regional Policy on the Use of Restrictive Practices in Health and Social Care Settings and Regional Operational Procedure for the Use of Seclusion	1 October 2021
	<p>Summary</p> <p>We would welcome your views on the draft Regional Policy on the Use of Restrictive Practices in Health and Social Care Settings and Regional Operational Procedure for the Use of Seclusion.</p> <p>The draft policy provides the regional framework to integrate best practice in the management of restrictive interventions, restraint and seclusion across all areas where health and social care is delivered in Northern Ireland. The emphasis is on minimising the use of restrictive practices and provide clear guidance to ensure best practice when used.</p> <p>The draft policy draws upon the views of people who use health and social care services, those who have experience of restrictive practices, restraint and seclusion, and best practice from other jurisdictions in the UK and across the world. It aims to ensure that when restrictive practices are used, they are managed in a proportionate and well-governed system. This policy will play a key role in protecting people, by reducing the risk of misuse and the potential over-reliance on restrictive practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/draft-regional-policy-use-restrictive-practices-health-and-social-care-settings-and-regional 		
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10.	Public Service Pensions Policy and Legislation ESS / Department of Finance	Policy screening template for the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) (Amendment) Directions (Northern Ireland)	Available
	<p>This is a note to inform you that the policy screening template for the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) (Amendment) Directions (Northern Ireland) 2021 has been uploaded to the Department of Finance website.</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/policy-screening-template-public-service-pensions-valuations-and-employer-cost-cap-amendment-2 		
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11.	Department for the Economy (DfE)	DfE Policies screened during 2021	Available
	<p>During 01 April 2021 – 30 June 2021 the Department for the Economy (DfE) carried out eleven Section 75 screenings and these can be viewed here. All eleven were screened out for likely impact on equality of opportunity and good relations.</p> <p>The Department published three Consultations during this period and these can be viewed here.</p> <p>To find out about the Department’s functions which may be relevant to your organisation, please look at our website which can be accessed at this link https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/</p>		
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12.	Department for Communities; Equality Unit	Department for Communities Section 75 Screening Report - 1 April - 30 June 2021	Available
	<p>Please see details of policies equality screened and published by the Department for Communities from 1 April - 30 June 2021</p> <p>There were 14 screening exercises completed and published during the April to June quarter, all were screened out.</p> <p>The Department currently has 2 Consultations underway.</p>		

Open Consultations (previously Listed)

- DAERA, Consultation on the Draft third cycle River Basin Management Plan 2021-2027, submission by 10 October 2021;
- Northern Health and Social Care Trust Consultation: Refurbishment of the Robinson Memorial Community Hospital, submission by 20 August 2021;
- Northern Ireland Public Service Ombudsman, Consultation on creating Complain Handling standards for the Northern Ireland public sector, **NIPSO has now extended the deadline until 30 September 2021.**
- Department of Finance, Proposed Changes to the NICS Injury Benefits Scheme, submission by 10 September 2021