

**CONSULTATION SCHEDULE – Council Meeting 6 December 2022**

	<b>RECEIVED FROM</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SUBMISSION BY</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland (BCNI)</b>	<b>The 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies</b>	<b>15 December 2022</b>
	<p>The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland (BCNI) has today published revised proposals for Parliamentary constituencies in Northern Ireland, and commenced the third consultation period of the 2023 Boundary Review. In line with the legislation, the third consultation period lasts for four weeks, and will close on 15th December 2022.</p> <p>Having considered the written representations received during the initial and secondary consultation periods, and the records of the public hearings, the Commission has revised its initial proposals. Written representations with respect to the revised proposals can be made during the third consultation period, as well as written representations with respect to representations made during the public hearings. Representations must be received by the Commission by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and can be submitted using the online portal, by email, or by post. These representations will be published online after the end of the third consultation period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.boundarycommission.org.uk/2023-review-parliamentary-constituencies">https://www.boundarycommission.org.uk/2023-review-parliamentary-constituencies</a></li> </ul>		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)</b>	<b>ICO consultation on prioritising access to information complaints</b>	<b>19 December 2022</b>
	<p>The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has launched a consultation on how it prioritises complaints it receives about public bodies' handling of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests ICO consultation on prioritising access to information complaints   ICO, and we would like to ask you for your input.</p> <p>We have coordinated a Freedom of Information (FOI) Priorities Stakeholder Engagement Plan to help support prioritisation for complaints where there is a clear public interest in the information that has been asked for.</p>		

	<p>The plan aims to promote openness, transparency and accountability, we want to support the public sector and uphold information rights to the capability and capacity of the ICO.</p> <p>The FOI Public Prioritisation Consultation The consultation seeks to ensure the way we regulate the FOI Act is as efficient and effective as possible, especially in times of increasing demand and shrinking resources. The framework proposed as part of the consultation will allow us to deliver our services and increase engagement with stakeholders to uphold information rights in the interest of the public.</p> <p>Being able to prioritise access to information complaints where there is clear public interest will demonstrate to members of the public how we will protect and empower the public. We can demonstrate this by setting out clear criteria for considering whether we will prioritise a complaint.</p> <p>This shift in approach will aim to provide a quick decision from us which will allow for public authorities to act quicker on their decisions. For example, by appealing to the Tribunal or releasing the information at pace.</p> <p>Be that as it may, expediting cases so that people receive the information that they are entitled to under the FOI Act does not mean we will predetermine the outcome of prioritised cases. The aim is to allocate priority cases within 4 weeks and complete 90% of all cases within 6 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/ico-and-stakeholder-consultations/ico-consultation-on-prioritising-access-to-information-complaints/">https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/ico-and-stakeholder-consultations/ico-consultation-on-prioritising-access-to-information-complaints/</a></li> </ul>		
3.	Department of Health	i) Consultation on Transitional Adoption Support Services and ii) Consultation on support for care leavers	19 January 2023
	<p>The first consultation is seeking views on proposed transitional arrangements to enable some important elements of the adoption support services framework to be implemented now as part of the existing scheme for adoption, in advance of the full implementation of the Act. The new measures, when commenced, will place a duty on Health and Social Care Trusts to make arrangements to provide specified adoption support services, including financial support and will introduce a new right to an assessment of needs for adoption support services by those affected by adoption.</p> <p>The second consultation is linked to provision in the Act which extends the support available to looked after children who are preparing to leave care and young people who have left care, until they reach the age of 25. The Department is seeking views on two possible additional amendments to existing Regulations. The first relates to assessing the needs of care leavers who are</p>		

	<p>victims of trafficking or are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The second relates to the matters to be taken into account when considering whether accommodation is suitable for a young person who has left care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-transitional-adoption-support-services">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-transitional-adoption-support-services</a></li> </ul>		
<b>4.</b>	<b>Department of Health</b>	<b>Consultation on Proposed Amendments to the 2016 Independent Guardian Service Regulations</b>	<b>19 January 2023</b>
	<p>We are writing to advise that the Department of Health has launched a public consultation on proposed amendments to the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) (Independent Guardian) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.</p> <p>In summary, the proposed amendments are intended to afford greater flexibility to the Independent Guardian Service for trafficked and/or separated/unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. Currently Independent Guardians are legally required to be social workers with at least five years' post-qualifying experience, and we are proposing to reduce this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-1/igs-regs-amendments/">https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-1/igs-regs-amendments/</a></li> </ul>		
<b>5.</b>	<b>Department of Health</b>	<b>Public consultation on future of Muckamore Abbey Hospital</b>	<b>24 January 2023</b>
	<p><b>Summary</b>  The Department of Health is considering the future role of Muckamore Abbey Hospital, and is proposing its closure as a regional specialist Learning Disability hospital. We would welcome your views on this proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/public-consultation-future-muckamore-abbey-hospital">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/public-consultation-future-muckamore-abbey-hospital</a></li> </ul>		
<b>6.</b>	<b>HSENI</b>	<b>Proposals for Amendments to the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993</b>	<b>24 January 2023</b>
	<p><b>Summary</b>  The consultation seeks views on proposals by HSENI on amendments to the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993 (S.R. 1993 No. 20) (PPER). The PPER place a duty on every employer in Northern Ireland to ensure that suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided to employees who may be exposed to a risk to their health or safety</p>		

	<p>while at work. Currently, employers only have a duty to their ‘employees’ in respect to PPE – changes to the legislation will ensure this duty also extends to ‘limb (b) workers’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.hseni.gov.uk/personal-protective-equipment-work-consultation">https://www.hseni.gov.uk/personal-protective-equipment-work-consultation</a></li> </ul>		
<b>7.</b>	<b>Translink</b>	<b>Disability Action Plan</b>	<b>20 February 2023</b>
	<p>Translink have developed a Disability Action Plan. We are now commencing consultation on this report. As one of our key consultee groups we would welcome any feedback you may have during this consultation period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.translink.co.uk/corporate/publicationsanddocuments/nithcreports">https://www.translink.co.uk/corporate/publicationsanddocuments/nithcreports</a></li> </ul>		
<b>8.</b>	<b>Northern Health and Social Care Trust</b>	<b>Working with you to transform Acute Maternity Services</b>	<b>3 March 2023</b>
	<p>We are consulting on why we believe we need to make some changes to improve the maternity service we provide for women and their families. We want everyone across the Northern Trust area to benefit from safe, effective and high quality acute maternity services. We must carefully plan how to meet that growing need and ensure we make best use of our resources to provide excellent care.</p> <p>The consultation document can be found on the Trust’s website at <a href="http://www.northerntrust.hscni.net">http://www.northerntrust.hscni.net</a>. Alternatively, if you would like us to send you a copy of the consultation document please contact the Trust’s Equality Unit on <a href="mailto:equality.unit@northerntrust.hscni.net">equality.unit@northerntrust.hscni.net</a> or telephone 028 2766 1377.</p> <p>In keeping with the commitments in our Equality Scheme we have carried out an Equality Impact Assessment of this proposal. We have also carried out a Rural Needs Impact Assessment. A copy of the Equality Impact Assessment and Rural Needs Impact Assessment can also be found on the Trust’s website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/Working%20with%20you%20to%20transform%20Acute%20Maternity%20Services/">https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/Working%20with%20you%20to%20transform%20Acute%20Maternity%20Services/</a></li> </ul>		

## Available to View

RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	PUBLISHED
<b>Armagh Banbridge &amp; Craigavon Borough Council</b>	Equality Screening Report April – September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/council/equality/#1485794011625-f6328725-0442">https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/council/equality/#1485794011625-f6328725-0442</a></li> </ul>
<b>Department of Education</b>	Consultation on Period Products (Free Provision) Regulations	<p><b>Summary</b> Under the Period Products (Free Provision) Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, (The Act) all government Departments in Northern Ireland must specify by Regulations 'Public Service Bodies,' which must establish and maintain arrangements to ensure that period products are obtainable, free of charge, on their premises. In other words, Departments must specify which of their bodies will be legally required to make sure free period products are available for use on their premises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/department-education-consultation-period-products-free-provision-regulations">https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/department-education-consultation-period-products-free-provision-regulations</a></li> </ul>
<b>Translink</b>	Equality Screening Reports for July-September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.translink.co.uk/corporate/publicationsanddocuments/nithcreports">https://www.translink.co.uk/corporate/publicationsanddocuments/nithcreports</a></li> </ul>

### Open Consultations (previously Listed)

- The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland, Consultation on Revised Disability and Equality Action Plans, submission by 15 December 2022
- Ulster University, Draft Disability Action Plan 2022 – 2027, submission by 16 December 2022
- Department for The Economy, Public Consultation on Miscarriage Leave and Pay, submission by 19 December 2022
- Waterways Ireland, Draft Equality Action Plan 2023-2025 and Draft Disability Action Plan 2023-2025, submission by 10 January 2023
- Northern Ireland Policing Board, Corporate Plan 2023-2025, submission by 16 January 2023
- Department for The Economy, Consultation on 10x Performance Management Framework, submission by 18 January 2023