

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

28 JULY 2015

1	TITLE: Making Choices: Proposed Changes in Provision of Statutory Residential Care	RECEIVED FROM: Northern Health and Social Care Trust	SUBMISSION BY: 2 October 2015
SYNOPSIS	<p>In November 2013 the health and Social Care Board consulted publicly on proposed criteria that would be used by Trusts in assessing each of their statutory residential care homes. Following the consultation process, the NH&SCT were asked by the Health and Social Care Board to apply criteria to statutory residential in their area. The Health and Social Care Board agreed on Friday 19 May 2015 that the proposals by the Trust should proceed to consultation using a three step process (step 1 local consultation on proposed changes to statutory care provision, step 2 consider feedback and step 3 commence implementation of changes and monitor these in line with commitment that the current permanent residents within the homes will be able to remain in their existing home as long as they wish and as long as their care needs can be appropriately addressed).</p> <p>The Trust proposals include phasing out the Roddens Home in Ballymoney, which lies within Coast & Glens Borough Council area. www.northerntrust.hscni.net</p>		
2	TITLE: Proposal for the Mandatory Wearing of Helmets on Motor Tricycles	RECEIVED FROM: Department of the Environment	SUBMISSION BY: 19 August 2015
SYNOPSIS	<p>This consultation seeks views on proposals to make the wearing of helmets mandatory for riders and/or drivers of, and passengers on, motor tricycles used on public roads in order to reduce road casualties. www.doeni.gov.uk/</p>		
3	TITLE: Environmental Better Regulation Bill	RECEIVED FROM: Northern Ireland Assembly	SUBMISSION BY: 17 August 2015
SYNOPSIS:	<p>This Bill is to enable provision to be made for protecting and improving the environment; to provide for an integrated environmental permitting system; to provide for a review of powers of entry and associated powers and for the repeal or rewriting of such powers and for safeguards in relation to them; to provide for the repeal or rewriting of offences connected with the exercise of any such powers and for the preparation of a code of practice in connection with such exercise; to amend the Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 to provide for a new method for authorising fuels for use in a smoke control area and for exempting fireplaces from the provisions of Article 17 of that Order; to amend the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 to remove the requirement on district councils to make an assessment of air quality under Article 13 of that Order; to amend the Water and Sewerage Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 to transfer certain functions to the Department of the Environment from the Department for Regional Development; and for connected purposes.</p>		

	http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/assembly-business/legislation/primary-legislation-current-bills/environmental-better-regulations-bill/		
4	TITLE: Draft Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations (NI) 2015	RECEIVED FROM: Department of Environment	SUBMISSION BY: 31 August 2015
SYNOPSIS:	<p>The purpose of this consultation is to explain to all stakeholders the need to revoke and replace the current F-gas Regulations with the draft NI F-gas Regulations, in order to comply with the provisions of the new 2014 EU Regulations on F-gases.</p> <p>A number of new provisions are due to be introduced in the draft NI F-gas Regulations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ban on the use of HFCs with a very high GWP for the servicing of certain types of refrigeration equipment • Some strengthening of existing obligations related to leak repair, leak checking, Fgas recovery and the training of technicians • The prohibition of the intentional release of F-gases into the atmosphere • The requirement to check equipment for leaks will also now apply in some cases to refrigerated trucks and trailers, and to ORCs, and • Operators of the refrigeration units of refrigerated trucks and trailers are to be required to ensure that the recovery of F-gases from the cooling circuits of refrigeration units of refrigerated trucks and trailers is carried out by qualified persons, so that the F-gases are recycled, reclaimed or destroyed. <p>Please note that the Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2015 (“the GB F-gas Regulations”), which apply in their entirety in Great Britain (“GB”), have already come into operation. The provisions of the new EU Regulation on F-gases which apply to import and export controls and trade with any place outside the United Kingdom are already included for NI in the GB F-gas Regulations.</p> <p>http://www.doeni.gov.uk/corporate-consultation-draft-fluorinated-greenhouse-gas-regulations-2015.pdf</p>		
5	TITLE: The Draft Local Government Reorganisation (Compensation for Diminution of Emoluments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015	RECEIVED FROM: Department of Environment	SUBMISSION BY: 13 August 2015
SYNOPSIS:	<p>The purpose of the proposed regulations is to provide a specified period of protection to a person who suffers diminution of emoluments as a consequence of local government reorganisation in Northern Ireland. If circumstances should arise where a person transfers to a new post that would result in a reduction of remuneration from that received in their previous post, then a specified period of remuneration protection should be applied.</p>		

	http://www.doeni.gov.uk/council-consultation-draft-local-government-reorganisation-compensation-for-diminution-of-emoluments-regulations-ni-2015.pdf		
6	TITLE: Proposal for a Special Advisors Amendment Bill	RECEIVED FROM: Jim Allister MLA	SUBMISSION BY: 31 August 2015
SYNOPSIS:	It is proposed that the above Bill should be introduced to the Assembly to reduce the number of Special Advisors by restricting the number available to OFMDFM to 4 as opposed to the current quota of 8; restrict the remuneration of the Special Advisors by linking it to the salary scale applicable to an Assistant Secretary Grand 5, whose current salary band is £65,422 - £78,275 and expressly apply the disciplinary processes and procedures applicable within the Civil Service to Special Advisors. It is proposed that the proposed amendment should come into effect at the start of the next mandate (May 2016)		
7	TITLE: Regulations Under the Tobacco Retailers Act (Northern Ireland) 2014	RECEIVED FROM: Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety	SUBMISSION BY: 4 September 2015
SYNOPSIS:	<p>The purpose of this consultation is to seek the views of stakeholders and the general public on three sets of draft regulations coming out of the Tobacco Retailers Act (Northern Ireland) 2014. In summary, the main provisions of the Act are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require all tobacco retailers to register • prohibit registration for 5 years following conviction for a series illicit tobacco offence • allow for the application of tobacco banning orders by enforcement officers following 3 relevant tobacco offences within 5 years • allow the period for a banning order to range from 28 days to 3 years • create a number of new offences, including those relating to the register and the offence of proxy purchasing and • allow for the application of fixed penalty notices for a number of offences. <p>The Department aims to have provisions of the Act, including the establishment of the tobacco retailer register, commenced by the end of 2015. www.legislation.gov.uk/ni/2014/enacted</p>		
8	TITLE: Access and Use of DNA/Fingerprints Data by the Historical Investigation Unit (HIU)	RECEIVED FROM: Department of Justice	SUBMISSION BY: 20 August 2015
SYNOPSIS:	It is proposed that a copy of the local DNA and fingerprints databases are taken by the PSNI prior to the required destruction of material under new legislation which is due to be brought into force on 31 October 2015. Only material relating to individuals born on or before 10 April 1982, that is aged 16 years or older on the date of the Good Friday Agreement will be retained.		

	This will have the effect of limiting the amount of data to be retained on the copy databases – in the case of DNA profiles, by around 50% and in the case of fingerprints sets, by around 20%. www.dojni.gov.uk/index/public-consultations/current-consultations.htm		
9	TITLE: Community Cohesion Strategy for the Period 2015- 20	RECEIVED FROM: Housing Executive	SUBMISSION BY: 4 September 2015
SYNOPSIS:	The Housing Executive is currently carrying out an 8 week external consultation exercise to seek feedback on its revised Community Cohesion Strategy for the period 2015 – 2020. The consultation paper is available by clicking on the following link: http://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/consultation.htm		
10	TITLE Pensions Tax Relief Consultation	RECEIVED FROM: H M TREASURY	SUBMISSION BY: 30 September 2015
SYNOPSIS:	The government wants to make sure that the right incentives are in place to encourage saving into pensions. The government is therefore consulting on whether there is a case for reforming pension's tax relief to strengthen incentives to save and offer savers greater simplicity and transparency, or whether it would be best to keep with the current system. Once the consultation closes the government will consider all responses and publish a 'summary of responses'. This will set out how the government intends to proceed. The government would particularly, but not exclusively, be interested to hear from individuals; consumer groups; employers; providers of pension products and the wider pensions industry. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/strengthening-the-incentive-to-save-a-consultation-on-pensions-tax-relief		
11	TITLE Proposed Changes to the Unladen Weight for Mobility Scooters and Powered Wheelchairs	RECEIVED FROM: Department of Environment	SUBMISSION BY: 16 September 2015
SYNOPSIS:	This Consultation Paper provides background information and seeks views on proposals by the Department of the Environment (DOE) to the existing legislation that governs the use of mobility scooters and powered wheelchairs. Your views and comments are invited on the proposals set out in this consultation paper which can be found on the Departmental website http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/road_users/corporate-road-safety/road-safety-consultations-and-publications/road-safety-consultations.htm		

