

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE – Council Meeting 6 August 2024

	RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	SUBMISSION BY
1.	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Consultation on proposals to revise marine licensing fees	3 September 2024
	<p>This consultation asks for your views on two sets of proposals. Part 1 of the consultation seeks your comment on proposals to amend fees for determining an application for a marine licence. It also asks for your views on proposals on the recover the costs of providing the services under the Marine Works (EIA) Regulations 2007, as amended.</p> <p>Part 2 of the consultation seeks your views on proposals to increase the range of marine licensing services provided by the Department under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 for which it may recover its costs.</p> <p>This consultation will run for 8 weeks from 9 July 2024 and will close on 3 September 2024.</p> <p>When responding, please state whether you are doing so as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear who the organisation represents, and where applicable, how the views of members were considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/daera/proposals-to-revise-marine-licensing-fees/ 		
2.	Foras Na Gaeilge	Strategic Direction – Consultation process	6 September 2024
	<p>We are conducting a consultation process at present to gather the opinions of the community about the draft Strategic Direction. Under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act (1998), we also conducted an Equality Impact Assessment of the document. The consultation will be open until September 6th and your organisation is welcome to provide feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Direction - Consultation process - Foras Na Gaeilge 		

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3.	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Review of the list of bodies and persons set out in the Schedule to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016	13 September 2024
	<p>DAERA today launched a public consultation exercise to inform a review of the list of bodies and persons set out in the Schedule to the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.</p> <p>The Act aims to help improve the quality of life of people in rural areas by ensuring that the social and economic needs of people in rural areas are fully considered by government in their decision making processes.</p> <p>It also seeks to increase transparency on how public authorities consider rural needs. The Act applies to Northern Ireland government departments, district councils and the other public authorities listed in the Schedule to the Act which can be accessed here.</p> <p>The Department is interested in hearing the views of stakeholders on any amendments which should be made to the list of bodies and persons set out in the Schedule to the Act therefore would welcome you sharing this with any relevant interest parties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/daera/review-of-the-schedule 		
4.	Department for Infrastructure	Driver and Vehicle Agency (DVA) Consultation – Changing the exhaust emissions test for light vehicles with a modern diesel engine	18 September 2024
	<p>This consultation seeks your views on a proposal to change the annual road worthiness test (MOT test) by introducing an alternative exhaust emissions test for cars and light goods vehicles registered from January 2013 and fitted with a modern diesel engine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver and Vehicle Agency (DVA) Consultation – Changing the exhaust emissions test for light vehicles with a modern diesel engine Department for Infrastructure (infrastructure-ni.gov.uk) 		
5.	The Executive Office	Consultation on proposals to inform the legislation to establish a statutory Inquiry and Redress Scheme for those affected by Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries, Workhouses and their pathways and practices	19 th September 2024

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		<p>The Executive Office has launched a 12-week public consultation on proposals to inform the legislation to establish a statutory Inquiry and Redress Scheme for those affected by Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries, Workhouses and their pathways and practices.</p> <p>We have scheduled a number of online and in-person events, details of which can also be found in the link below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/truth-recovery-public-consultation-statutory-public-inquiry-and-financial-redress-scheme 	
6.	Department of Education	School Uniform Consultation	27th September 2024
		<p>The Minister of Education plans to introduce statutory guidance so that all school governing bodies will be required to review their school uniform policy and ensure costs are manageable for parents/carers.</p> <p>This consultation seeks views on this approach and on what should be contained within any statutory guidance, particularly around the cost and affordability of school uniforms, the use of branded items and single supplier arrangements. Views are also sought on the proposal to introduce cost control measures, such as a price cap.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/school-uniform-policy-consultation 	
7.	Department for the Economy	Consultation on Domestic Abuse Safe Leave	27 September 2024
		<p>The Domestic Abuse (Safe Leave) Act (NI) 2022 was passed by the Assembly in March 2022. The Department for the Economy is required to consult and make regulations to operationalise this Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/consultations/domestic-abuse-safe-leave 	
8.	The Department of Health	Policy Proposals to inform the development of a new Public Health Bill for Northern Ireland	27 September 2024

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	<p>Overview</p> <p>The Department of Health is seeking views on the policy proposals which will underpin the development of a new Public Health Bill for Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This is the second consultation on Public Health legislation and seeks your views on specific policy proposals that will underpin the provisions to be included in a new Public Health Bill.</p> <p>The first consultation in September 2015 asked basic questions about current Public Health law, the Public Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1967. The outcome of that consultation enabled a Final Report to be published in March 2016, which set out key recommendations for legislative reform and the shaping of future public health protection law in Northern Ireland, leading to this current consultation.</p> <p>This consultation sets out the proposals which will underpin a new health protection legislative framework for Northern Ireland and which are based on the recommendations of the Review of the 1967 Act and learning from recent public health emergencies.</p> <p>The overarching principle of the draft Bill is to protect the population against various forms of infection and contamination including biological, chemical and radiological in addition to infectious diseases, which is the focus of the 1967 Act. The all hazards approach will enable broader surveillance, supporting more timely and effective intervention, controlling the spread of infection and contamination generally and if needs be, in an emergency.</p> <p>The Department welcomes any comments or views on the proposals set out in the consultation document. We are keen to hear from those who have an interest in health protection, especially those with a professional interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-1/public-health-bill-consultation/ 	
9.	Department for Communities	Consultation on changes to Child Maintenance enforcement and collection
	<p>The Child Maintenance: Accelerating Enforcement (Administrative Liability Orders) consultation will run until Sunday 29 September 2024.</p>	

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		<p>The proposals include the use of an administrative liability order to collect child maintenance from a person who has failed to pay child maintenance. A liability order is legal recognition of a debt and is required before the Child Maintenance Service can take enhanced enforcement actions against non-compliant parents to collect child maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-child-maintenance-accelerating-enforcement-administrative-liability-orders. 	
10.	Department for the Economy	The `Good Jobs` Employment Rights Bill	30 September 2024
		<p>The Department for the Economy launched a public consultation on proposed policy areas for The `Good Jobs` Employment Rights Bill on 1 July 2024.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation is to collect information from the public, stakeholders and interested parties on a range of employment law related matters, with a view to enhancing the employment law framework in Northern Ireland and ensuring that it is fit for purpose.</p> <p>Responses should arrive no later than 5.00pm on 30 September 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'Good Jobs' Employment Rights Bill Department for the Economy (economy-ni.gov.uk) 	
11.	Department for Communities	Consultation on The Local Government (Cremation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024	30 September 2024
		<p>The Department for Communities has commenced a consultation on the draft Local Government (Cremation) Regulations (NI) 2024 (the draft Regulations). The draft Regulations will, subject to the outcome of the consultation, broadly follow similar legislation in England and Wales. The proposed regulations will update and replace the current legislative provisions contained within the Cremation (Belfast) Regulations (NI) 1961 and will apply to all crematoria provided and maintained by councils. This consultation closes on 30 September 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the Draft Local Government Cremation Regulations NI 2024 	

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12.	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	Consultation on NIHE Draft Community Safety Strategy 2025-2030	30 September 2024
	<p>The consultation will run for 12 weeks, from 8th July, 2024 up to 30th September 2024 and we want to hear from you. Our draft strategy has been carefully created. Our strategic view of Building Safer Communities Together, adopts a comprehensive, multifaceted approach to addressing anti-social behaviour through engaging with residents, fostering collaborative partnerships and utilising evidence-based interventions. The Housing Executive is committed to fostering a culture of mutual respect, responsibility, and pride within its social housing communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Housing Executive - Consultations (nihe.gov.uk) 		
13.	Department for the Economy	Proposal to integrate additional disability support within our programmes at Entry Level and Level 1	11 October 2024
	<p>The Department for the Economy has today launched a consultation on a proposal to integrate additional disability support within our programmes at Entry Level and Level 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to integrate additional disability support within DfE training programmes at entry level and Level 1 Department for the Economy (economy-ni.gov.uk) 		
14.	Department of Health	Introduction of Safe and Effective Staffing legislation for Northern Ireland	14 October 2024
	<p>Following a commitment as part of the January 2020 Framework Agreement that led to the suspension of the Agenda for Change industrial action, the Department of Health is now undertaking a consultation on the Introduction of Safe and Effective Staffing legislation for Northern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen Space - Safe and Effective Staffing Consultation 		

Available to View

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Department of Finance	Equality Screening form completed in respect of the Civil Service Pensions Systems Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening Department of Finance (finance-ni.gov.uk)
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council	We Asked, You Said, We Did Feedback on Equality & Disability Action Plans (2024-2027)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council (armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk) • Equality - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council (armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)
Department for Communities	Section 75 Screening Report - 01 April - 30 June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening Department for Communities (communities-ni.gov.uk)
Department of Finance	Equality Screening - AO Competitions - prerecorded interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Screening - AO Competitions - prerecorded interviews Department of Finance (finance-ni.gov.uk)

Open Consultations (previously Listed)

- Department for the Economy - Call for Evidence on ‘Developing Biomethane Production in Northern Ireland – submission by 9 August 2024
- Department for Communities - Public consultation launched on £20k threshold for Charities in NI – submission by 11 August 2024
- Department for the Economy - Consultation on proposed new Bill to allow the Utility Regulator to support the Department through the provision of advice, information and assistance in fulfilling obligations under the Climate Change (NI) Act 2022 – submission by 16 August 2024
- Department of Health - Equality Impact Assessment of the 2024-25 Budget Outcome for the Department of Health – submission by 29 August 2024
- Department of Finance - NICS Guide: Supporting Carers