

Report on	Guide to the Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation in Northern Ireland : Guidance for Local Government -Consultation
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Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide comment to the Department for Communities in relation to their consultation of Draft guidance "Guide to the Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation in Northern Ireland: Guidance for Local Government (draft Xxx 2018)".
2.0	Background
2.1	On 30 th January 2018 the Department for Communities consulted with all 11 Councils in Northern Ireland with a view to getting comment on amended draft guidance on HMO's for Councils. A response was requested by 14 February 2018.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Members will be aware the HMO Bill received Royal Assent on the 12 May 2016. The Department of Communities are continuing to work on the regulations that will accompany this Act as they move forward with the transfer of the function to Councils. These regulations will provide further detail on the operation of the scheme and will be supported by this guidance prior to the commencement of the licensing scheme. This is the 2 nd draft of this guidance consulted with Councils.
3.2	The draft guidance is attached at Appendix 1
3.3	A response has been prepared and can be found at Appendix 2.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> Financial: Currently being considered as part of the transfer of powers Human: Currently being considered as part of the transfer of powers
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that Members support the response to this consultation.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1- Guide to the Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation in Northern Ireland: Guidance for Local Government (draft Xxx 2018).
6.2	Appendix 2 – Proposed Mid Ulster District Council response.