

Report on	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Date of Meeting	28 September 2023
Reporting Officer	Joe McGuckin, Head of Strategic Services & Engagement
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Policy Engagement and Equality Officer

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 update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments, statutory agencies and other bodies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues that may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Documentation relating to the aforementioned consultations can be accessed via the links provided in the table provided in Appendix A.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members review and note consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

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Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently
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				Being Developed
The Executive Office	Consultation on a Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls & Foundational Action Plan	The Executive Office are leading on the development of a Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls. It sets the agenda for all of government and society to end violence against women and girls. It is ambitious, long term, and wide reaching. This document is intended to be a living document, which means it will be adapted along the journey according to emerging needs.	3 rd October 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/teo/consultation-end-violence-against-women-and-girls/		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		Yes	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
DAERA	Consultation on Draft Regulations for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging Scheme	The purpose of this consultation is to test the clarity of the obligations created in the regulations, and test their operability. These regulations implement the approach set out in the government's March 2022 EPR consultation response.	Monday 9 October 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	Consultation on the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations [2024] Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		Yes	

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Education	Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Consultation	The Department of Education has launched a consultation on the circumstances and arrangements which would enable a parent/carer to excuse their child from receiving age-appropriate, comprehensive and scientifically accurate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights, covering prevention of early pregnancy and access to abortion.	24 November 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/rse-consultation/		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		No	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
NISRA	Outputs Consultation	The consultation seeks views from users and stakeholders on a range of proposed changes to their statistical outputs.	15 October 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://www.nisra.gov.uk/outputs-consultation		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		Yes	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Education	The Statutory Guidance on the Reduction and Management of	In March 2022 DE issued guidance on the use of restrictive and supportive practices for educational	3 November 2023	No

	Restrictive Practices in Educational Settings Consultation	settings. The guidance aims to provide clarity on the use of restrictive and supportive practices in educational settings and has been written with the aim of reducing and minimising the use of restrictive practice, wherever possible.		
	Link to Consultation	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/statutory-guidance-on-the-reduction-and-management/		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?	No		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for Infrastructure	Public Consultation on Proposal to Extend Validity of Ukrainian Driving Licences	This consultation has been launched to seek views on a proposal to extend the validity period of Ukrainian driving licences in Northern Ireland.	3 October 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/news/public-consultation-proposal-extend-validity-ukrainian-driving-licences		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?	Yes		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for Communities	The Smoke, Heat and Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Private Tenancies Regulations (Northern Ireland) Consultation	The Department for Communities (DfC) is required under Section 8 of the Private Tenancies Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, to bring forward regulations to specify the type, condition and the number of fire, smoke, and carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in private rented properties. It will be an offence for a	6 December 2023	No

		private rented landlord not to comply.		
	Link to Consultation	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/the-fire-smoke-and-carbon-monoxide-alarms-northern/		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		No	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for Communities	The Electrical Safety Standards for Private Tenancies Regulations (Northern Ireland) Consultation	DfC is required under Section 10 of the Private Tenancies Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, to bring forward regulations to ensure a private rental property meets the required electrical safety standard. Electrical Inspections will be completed by a qualified electrician at least every 5 years. It will be an offence for a private rented landlord not to comply. Portable appliance testing is also recommended as good practice as part of the electrical safety checks.	6 December 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/electrical-safety-standards-northern-ireland-202x/		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?		No	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for Communities	EQIA Consultation on the Pensions (Extension of Automatic Enrolment) Bill	The Department is consulting on a draft Equality Impact Assessment in respect of the Pensions (Extension of Automatic Enrolment) Bill. The	11 December 2023	No

		proposed Bill would amend the Pensions (No.2) Act (NI) 2008 ("the Act") so as to provide regulation making powers to the Department for Communities to lower the age at which qualifying workers are automatically enrolled into a workplace pension and reduce or abolish the Lower Earnings Limit of the qualifying earnings band contained in the Act.		
	Link to Consultation	https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-pensions-extension-automatic-enrolment-bill		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?	No		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Health	Recommendations from the Independent Review of Children's Social Care Services	The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on the majority of the recommendations of the report of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care Services in Northern Ireland.	1 December 2023	No
	Link to Consultation	https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-recommendations-independent-review-childrens-social-care-services-northern-ireland		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?	No		