

Report on	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Date of Meeting	25 July 2024
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? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council and make members aware of consultations that were submitted recently via Delegated Authority.
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.
3.2	This paper also includes recently submitted responses which have been approved via Delegated Authority. Appendix B sets out the submitted response to DFI EQIA Budget Response 24/25 while Appendix C contains the submitted response to NIHE's Community Involvement and Cohesion Strategy consultation.
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 and submitted by Mid Ulster District Council.
6.0	Documents Attached & References Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations Appendix B: Submitted Consultation Response: DFI EQIA Budget Response 24/25 Appendix C: Submitted Consultation Response: NIHE Community Involvement and Cohesion Strategy

Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Education	School Uniform Policy Consultation	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. 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.	27 September 2024 at 5pm	No
	Link to Consultation	https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/school-uniform-policy-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
Department for the Economy	The 'Good Jobs' Employment Rights Bill	The Good Jobs agenda involves supporting businesses to grow and become more productive to build skills base. It also involves strengthening legislation. The feedback from this	30 September 2024	No

		consultation will inform an Employment Bill and a supporting programme of secondary legislation.		
	Link to Consultation	https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/consultations/good-jobs-employment-rights-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	Consultation on Policy Proposals to Underpin a New Public Health Bill	The policy proposed is to underpin the new Public Health Bill which seeks to widen the scope of current legislation, which focuses almost exclusively on infectious diseases, to include various forms of infection and contamination, whether these be of chemical, biological, or radiological origin.	27 September 2024 at 5pm	No
	Link to consultation	https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/policy-proposals-inform-development-new-public-health-bill-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	
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
NIHE	Community Safety Strategy 2025 -2030	This strategy sets out three key aims: Building Community Confidence, Ensuring local Solutions and Working Together. As well as an action plan that will be delivered throughout the life of the	30th September 2024	No

		strategy and will update annually.		
	Link to consultation	https://www.nihe.gov.uk/working-with-us/partners/consultations		
	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	Consultation on Child Maintenance: Accelerating Enforcement (Administrative Liability Orders)	This consultation sets out the Department's plans to implement existing powers that allow the Child Maintenance Service to make an administrative liability order against a person who has failed to pay child maintenance and is in arrears.	29 September 2024	No
	Link to consultation	https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-child-maintenance-accelerating-enforcement-administrative-liability-orders		
	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 Local Government (Cremation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024	This consultation seeks views about the regulation of cremations, conducted in crematoria operated and maintained by councils.	30 September 2024	No
	Link to consultation	https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-draft-local-government-cremation-regulations-ni-2024		
	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	

