

Department of  
**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta  
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRE O

**Poustie, Resydënter Heisin  
an Fowk Siccar**

From: David Reilly  
Legislation, Equality and Human Rights  
Branch

Date: 22 July 2011

To: Consultee

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Date: 22 July 2011

### **Consultation – Draft DHSSPS Disability Action Plan (January 2012- December 2014)**

1. Para 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 requires Public Authorities in carrying out their functions to have due regard to the need to (a) promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons; and (b) encourage participation by disabled persons in public life. To demonstrate how this will be achieved para 49B requires the production of a Disability Action Plan (DAP) which sets out the action measures that will be taken.
2. The DHSSPS DAP was due to expire at the end of May 2011, however, following discussions with the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (ECNI), it was agreed that the Department would elect, as permitted in the legislation, to update its action measures and thereby extend the current plan until December 2011.
3. The Department is now consulting on a new draft Disability Action Plan (January 2012 – December 2014) and would welcome your comments on the proposed action measures or views on other ways in which the commitment to these duties could be better demonstrated. The draft Disability Action Plan and the Consultation Document (including response questionnaire) are available on the Department' website:-  
[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/current\\_consultations.htm](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/current_consultations.htm).

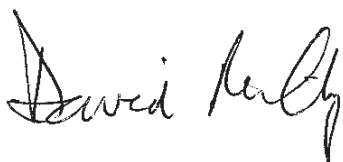


4. If you do not have access to internet and require a hard copy of the consultation documents; or require the documents in another format; or if you would prefer a meeting to discuss; please contact Roberta Weir ([roberta.weir@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:roberta.weir@dhsspsni.gov.uk) – telephone : 028 9052 2534). Please note that responses to this consultation will be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which gives the right of access to the information held by public authorities.
5. Your contribution to this consultation would be appreciated. Responses should be forwarded to Department's Equality and Human Rights Unit by **Friday 28 October 2011**.

E-mail: [equality@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:equality@dhsspsni.gov.uk)

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Yours sincerely



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