**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED NEW FORMULA FOR ALLOCATING PRESCRIBING RESOURCES TO LCGS AND GENERAL PRACTICES - CONSULTATION RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE**

You can respond to the consultation document by e-mail or letter.

Before you submit your response, please read Annex A about the effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the confidentiality of responses to public consultation exercises.

Responses should be sent to:

Written: Project Support Analysis Branch

DHSSPS

Room 2, Annexe 2

Castle Buildings

Stormont Estate

Belfast, BT4 3SQ

Tel: (028) 9052 2700

Email: familyhealthservices@dhsspsni.gov.uk

**Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Tuesday 7 June 2016**

I am responding: as an individual

 on behalf of an organisation

 (please tick a box)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Job Title: |  |
| Organisation: |  |
| Address: |  |
|  |  |
| Tel: |  |
| Fax: |  |
| e-mail: |  |

**The consultation questionnaire**

The questionnaire can be completed by an individual health professional, stakeholder or member of the public, or it can be completed on behalf of a group or organisation.

Part A: provides an opportunity to answer questions relating to specific recommendation.

Part B: provides an opportunity for respondents to give additional feedback relating to any equality or human rights implications of the recommendations.

**Part A**

**Feedback on Proposal**

**Q1. Do you agree that the Weighted Capitation Formula is the best approach for determining fair shares for prescribing resources?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If No, please state why.

**Q2. Do you agree that the Prescribing Capitation Formula adequately takes into account changes in population demographics occuring in NI?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If No, please state why.

**Q3. Do you agree that the constraining method is appropriate for dealing with list discrepancy? If so, do you support the alternative method of constraining?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If No, please state why.

**Q4. Do you agree that the Prescribing Capitation Formula adequately takes account of differences in prescribing costs for men and women of various ages?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If No, please state why.

**Q5. Do you agree that the Prescribing Capitation Formula adequately takes account of differential need due to socio-economic, deprivation and health factors?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If No, please state why.

**Q6. Are there any other formula issues which the DHSSPS should be researching in future or do you have any suggested improvements that could be made to the formula?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  Yes |  |  No |  |

If Yes, please provide comments.

**Q7. Do you have any other general comments you would like to make in relation to the policy proposal.**

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Part B**

**Equality and Human Rights**

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires departments in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:

* between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
* between men and women generally;
* between person with a disability and persons without; and
* between persons with dependants and persons without.

In addition, without prejudice to the above obligation, Departments should also, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, have due regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

In accordance with guidance produced by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland and in keeping with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the Framework has been equality screened and a preliminary decision has been taken that a full EQIA is not required.

Departments also have a statutory duty to ensure that their decisions and actions are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998 and to act in accordance with these rights.

**Q8. Are any of the proposals and recommendations likely to have an adverse impact on any of the nine equality groups identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998?   If yes, please state the group(s) and provide comment on how these adverse impacts could be reduced or alleviated in the proposals.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q9. Are you aware of any indication or evidence – qualitative or quantitative – that the proposal and recommendations may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or on good relations?  If yes, please give details and comment on what you think should be added or removed to alleviate the adverse impact.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q10. Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations? If yes, please give details as to how.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q11. Are there any aspects of these proposals and recommendations where potential human rights violations may occur?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Please return your response questionnaire.**

**Responses must be received no later than 5pm [DN insert date]**

**Thank you for your comments.**

 **Annex A
Freedom of Information Act 2000 – confidentiality OF ConsultationS**

The Department may publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request. The Department can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. **Before** you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the Department in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity should be made public or be treated as confidential. **If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public, please include an explanation in your response.**

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs’ Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

* The Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence, if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department’s functions, and it would not otherwise be provided;
* The Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties “in confidence” which is not confidential in nature; and
* Acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioner’s Office (or see the web site at: <https://ico.org.uk/> )