

# **LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICE FRAMEWORK**

## **Consultation Response Questionnaire**

## CONSULTATION RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE

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

Before you submit your response, please read Appendix 1 about the effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the confidentiality of responses to public consultation exercises.

Responses should be sent to:

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

Written: Service Frameworks Unit  
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Stormont Estate  
Belfast, BT4 3SQ

Tel: (028) 9052 8321

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**Responses must be received no later than 12 March 2012**

I am responding: as an individual  
on behalf of an organisation  
(please tick a box)

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name:

Job Title:

Organisation:

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

e-mail:

## Background

The Department of Health is developing a range of service frameworks which set out explicit standards for health and social care that are evidence based and are capable of being measured. The Learning Disability Service Framework is designed around the social model of disability and sets standards aimed at improving the health and well-being of people with a learning disability, their carers and their families by promoting social inclusion, reducing inequalities in health and social well-being, and improving the quality of care. Each standard is supported by levels of performance to be achieved over 3 years.

## Purpose

This questionnaire seeks your views on the Learning Disability Service Framework, and should be read in conjunction with the document which includes the draft standards. It is particularly important to know whether the proposed standards will ensure that health and social care services are safe, effective and person-centred.

## 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 provide some general feedback on the service framework document and should be completed by all respondents.

**Part B:** provides an opportunity for respondents to give additional feedback relating to specific standards and/or sections of the service framework.

Please indicate which section(s) you are providing feedback on:

☐ **I am providing general feedback on the document and will complete Part A.**

☐ **I am providing general feedback on the document with a focus on the specific section(s) indicated in the table below and will complete Part A and Part B.**

| <b>Please tick which sections or subsections you are providing feedback on</b>               |  |
|--|--|
| Summary of Standards   |  |
| Chapters 1-3: Introduction, Background, and Basis for Development of the Service Framework   |  |
| Chapter 4: Standards: Communication and Involvement in the Planning and Delivery of Services |  |
| Chapter 5: Standards: Children and Young People  |  |
| Chapter 6: Standards: Entering Adulthood   |  |
| Chapter 7: Standards: Inclusion in Community Life  |  |
| Chapter 8: Standards: Meeting General Physical and Mental Health Needs                       |  |
| Chapter 9: Standards: Meeting Complex Physical and Mental Health Needs                       |  |
| Chapter 10: Standards: At Home in the Community  |  |
| Chapter 11: Standards: Ageing Well   |  |
| Chapter 12: Standards: Palliative and End of Life Care                                       |  |

**Part A – General feedback on the document (all respondents please complete this part).**

**Q1.** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“In general the language and organisation of the document is easy to follow.”

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q2.** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“The standards covered by the service framework are important for people with a learning disability.”

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q3.** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“Overall this framework will provide an opportunity to help set priorities for commissioning learning disability services.”

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q4.** Which of these standards will have the greatest impact on the health and wellbeing of people with a learning disability, and why?

Comments:

### **Equality implications**

Before completing this section, please refer to Appendix 2 which relates to equality of opportunity, and the guidance regarding this produced by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

**Q5.** Having considered the outcome of the screening exercise as set out in Appendix 2, do you think these standards will have any adverse impact(s) on any group of people in terms of the nine equality dimensions? If yes, please comment on how any adverse impact could be reduced.

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments:

**Q6.** Are you aware of any indication or evidence that the standards may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or good relations? If yes, please state the reasons why and suggest how these might be mitigated.

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments:

**Q7.** Do the proposed standards afford an opportunity to promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations? If yes, please outline your reasons.

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments:

**Q8.** Are there any aspects of these standards where potential human rights violations may occur?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments:



**Q9.** Please use the box below to insert any further comments, recommendations or suggestions you would like to make in relation to the Learning Disability Service Framework.

Comments:

**Please continue and complete Part B, or return your response questionnaire.**

**Responses must be received no later than 12 March 2012**

**Thank you for your comments.**

**Part B – Feedback relating to specific standards and/or sections of the service framework.**

If necessary please copy and complete this part of the questionnaire for each section or standard you are reviewing.

*Please insert the specific section or standard you are reviewing in the box provided*

*e.g. Chapter 5: Standards: Children and Young People*

*or*

*Standard 11: Any child or young person who cannot live at home permanently should have their needs addressed in a way that takes full account of their learning disability.*

**Q(i).** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“It was easy to locate my specific standard/section of interest in the service framework document.”

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q(ii).** Service frameworks are viewed as active documents which evolve over time to include new scientific evidence for improving care. Are you aware of any key evidence or other information which is missing, and which would alter the nature of this particular section/ standard?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments:

**Q(iii).** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“The performance indicators and the expected performance levels are reasonable, and they will help progress towards achieving the overarching standard(s).”

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither      Disagree      Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q(iv).** Please indicate your views on the following statement (please circle response)

“I plan to use the/these standard(s) to improve my practice, or services for people with a learning disability.”

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Comments:

**Q(v).** Please use the box below to insert any further comments, recommendations or suggestions you would like in relation to this particular standard or section.

Comments:

**Please return your response questionnaire.  
Responses must be received no later than 12 March 2012  
Thank you for your comments.**

*Appendix 1*

*FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSULTATIONS*

The Department will 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 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.

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 Lord Chancellor's 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
- 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 web site at: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>). For further information about this particular consultation please contact Paula McGeown (contact details are shown on page 1).

## *Appendix 2*

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires the Department 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 persons with a disability and persons without; and between persons with dependants and persons without. The Department is also required to “have regard” to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of a different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

In keeping with the above statutory obligations and in accordance with guidance produced by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, the Department has carried out a preliminary equality screening exercise to determine if the standards proposed in the Learning Disability Service Framework are likely to have a significant impact on equality of opportunity and should therefore be subjected to an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA). The Department has concluded that an EQIA is not appropriate for a number of reasons, for example:

- The preliminary screening showed no evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake by different groups;
- Interface meetings, and consultations with key stakeholders were already established as a key component in the development of the service framework;
- The standards outlined in the Learning Disability Service Framework appear to promote equality of opportunity and good relations.

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