



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

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

**Autism Strategy
(2013 – 2020)
and
Action Plan
(2013-2015)**

Consultation Questionnaire

RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

The NI government departments are seeking your views on the draft cross-departmental Autism Strategy and Action Plan. Please use this questionnaire to tell us your views on the draft document.

Please send your response, **no later than 15 March 2013**, to:

DHSSPS Autism Strategy Core Team

Room D1
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST BT4 3SQ

Tel: 028 9052 2153

Fax: 028 9052 2500

E-mail: Autism.Strategy@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Please note that all responses will be treated as public and may be published on the DHSSPS website. If you do not want your response to be used in this way, or if you would prefer for it to be used anonymously, please indicate this when responding (See Statement of Confidentiality and Access to Information Legislation below).

Confidentiality and Access to Information Legislation

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with access to information legislation: these are chiefly the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice (section 45) with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this, it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information, we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the DHSSPS.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioner's Office

Information Commissioner's Office Northern Ireland

51 Adelaide Street
Belfast, BT2 8FE

Tel: 028 9026 9380

Fax: 028 9026 9388

Email: ni@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>

Please tick the box below if you do want your response to be treated as anonymous.

I want my response to be treated as anonymous.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and providing input to this consultation.

SECTION 1: ABOUT YOU

Consultee Details

Question 1(a):

I am responding as... *(Please tick one option only)*

- A person with autism
- A parent / carer of a person with autism
- A family member of a person with autism
- On behalf of an organisation
- Other.....*(Please specify)*

Question 1(b):

Please enter your details below:

Name:	
Job Title: <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Organisation: <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Address:	
City/Town:	
Postcode:	
Email Address:	

SECTION 2: VISION, VALUES, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Question 2:

Do you agree with the vision, values, aim and objectives for the Strategy?
(Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and / or let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 3: THEMES

The themes of the Strategy have been developed in consideration of some of the articles in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They include:

- Awareness
- Accessibility
- Children, Young People and Family
- Independence / Choice and Control
- Transitions
- Employment and Employability
- Accessing Justice
- Being Part of the Community
- Participation and Active Citizenship

Question 3:

Do you agree with all the themes in the Strategy?
(Please tick one option only).

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think the themes could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

The NI Government Departments are aiming to implement the strategic priorities of the Autism Strategy over a *seven-year period (2013 – 2020)*.

They will aim to achieve the actions and outcomes measures as set out in the initial '*Laying the Foundations*' Action Plan, over a *two-year period (2013 – 2015)*.

A further two Action Plans will be developed to fully deliver the strategic priorities in terms of '*Whole-life Journey*' and '*Holistic Personalised Approach*'.

Question 4(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priorities on *Awareness* for this Strategy? (*Please tick one option only*)

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 4(b):

Do you agree with the actions and outcome measures on *Awareness* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? (*Please tick one option only*)

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 5(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priorities on *Accessibility* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 5(b):

Do you agree with the actions and outcome measures on *Accessibility* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 6(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priority on *Children, Young People and Family* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 6(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measures on *Children, Young People and Family* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 7(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priority on *Independence, Choice and Control* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 7(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measure on *Independence, Choice and Control* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 8(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priority on *Transitions* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 8(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measure on *Transitions* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 9(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priorities on *Employment and Employability* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 9(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measure on *Employment and Employability* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 10(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priority on *Accessing Justice* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 10(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measures on *Accessing Justice* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 11(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priority on *Being Part of the Community* for this Strategy?
(Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 11(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measure on *Being Part of the Community* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? (Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Question 12(a):

Do you agree with the strategic priorities on *Participation and Active Citizenship* for this Strategy? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

Question 12(b):

Do you agree with the action and outcome measures on *Participation and Active Citizenship* in the Action Plan (2013 – 2015)? *(Please tick one option only)*

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and let us know how you think these could be improved.

SECTION 5: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

In this section of the questionnaire we are asking you to tell us if you think the draft Autism Strategy (2013 – 2020) and initial Action Plan (2013 – 2015) have promoted equality of opportunity in the Section 75 groups between persons of:

- (1) Different religious belief,
- (2) Different political opinion,
- (3) Different racial group,
- (4) Different age,
- (5) Different marital status,
- (6) Different sexual orientation;
- (7) Different gender
- (8) With a disability and persons without; and
- (9) With dependants and persons without.

Question 13:

Are the actions / proposals set out in this consultation document likely to have an adverse impact on any of the nine equality groups identified under Section 75 of the NI Act 1998?
(Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If yes, please state the group or groups and provide comment on how these adverse impacts could be reduced or alleviated in the proposals.

SECTION 5: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Question 14(a):

Are you aware of any indication or evidence – qualitative or quantitative - that the actions / proposals set out in this consultation document may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or on good relations?

(Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If yes, please give details and comment on what you think should be added or removed to alleviate the adverse impact.

Question 14(b):

Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations?

(Please tick one option only)

Yes

No

If yes, please give details as to how.

SECTION 5: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Question 14(c):

Are there any aspects of this action plan where potential human rights violations may occur? (*Please tick one option only*)

Yes

No

If yes, please give details.

SECTION 6: ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY

Please use the space below to provide any additional comments you may have.

It would be helpful if you reference which part of the document you are commenting on. If you refer to any other documents, please provide the title, author and if possible approximate date of publication.