

# Consultation Response Framework



## **STANDARDS FOR SUPPORTED LODGINGS FOR YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 16-21) IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

OCTOBER 2014

Please respond to the consultation by email. However, if this is not possible, a hard copy will be accepted.

Responses should be sent to: Email: [lookedafterchildren@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:lookedafterchildren@dhsspsni.gov.uk) or

Mrs Audrey Quigley  
Family & Children's Policy Directorate  
Room A3.5B  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3SQ

Telephone: 028 90522559

Responses must be received **no later than 30 January 2015**

(Please tick appropriate box)

I am responding: as an individual  on behalf of an organisation

Name: .....

Job Title: .....

Organisation: .....

Address: .....

.....

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Tel: ..... Fax: .....

E mail: .....

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

1. Is the structure and layout of the draft standards clear and easy to understand? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, do you have any suggestions on how the structure and layout could be improved?

**STANDARD 1 – PROVISION OF INFORMATION**

2. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and provide your reasons.

3. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

4. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).

Yes

No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

## STANDARD 2 – SERVICE REFERRAL, ASSESSMENT AND PLACEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

5. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).

Yes

No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

6. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).

Yes

No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

7. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**STANDARD 3 – PLACEMENT AGREEMENT AND SUPPORT PLANNING**

8. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

9. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**10. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**STANDARD 4 – ENDING OR LEAVING THE PLACEMENT**

**11. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**12. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**13. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

### STANDARD 5 – SAFEGUARDING YOUNG PEOPLE

**14. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**15. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**16. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

## **STANDARD 6 – ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT**

**17. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**18. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**19. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.



**STANDARD 7 – ACCOMMODATION**

**20. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**21. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**22. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

## STANDARD 8 – HOSTS

23. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

24. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

25. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**STANDARD 9 – STAFFING**

**26. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**27. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**28. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**STANDARD 10 – MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

**29. Do you agree with the content of the Standard Statement? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state your reasons.

**30. Do the corresponding criteria for the standard provide sufficient clarity on actions required to meet the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**31. Does the list of evidence clearly set out what is required to demonstrate effective delivery against the standard? (Please tick).**

Yes  No

If **NO**, please comment on what you think should be added or removed and state the reasons.

**GENERIC**

**32. Do the draft Standards comprehensively address the core requirements of Supported Lodgings and adequately identify their purpose and function as distinct from mainstream child care placement options? (Please tick).**

Yes

No

If **NO**, please comment on any areas to be further considered and state the reasons.

**33. Are there additional issues which should be included or areas which should be elaborated on further within the draft Standards? (Please tick).**

Yes

No

If **YES**, please comment on what areas should be elaborated on and state the reasons.

**EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

**34. 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 Northern Ireland Act 1998? (Please tick).**

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.

**35. Are you aware of any indication or evidence – qualitative or quantitative – that the actions/proposals set out in this consultation document may have and adverse impact on equality of opportunity or on good relations? (Please tick).**

Yes

No

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

**36. Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations? (Please tick).**

Yes

No

If **YES** please give details as to how.

**37. Are there any aspects of the draft standards where potential human rights violations may occur? (Please tick).**

Yes

No

If **YES** please give details.

**38. Please add any other relevant comments not covered in the questions above.**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSULTATION

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 the 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 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 website at:

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



For further information about this particular consultation please contact the consulting branch at: [lookedafterchildren@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:lookedafterchildren@dhsspsni.gov.uk) or write to

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Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety  
Family and Children's Policy Directorate  
Room A3.5B  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3SQ

### EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

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 draft standards are likely to have a significant impact on equality of opportunity and should therefore be subjected to an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA). However if issues arise as part of the consultation, this position will be revised accordingly. The Department has concluded that an EQIA is not appropriate for a number of reasons including:

- The preliminary screening and engagement with key stakeholders to date has shown no evidence of any adverse impact on the different groups;
- The draft standards are intended to set a transparent and consistent benchmark for the quality of these services, which will benefit all those who use and provide these services.

Produced by:

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

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October 2014