

Department for Employment & Learning

Foreword

Programme of Equality Impact Assessments

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires the Department for Employment and Learning along with other Government Departments and Public Authorities to produce an Equality Scheme. The Department for Employment and Learning was one of the first Public Authorities to have its Equality Scheme approved by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland on 15 February 2001. The Department's Equality Scheme sets out its arrangements for complying with the requirements of Section 75.

One of the Department's commitments in its Equality Scheme is to carry out a programme of full Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA's) on existing policies. As part of the preparatory work in drawing up its programme of EQIA's, the Department carried out a screening exercise earlier this year. This involved consultation with various Section 75 groups and other interested organisations listed in the Department's Equality Scheme. The purpose of the screening exercise was to prioritise policies for full equality impact assessment. This screening has now been completed and has resulted in the Department preparing its programme of full Equality Impact Assessments running until March 2004. The Department's scheduled programme of Equality Impact Assessments between now and March 2004 is attached along with a paper indicating to which functional area within the Department each policy area belongs .

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EQIA Complete	To Commence by March 2002	Planned for 2002-2003	Planned for 2003-2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Finance Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Deal 50+ • Employment Policy and Legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Deal for Disabled People • Worktrack • Employment Policy and Legislation • Bridge to Employment • Widening Access • Disabled Student Access • Capital Funding • Information and Communications Technology Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walsh Visa Programme • Labour Market Intermediaries • New Deal 25+ • Access to Work • Job Introduction Scheme • Employment Policy and Legislation • Jobskills • Modern Apprenticeships • Learn Direct

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EQIA Complete	To Commence by March 2002	Planned for 2002- 2003	Planned for 2003- 2004
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for Teacher Training Institutions • Strategic Investment Fund • Access Initiative • Skills Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of funding to non-statutory providers • Support for post-graduate students • Higher Education in the FE Sector • Capital Funding • FE Recurrent Funding • University Grant for teaching related research and related activities.

In the event of any changes to the timetable the up-to-date programme will be available on the Department's website: www.delni.gov.uk