



**Response to
A Commissioner for
Older People in
Northern Ireland**

1. All older people are entitled to all recommendations put forward in the Draft Consultation to safeguard and promote the rights and interests of equality for older people.
2. We feel in the majority that there should be a Commissioner for Older People in Northern Ireland.
3. Older people on the ground should have a say in the selection of the Commissioner and the appointment should be a minimum of at least 3 years and can be reappointed for 1 further term.
4. The Commissioner should provide an Annual Report of all progress during the year plus Annual Finance Reports responsible to the OFMDFM.
5. The Commissioner for Older People's Commissioner should be an Independent Body sponsored by the OFMDFM.
6. Older People should be consulted and informed about all work of the Commissioner.
7. The Commissioner should work with both Government Bodies and Public Sector Bodies who have the interest of older people in promoting and protecting this group.
8. The Commissioner should have regular meetings with OFMDFM and other Assembly Committees when dealing with any issues pertaining to older people.
9. The Commissioner should have outreach workers working for them who can be contacted to build up working relationships with the people they are representing.
10. Everyone not just older people are entitled to independence within our society regardless of age, gender, race or disability and be valued as an active citizen.
11. As stated Ballybeen Women's Centre support the appointment of a Commissioner for Older People in Northern Ireland.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Outreach and Support Worker