

*Champion House*

**Ms Julie Stephenson  
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**10 NOV 2005**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

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Dear *Ms Stephenson*

**Re: Consultation on Draft Employment Equality (AGE)  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006**

I refer to the above consultation document which was issued on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2005 and welcome the opportunity to comment on its content.

I have shared the document with appropriate Officers in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board and would now wish to respond as follows. It is felt that the new draft regulations would not give rise to any significant difficulties within the Eastern Board since we already include Equality with regard to age in many of our existing policies and the best practices which we afford to other legislation is also afforded to age within the Eastern Board. It has, however, been noted that the main area of change will be in relation to the retirement process and access to superannuation although this area will be covered by the new superannuation regulations which will come into force in 2006.

I trust you will find these comments of assistance.

Yours sincerely

*M P J Kilbane*  
**Dr M P J KILBANE  
Chief Executive**