

OFMdfM EQIA TIMETABLE (1 Apr 2008 – 30 Sep 2008)

Title of Policy EQIA	EQIA Stage at end March 08 (Steps 1-6)	indicate year for assessment	Outline adjustments to policy intended to benefit individuals and the relevant Section 75 categories due to be affected.	Please indicate expected timescale of decision- making stage i.e. Stage 6 ¹	Factors responsible for delay
1. Gender Equality Strategy Contact : Eileen Sung 028 90 528194	n/a		All Departments have prepared revised gender action plans for the period 2008-2011 (one for women, one for men). OFMDFM will present cross-departmental gender action plans to Ministers for consideration by the Executive, in early 2009.		Competing priorities and resource constraints
2. Sexual Orientation Equality Strategy Contact : Eileen Sung 028 90 528194	n/a		The draft Sexual Orientation Equality Strategy and supporting cross-departmental Action Plans are now being refreshed in light of a recent needs analysis study of the LGBT sector. There is a challenging target date for submission to Ministers by March 2009.		Completion of needs analysis, and LGBT sectoral contribution

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<p>3. Anti-poverty Strategy¹ (Lifetime Opportunities) Contact : Michael Pollock 028 90 523210</p>	6		<p>No changes to policy as a result of EQIA. Rather the policy and decisions were developed through consultation with key stakeholders.</p>	<p>On 20th November 2008 the Executive formally adopted the broad 'architecture' and principles of 'Lifetime Opportunities' as the basis of its strategy to tackle poverty, Social Inclusion and patterns of deprivation here, based on social need.</p>	

¹Stage 6: The decision making process represents the end of the "consideration of measures and consultation". Available information should now be combined in a decision(s) on existing or proposed policy, together with the rationale for the decision.

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<p>4. Programme for Government</p> <p>Contact : Tom Reid 028 90 528439</p>	6		<p>Consultation on draft PfG, budget and ISN12 launched on 25 October 2007. Consultation closed 4 January 2008. Draft EQIA consultation was launched on 30 January 2008 and closed on 23 April 2008 after 12 weeks of public Consultation. The consultation analysis is being finalised and will be published shortly.</p>		<p>A draft analysis was forwarded to Private Office on 13 August 2008 for comments. In order to finalise the assessment and to provide for a formal submission officials now require a steer on the issues and recommendations set out in the draft analysis paper. Once a steer is received it should be possible to provide a final analysis and revised assessment within 1-2 weeks.</p>

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5. Next phase of Victims Strategy Contact :John Clarke 028 90 523167	Not started yet		On the 28 th January 2007 the First Minister and deputy First Minister announced their intention to appoint 4 Commissioners' to a Victims and Survivors Commission once amending legislation was in place. OFMdFM will work with the new Commissioner to develop the way ahead in relation to the new phase of victims and Survivors Forum, and potentially a new strategy. This will be screened, and if necessary EQIA'd in due course.	December 2008	The next phase of the Victims Strategy will be progressed during 2008 in conjunction with the new Victims and Survivors Commission.
6. Review of the Offices of the Ombudsman for NI and the NI Commissioner for Complaints) Contact : Maurice Dowling 028 90 277602			A submission has been made to Ministers to consider if the Review of the Office of the NI Ombudsman should be implemented.	On-hold pending decision by ministers.	On-hold pending decision by ministers.

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7. Draft Dir Discrim (Transport Vehicles) Regs Contact : Linda Girvan 02890 523155	N/A	2008	The removal of the exemption for operators of public transport services – this will provide people with disabilities with a means of redress should they be discriminated against when accessing public transport.	March 2009	EQIA completed in June 2008; consultation papers referred to Executive in Sept 2008 – consultation postponed due to failure of Executive to meet.