



13 April 2017

Dear Consultee,

Update on Equality Screening and Consultations within the Public Prosecution Service (PPS)

It is important that the PPS keeps those interested in its work regularly informed of what it is doing to assess the impact of its policies as regards equality of opportunity and good relations.

This update lists internal and external policies for which the PPS has carried out a screening exercise over the period 1 January to 31 March 2017. It also includes details of forthcoming, current and closed consultations.

(a) Screening exercises completed 1 January – 31 March 2017:

Name of Policy	Brief Description	Screening Outcome
N/A		

(b) Forthcoming consultations:

Name of Policy	Brief Description	Current Status
<i>Draft Equality Action Plan 2017/18</i>	<i>The purpose of this plan is to outline the PPS's action measures to promote equality of opportunity and good relations.</i>	<i>To be released for consultation on 13 April 2017, consultation due to close on 7 July 2017.</i>

Name of Policy	Brief Description	Current Status
<i>Draft Disability Action Plan 2017/18</i>	<i>The purpose of this plan is to outline the PPS's action measures to promote positive attitudes to disabled people and to encourage their participation in public life.</i>	<i>To be released for consultation on 13 April 2017, consultation due to close on 7 July 2017.</i>
<i>Revised PPS Equality Scheme</i>	<i>The PPS Equality Scheme sets out how the PPS proposes to fulfil its Section 75 statutory duties.</i>	<i>To be released for consultation on 13 April 2017, consultation due to close on 7 July 2017.</i>

(c) Current consultations:

Name of Policy	Brief Description	Current Status
<i>N/A</i>		

(d) Recently closed consultations:

Name of Policy	Brief Description	Current Status
<i>Court Witness Expenses Policy</i>	<i>The PPS is required to call the victims and witnesses of crime to court to give evidence in the prosecution of cases. This policy documents the process of inviting witnesses and reimbursing their expenses.</i>	<i>Consultation closed on 17 March 2017. All responses have now been considered and a summary response document will be published by end April 2017.</i>

If you or your organisation is interested in receiving any consultation documents or wish to register an interest in forthcoming work, please contact me stating if you would prefer a hard copy posted to you or an email version, providing your email address. You can also request a copy of the full screening decision on any policy in this way.

You can visit the Public Prosecution Service website at www.ppsni.gov.uk to access our equality information and can review current and previous Section 75 reports and policy screening forms (from January 2012). Any consultations undertaken by the PPS will be posted on the PPS website within the 'Consultation' area which is accessible from the home page. Other equality related information is located within the 'Equality' section.

Documents will be made available in alternative formats, for example Braille, audio CD or disk. If you have any requests for alternative formats, or if you wish to make any other comment about this equality work, please contact me through any of the ways set out below. You can also update me of any changes to your contact details that may be required for future correspondence.

Yours faithfully,

Ryan McGuinness

Equality and Governance Officer

Central Management Unit

Public Prosecution Service

Belfast Chambers

93 Chichester Street

Belfast

BT1 3JR

Direct Line: 028 90 264608

Fax: 028 90 897121

Deaf / Hard of Hearing (SMS) 07795 675528

Email: equality@ppsni.gsi.gov.uk