

**DRD POLICIES SCREENED OUT FOR EQUALITY IMPACT
ASSESSMENT
DURING THE PERIOD DECEMBER 2005 TO JUNE 2006**

AGENCY/DIV	POLICY NAME	AIM	DATE
Water Reform	Draft Water & Sewerage Services (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2006	1) To enable the Water Service to set up a customer database through information sharing which will facilitate the implementation of water charging of domestic and non-domestic users and to obtain details of those in receipt of passport benefits for the purpose of vulnerable groups relief. 2) To enable the Dept of the Environment to amend its powers to make water abstraction and impoundment regulations.	March 2006
Water Service	Water Service - Accounts Payable Centralisation	Centralisation of the Accounts Payable process, reducing from four regional offices to one central unit.	December 2005
Roads Service	Decriminalised Parking Enforcement – Transfer of Staff	The primary objectives in introducing DPE are to lessen traffic congestion and improve highway and pedestrian safety by reducing incidences of illegally parked vehicle. When DPE is introduced, enforcement of waiting restrictions and on-street and off-street parking regulations will be undertaken by Traffic Attendants employed for that purpose.	January 2006

Roads Service	Proposed Street Works (Amendment) (NI) Order 2006	<p>Minimise congestion / disruption on the road network.</p> <p>Tighten regulation of utility street works and improve enforcement.</p> <p>Maintain condition of the network by introducing requirements to resurface the road.</p> <p>Enable the Department to require utilities to deal with a private sector organisation rather than Roads Service, in relation to certain of its responsibilities under the street works legislation including, for example, in respect of reinstatement, placing of apparatus and resurfacing.</p>	February 2006 (currently out for consultation)
Ports and Public Transport Division	Railway Review Group	Paper detailed the future of the Ballymena to Derry rail line and the Larne line north of Whitehead.	January 2006 (this follows an earlier consultation exercise which took place in 2004)
Regional Planning and Transport Division	Focused Assessment of the Regional Development Strategy	The RDS contains a Spatial Development Strategy and related Strategic Planning Guidelines that aim to provide long-term policy directions, from a strategic spatial perspective, for the public and private sector and the whole community.	May 2006
Water Service	Charges for Connection to the Water and Sewerage Network.	These proposals are aimed at ensuring that costs are borne by those groups of customers incurring them. Although this will increase the level of costs borne by developers and others seeking connection it will ensure equity between new	June 2006 (currently out for consultation)

		and existing customers in the charging regime.	
Roads Service	Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2006	The Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 further amend the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 by prescribing a new road marking (i.e. a broken yellow line) to indicate to vehicular traffic a restriction on waiting and by substituting alternative meanings for 3 existing parking bay road markings (i.e. signs to diagrams 1028.4, 1032 and 1033) so as to provide that, in certain circumstances, these markings have the same meaning as the broken yellow line.	May 2006

ADVANCED NOTICE OF CONSULTATIONS

Subject Matter	Brief Description	Contact Name
Review of Ports Policy in Northern Ireland (Currently out for Consultation)	Review of policy on the powers, status and governance of public trust ports in Northern Ireland. This follows on from the UK wide review of ports policy. The policy when finalised will form the basis for new Primary legislation for Ports in Northern Ireland	George Kearns
Proposed Donaghadee Harbour Limits Order	A proposed harbour Order to establish modern nautical harbour limits for Donaghadee Harbour	George Kearns
Proposed River Bann (Remuneration of Commissioners) Order	A proposed Harbour Order to introduce a power to allow for the remuneration of Coleraine Harbour Commissioners, in line with other trust ports in Northern Ireland	Anne McKeating
Airports (Designation) (Power to Detain and Sell Aircraft) Order Northern Ireland	To allow airports authorities to detain and if necessary sell aircraft where fees have not been paid	Anne McKeating
Railway Safety legislation	Three sets of railway safety regulations required under the Railway Safety Act (NI) 2002	Ciaran Crilly
Rail Vehicle accessibility legislation	Changes required from the Disability Discrimination Act to improve rail vehicle accessibility for the disabled	Ciaran Crilly

<p>All-Ireland Free Travel for Senior Citizens</p> <p>(Currently out for Consultation)</p>	<p>The aim of the policy is to provide free travel on public transport throughout the island of Ireland for senior citizens resident in Northern Ireland aged 65 and over.</p>	<p>Stephen Johnston</p>
<p>Draft Planning Policy Statement 5 - Retailing, Town Centres and Commercial Leisure Development</p> <p>(Currently out for Consultation)</p>	<p>A number of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) are being prepared to assist in the implementation of the Regional Development Strategy. These provide amplification and advice in relation to the RDS strategic guidelines. PPS 5 aims to promote the viability and vitality of town and city centres whilst providing customer competition and choice.</p>	<p>Gregor Kerr</p>