

**ECONOMY**  
**SKILLS**  
QUALIFICATIONS

**SUPPORT**

**CONFIDENCE**

**INCENTIVES**

**INNOVATION**

**HELPING**

**EDUCATION**

**INDIVIDUALS**

**COMPETITIVENESS**

**TRANSITION**

## **“Enabling Success”**

**A Consultation on a New Strategic Framework to Tackle Economic Inactivity in Northern Ireland –**

**Driving Social Change Through Economic Participation**

**Online Response Booklet**

**January 2014**



Department for

**Employment  
and Learning**

[www.delni.gov.uk](http://www.delni.gov.uk)



Department of

**Enterprise, Trade  
and Investment**

[www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

## **Online Response Form**

The responses to the consultation questions set out below will play an important role in the final development of ‘Enabling Success – a Strategy to Tackle Economic Inactivity - Driving Social Change Through Economic Participation’.

Views are sought from all those with an interest in the issue.

This response document should be read in conjunction with following documents, all of which are available on the DEL and DETI websites –

- (1) Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework
- (2) Oral statement – Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework
- (3) Economic Inactivity – Baseline Study
- (4) Oral statement – Outcomes of the Baseline Analysis of Economic Inactivity
- (5) Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework – Public Consultation
- (6) Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework – Rural Proofing
- (7) Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework – Section 75 Equality Screening
- (8) Economic Inactivity Strategic Framework - Literature Review

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) (referred to henceforth as 'The Departments') will publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response and all other responses may be disclosed upon request. The Departments can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. Any automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by our IT systems will be taken to apply only to information in your response for which confidentiality has been specifically requested. Before you submit your response, please read the paragraph below on the confidentiality of consultations and it will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation.

The Departments will handle any personal data you provide appropriately in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. The Freedom of Information Act gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, The Departments in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Departments cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information about your identity, should be made public or treated as confidential.

**All consultation responses should be sent to:**

Economic Inactivity Strategy Branch  
Department for Employment and Learning  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Gloucester House  
57-63 Chichester Street  
Belfast  
BT1 4RA

**The closing date for consultation responses is 5pm on 17 April 2014.**

For further information please contact:

Tel: (028) 902 52009  
Email: [economicinactivityconsultation@delni.gov.uk](mailto:economicinactivityconsultation@delni.gov.uk)

The Departments cannot accept responses by telephone. General enquiry calls may however be made to the above number.

The following questions are designed to help structure the responses to the public consultation exercise

NAME:

ORGANISATION:  
(if applicable)

EMAIL:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

ADDRESS:

**Consultation Question 1: Target Groups of the Strategy**  
**(see Consultation Question 1 - pg & )**

1. To what extent would you agree that these are the most relevant target groups for the strategy to focus on?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

**Consultation Question 2: Factors affecting target groups  
(see Consultation Question 2 – pg 2))**

2 (i) Of the factors highlighted, which do you think are the most important to focus upon to reduce levels of inactivity?

2 (ii) Are there any additional factors that should be considered?

**Consultation Question 3: The Goal of the Strategy**  
**(see Consultation Question 3 – pg 2\*)**

3. Do you agree that the strategic goal is both challenging and realistic?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

**Consultation Question 4: Strategic Objectives**  
**(see Consultation Question 4 – pg 2+)**

4. (i) Do you agree that these objectives adequately capture the core issues that would need to be addressed to achieve the goal of the strategy?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

4. (ii) What additional strategic objectives could help to achieve a rate of >70% by 2023?

**Consultation Question 5: A Strategic Taskforce**  
**(see Consultation Question 5 – pg 2, )**

5. (i) Do you agree that this is the best approach in terms of strategic management and co-ordination of the final strategy?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

5. (ii) Which key sectors and stakeholders should be represented on the taskforce to ensure that the strategic objectives are successfully achieved?

**Consultation Question 6: Proposals for Further Research**  
**(see Consultation Question 6 – pg 3\$)**

6. (i) Do you agree that the research projects outlined above are the key areas for further consideration?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

6. (ii) What other areas of research may be beneficial to consider and why?

**Consultation Question 7: A Framework for Action**  
**(see Consultation Question 7 – pg 3%)**

7. (i) Do you agree that the key themes will provide a suitable framework to address the main issues associated with economic inactivity?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

7. (ii) What other framework themes may be beneficial to consider and why?

**Consultation Question 8: Current provision and support available to address economic inactivity**  
**(see Consultation Question 8 – pg 3))**

8. (i) Which existing government service(s) work well in your opinion and why?

8. (ii) What are the main barriers to accessing existing government services and why?

8. (iii) How can existing government services be linked more effectively to make them more user friendly and accessible to the customer?

**Consultation Question 9: New Measures – Competitive Pilot Testing**  
**(see Consultation Question 9 – pg 3, )**

- 9 (i) Do you agree that competitive pilot testing is likely to be the most innovative and cost effective way to identify the best models of future intervention?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

9 (ii) What specific proposals should be considered for pilot project testing and why?

**Consultation Question 10: Increasing employment opportunities and enhancing support and incentives for employers**  
**(see Consultation Question 10 – pg 4))**

10. (i) To what extent do you agree that a controlled use of employer subsidies is potentially the most effective way to increase employment opportunities for the target groups?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

10. (ii) How should an employer subsidy be weighted in terms of the different target inactive groups and existing subsidy schemes?

10. (iii) How should an employer subsidy be structured to ensure that it promotes sustained employment for the target inactive groups?

10. (iv) Do you agree that a guaranteed employment and skills progression route for the target inactive groups should be integral to an employer subsidy incentive scheme?

10. (v) What other stipulations for employers accessing such a subsidy should be considered?

10. (vi) What other alternative incentives could be considered in lieu of an employer subsidy?

10. (vii) What types of in-work support could be provided to both the employer and the individual to help promote sustained employment for the target inactive groups?

**Consultation Question 11: Addressing Wider Barriers**  
**(see Consultation Question 11 – pg 5%)**

11 (i) Do you agree that these are most relevant inactive groups to focus upon in terms of tackling labour market disadvantage?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

11 (ii) Which type of public awareness campaign would be most effective to promote the positive impact of employing older workers?

11 (iii) Which key delivery partners should be considered to ensure that the impact of the public awareness campaign is maximised?

11. (iv) What new measures should be considered to raise awareness levels of mental health issues in the workplace?

11. (v) Which key delivery partners should be considered to ensure that the impact of these new measures is maximised?

**Consultation Question 12: Breaking the Cycle**  
**(see Consultation Question 12 – pg 5\*)**

12. (i) Do you agree that better integration of health and work services is the key preventative measure for reducing in-flows into the target inactive groups?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

12. (ii) How do you see these two sectors integrating in the most effective way both in terms of supporting individuals and employers?

12. (iii) Do you agree with an expert panel approach to explore the feasibility and affordability of expanding and integrating access to health services in Northern Ireland?

Strongly agree      Agree      Neither agree  
nor disagree      Disagree      Strongly  
disagree

Please outline the rationale for your response in the box below:

12. (iv) Who should be represented on the expert panel?

12. (v) What other key preventative measures should be considered to reduce in-flows into the target inactive groups?

**Consultation Question 13: Conclusions**  
**(see Consultation Question 13 – pg 58)**

13. (i) In addition to the approach outlined in the consultation document, what other ways are there to effectively reduce economic inactivity in Northern Ireland in a sustainable and affordable way?

13. (ii) What should be the top three priorities for the NI Executive to effectively reduce economic inactivity?

13. (iii) In terms of prioritisation of government spending, do you feel that tackling economic inactivity should be a key spending area?

13. (iv) The working title of the strategy is “Enabling Success – Driving Social Change Through Economic Participation – A Strategy to Tackle Economic Inactivity in Northern Ireland” - do you consider this title adequately encapsulates the purpose of the strategy?

Yes

No

Please outline any alternative titles in the box below:

13. (v) Please outline any other comments you may have that have not been specifically addressed elsewhere in the consultation document.

## **Additional Information**

- (i) Please use this section as a continuation of any previous responses as required. Please clearly state the consultation question number in each instance.



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When you press the submit button your form will be emailed to Department for Employment and Learning - [economicinactivityconsultation@delni.gov.uk](mailto:economicinactivityconsultation@delni.gov.uk)

Note: to use the submit button you will need to be able to access an email account  
Desktop applications, such as Outlook, should automatically generate an email. For web-based accounts, you will be prompted to save the form and attach it manually to an email.

**THE DEPARTMENT:**

Our aim is to promote learning and skills, to prepare people for work and to support the economy.

This document is available in other formats upon request.

## **Further Information:**

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