

Consulting and Involving Children and Young People

Under [Section 75 \(2\) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998](#) the Department has a duty to consult directly with children and young people.

The Equality Commission recently launched guidance, "**Let's Talk, Let's Listen**", for public authorities on consulting and involving children and young people. The guidance highlights why it is important to consult with children and young people who are affected by policies and provides advice on best practice. The guidance can be viewed at:

[http://www.equalityni.org/archive/LetsTalkLetsListen\(Final\).pdf](http://www.equalityni.org/archive/LetsTalkLetsListen(Final).pdf)

The Equality Commission will be providing briefings on the guidance targeted at policymakers and information about these sessions will be circulated in due course.

[DN: What can we say about training at this stage?]

Meantime, the guidance should be considered when consulting/engaging with people likely to be affected by proposed strategies and policies.