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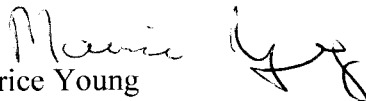
3 January 2008

DHSSPS
Investing for Health Unit
Health Improvement Policy Board (Tobacco Control)
Room C4.22
Castle Buildings
Belfast BT4 3SQ

Dear Sirs

Please find enclosed completed response to proposals concerning the minimum age of sale of tobacco products.

Yours faithfully


Maurice Young
Director of Environmental Health

Enc



JOHN A. McLAUGHLIN
Chief Executive

J. J. TOHILL
Director of Finance
and Administration

T. J. JOHNSTON
Director of Operations

M. M. YOUNG
Director of
Environmental Health

W. I. GLENDINNING
Director of Building
Control

QUESTIONNAIRE

Q1. Article 14 of the Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 provides the power for the Department to amend the age of sale of tobacco products, but this must not be lower than the present age of 16 years. Do you think the Department should:

continue with the present age limit of 16;

increase the age limit to 17; or

increase the age limit to 18?

Please tick the appropriate box to indicate which of the options you favour.

No Change

Increase to 17

Increase to 18

If you wish to comment on your preferred option, please do so here.

General

Q2. Do you have any views on the conclusions reached by the Department to screen out from further assessment the implications of the proposals in respect of:

- (a) **Social Impact Assessment (New TSN, Homelessness etc);**
- (b) **Rural ;**
- (c) **Environmental;**
- (d) **Human Rights;**
- (e) **Victims;**
- (f) **Community Safety & Other Areas?**

Is there any other evidence which you consider should have been taken into account in these assessments?

No.

The Department would particularly welcome comments on the following:

Q3. Do you agree with the decision that the proposals do not require a full equality impact assessment? (see Annex 1 of consultation package). If not, please explain why?

YES

Q4. Is there any other qualitative or quantitative information which you consider should have been taken into account in performing this exercise?

no.

Q5. Are you aware of any evidence - qualitative or quantitative - that the proposals may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or on good relations? If so, please provide details. Can you suggest any ways of avoiding or minimising such adverse impact?

no

Q6. Are you aware of any other equality implications likely to arise from the proposals?

no

Partial Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)

(see Annex 2 of consultation package)

Health

Q7. Do you have any views on the assessment of health impacts?

ASSESSMENT IS LIMITED BUT GIVEN THE
SUBJECT MATTER, CAN ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO
HEALTH IMPROVEMENTS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AND
POTENTIAL DECREASE IN FUTURE SMOKE

Q8. Are there any other potential health impacts that you consider should have been addressed?

NO

Q9. Is there any other material evidence which you consider should have been taken into account in this assessment of health impacts?

NO

Economic

Q10. Do you have any general comments on the overall approach that was taken in completing the RIA?

no.

Q11. Do you consider that there are other issues which need to be taken into account in the assessment of the impact on business?

Q12. Do you agree with the analysis of the sectors and business/organisations which might be particularly affected by the proposals?

yes

Q13. What are your views on the identification and assessment of the costs and benefits?

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Public Expenditure and Public Service

Q14. Do you agree with the Department's view that a separate Economic Appraisal is not required?

Yes

Impact on Small Businesses

Q15. Do you agree that the proposals will not have a disproportionate impact on small businesses?

Yes

Q16. Are there any impacts on small businesses that you consider should have been addressed?

NO.

Q17. Is there any other material evidence which you consider should have been taken into account in assessing the impact on small businesses?

NO.

Rural Proofing

Q18. Do you agree that the proposals will not have a disproportionate adverse impact on rural business?

Yes

Q19. Are there any rural impacts that you consider should have been addressed?

no.

Q20. Is there any other material evidence which you consider should have been taken into account in this assessment of rural impacts?

no

Additional Comments

Q21. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the Integrated Impact Assessment Overview? (Annex 1 of consultation package)

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Thank you for taking time to complete this Questionnaire.

Mcllwraith, Lorraine

From: Mcllwraith, Lorraine
Sent: 08 January 2008 15:41
To: 'envhealth@magherafelt.gov.uk'
Subject: Consultation Response

Dear Maurice

Consultation Questionnaire on Minimum Age of Sale of Tobacco Products

Thank you for your response of 2nd January 2008, to the consultation on the minimum age of sale of tobacco products. The consultation period ends on 18th January 2008. Your response together with other responses received will be evaluated and analysed by the Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety.

Many Thanks
Lorraine Mcllwraith
Health Improvement Policy Branch
DHSSPS