

Director of Disability and Older People



Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast BT4 3SQ

Email: ldsm@health-ni.gov.uk

Date: 19 August 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICE MODEL

The Department of Health is inviting you to respond to the public consultation on the draft Learning Disability Service Model.

The draft model sets out learning disability services through the lens of regional consistency and supporting need at an early stage in the community. It sets out the Department's vision for life changes, health & wellbeing, families & carers, meaningful lives & citizenship, home, and mental ill health & behaviours of distress or concern.

We would encourage everyone and every organisation with an interest in learning disability to consider the document and send in their views and comments.

Attached is a copy of the Learning Disability Service Model (including a draft Service Delivery Plan) and consultation questionnaire.

The consultation documents are available on the Department's website at <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/learning-disability-service-model> and on Citizen Space at <https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-1/learning-disability-service-model>.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 5pm on 25 November 2025.

An Easy Read of the Learning Disability Model and questionnaire is available online. It was made by TILII Translates, a group of adults with a learning disability, autism and other support needs who are experts at making information easier to understand. TILII Translates is part of Telling It Like It Is (TILII), an advocacy group that supports people to speak up for themselves.

TILII is one of the lead projects within the Association for Real Change (ARC), a leading umbrella body representing the learning disability community and is a key partner for DoH in helping to deliver services in the learning disability sector. Their purpose is to improve the quality of life for people who have a learning disability, autism and other support needs.

Responses can be made by completing the online consultation or by completing the consultation document and emailing your response to ldsm@health-ni.gov.uk.

If you would prefer to respond by post, please post your response to:

Learning Disability and Autism Unit
Castle Buildings
Belfast
BT4 3SQ

If, for any reason, you are unable to access the documents or require an alternative format, please e-mail the address above.

Thank you for your participation; your views and experience will be welcomed as we work together to improve our support and services for autism.

Your sincerely



Mark McGuicken
Director of Disability and Older People