



Title of Paper: <u>DoH Consultation – Being Open Framework</u>		
<u>For Decision</u>	<u>For Discussion</u>	<u>For Noting</u>
Requires majority decision prior to implementation or action.	Requires consideration and debate.	Contains information Members should be made aware.

1.0 Background

The Department of Health is undertaking a consultation on the introduction of a Being Open Framework and the establishment of a Duty of Candour in Northern Ireland. The consultation opened on 10 December 2024. The closing date is 12 March 2025.

2.0 Key Issues

The consultation is seeking views on the draft Framework which aims to ensure that:

- all people in contact with HSC organisations can expect to be treated in an open, fair and compassionate way;
- patients and those close to them will be listened to, understood and treated with respect;
- HSC staff have visible, engaged and inclusive leadership and
- senior leaders will listen to concerns and create safe spaces for learning.

DoH are seeking feedback from stakeholders which will help inform the final policy position and the drafting of a Being Open Framework.

DoH are welcoming online responses – the link to which can be accessed here:

[Being Open Framework consultation | Department of Health](#)

3.0 Resources Implications (inc Organisational, Financial, Human Resources)

No additional resource required.

4.0 Impact on Safety, Quality and Experience (SQE)

Trust Board has been briefed previously on the draft Framework. No additional impact on SQE arises from the launch of the Public Consultation.

5.0 Key Risks and Proposals to Mitigate

No identifiable risks for the Trust.