

BELFAST EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD
NORTH EASTERN EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD
SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD
SOUTHERN EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD
WESTERN EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT
ON THE SCREENING OF POLICIES
APRIL 2010 - MARCH 2011

This information can also be made available, on request, in alternative formats including in large print, in Braille, by e-mail, on computer disc, on audio-cassette and in minority languages to meet the needs of those people who are not fluent in English.



September 2011

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April 2010 - March 2011.**

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INTRODUCTION

The Belfast, North Eastern, South Eastern and Western Education and Library Boards have equality screened the following policies during the past year (April 2010 – March 2011). During this period the Southern Education and Library Board and the Staff Commission for Education and Library Boards had no new policies screened.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Listed below are the policies screened by each Board and the results of the screening. If you wish to see any or all of these policies, please contact:-

Mrs Patricia Murray, Project Officer, Staff Commission for Education & Library Boards
Forestview, Purdy's Lane, Belfast BT8 7AR

Tel. No. 028 9049 1461 **Typetalk:** 18001 028 9049 1461 **Fax No.** 028 9049 1744

Email: patricia.murray@scelb.org.uk

INTRA-BOARD POLICY

BELFAST EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD

POLICY:

Proposal to cease education provision in Beechfield Primary School from September 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter (Development Proposal 196)

Summary:

The Board consulted on the proposal to cease education provision at Beechfield Primary School in the light of a continuing decline in pupil numbers and concerns regarding delivery of the statutory curriculum from September 2010. A development proposal was published in June 2010 following which there was a statutory two month period during which interested parties/ individuals could express their opinions directly to the Department of Education. At this time the pupil population in the school had declined to 42 pupils spread over the classes P1-P7 and a number of composite classes were already in place.

The Board engaged in consultation with Governors, parents, staff, other schools and Section 75 consultees. Only 1 response was received in respect of the Section 75 consultation exercise which commented that the school was no longer viable and that the children would benefit from integration into nearby schools.

There were no pupils in attendance at the school in September 2010 and on 24 September 2010 the Education Minister approved the development proposal.

Decision:

No equality impact assessment required.

POLICY:

Proposal to cease education provision on Grove Primary School site and provide education for children of Grove and Seaview Primary Schools on the Seaview site from September 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter (Development Proposal 197)

Summary:

The Board consulted on the proposal to cease education provision at Grove Primary School in the light of a continuing decline in pupil numbers and concerns regarding delivery of the statutory curriculum from September 2010. A development proposal was published in June 2010 following which there was a statutory two month period during which interested parties/individuals could express their opinions directly to the Department of Education. At this time the pupil population was 72 pupils spread over the classes P1-P7 and there were a number of composite classes already in place.

The Board engaged in consultation with Governors, parents, staff, other schools and Section 75 consultees. Only 1 response was received in respect of the Section 75 consultation exercise which commented that the children involved would benefit from education provision in a larger school setting.

There were only 5 pupils enrolled at the school in September 2010 and on 6 October 2010 the Education Minister approved the development proposal.

Decision:

No equality impact assessment required.

NORTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD

POLICY:

Youth Service Social Networking Policy

Summary:

This policy provides guidance to youth service staff on engaging and safeguarding young people accessing the internet and social networking sites within youth ICT suites.

Decision:

No equality impact assessment required.

SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD

POLICY:

To close Ballycloughan Primary School with effect from 31 December 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter (Development Proposal 216)

Summary:

The Board consulted on the proposal to cease education provision at Ballycloughan Primary School with the aim of addressing the schools declining enrolment trend which was affecting the delivery of the statutory curriculum. In addition it would also address the over provision of school places in the controlled estate in the area. A Development Proposal was published in April 2010 following which there was a statutory two month period during which interested parties/individuals could express their opinions to the Department of Education.

The Board engaged in consultation with governors, parents, school staff, other schools affected by the proposal and section 75 consultees. Forty three written responses were received, a number of which objected to the closure of the school partway through the year (31 December).

The Education Minister approved an amended Development Proposal on 22 October 2010 that the school should close with effect from 31 August 2011.

Decision:

No equality impact assessment required.

WESTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD

POLICY:

School Transport in Exceptional Circumstances

Summary:

The aim of this policy is to specify the criteria and conditions under which the WELB will consider making special arrangements for school transport as a temporary measure in an emergency situation e.g., intimidation leading to the enforced relocation of a family or where there are child protection concerns, including bullying. The policy will support vulnerable children deemed to be "in need" in terms of the Children (NI) Order 1995 and as such is fully compatible with the Board's obligations under the equality duties.

Decision:

No equality impact assessment required.

CONCLUSION

The Boards are seeking comments on the screening of these policies. If you have any comments or if you require further information please contact Patricia Murray, the Boards' Equality Co-ordinator for this exercise. Contact details:

Mrs Patricia Murray
Project Officer
Staff Commission for Education and Library Boards
Forestview
Purdy's Lane
Belfast BT8 7AR

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E-mail: patricia.murray@scelb.org.uk

Any comments you wish to make on the screening exercise should be made on or before **Friday, 9 December 2011.**

A response pro forma is enclosed which may be of assistance to you.

EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARDS

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

**SCREENING OF POLICIES
(April 2010 - March 2011)**

RESPONSE PRO FORMA

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Of the policies listed, please identify any which are of particular relevance or interest to you or your organisation.

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2. Please identify those policies which you feel have significant equality implications.

Policy	Comments

3. If you feel that any of the policies “screened out” require equality impact assessment please state your reasons for this bearing in mind the four screening criteria:
- Is there any evidence, or other reason to believe, that there is a higher or lower participation or uptake by different groups?
 - Is there any evidence, or other reason to believe that different groups have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to the particular policy?
 - Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or better community relations by altering the policy or working with others in government or in the wider community?
 - Have consultations with relevant groups, organisations or individuals indicated that particular policies create problems which are specific to them?

Policy	Reason for Impact Assessment

4. Any other comments?

Please return to:

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 Project Officer,
 Staff Commission for Education & Library Boards,
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Closing Date: Friday 9 December 2011