

FROM THE MINISTER



Department for
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**Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
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27 March 2013

AQW 21122/11-15

Mr Nesbitt has asked:

To ask the Minister for Employment and Learning (i) the number of public consultations undertaken by his Department, in each year since 2007; (ii) the type of consultation; and (iii) the total cost of each consultation.

ANSWER

A total of 41 public consultations have been undertaken by my Department since 2007 at a cost of £97,000, excluding staff costs. A detailed breakdown of these figures is provided at Annex A.

**DR STEPHEN FARRY MLA
Minister for Employment and Learning**



Calendar Year in which the consultation commenced	Title of Public Consultation	Total Cost of individual Public Consultation	Type of consultation
2007	Consultation on the review of Higher Education in Further Education, including Foundation Degrees	4,237.06	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Additional Paternity Leave and Pay: Consultation on Administration	738.86	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Changes to Recruitment Industry Law and Related Guidance	234.48	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Public Consultation on draft Regulations to Increase Paid Holiday Entitlement (1)	489.05	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Public Consultation on draft Regulations to Increase Paid Holiday Entitlement (2)	2,779.97	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Proposed amendments to the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to alter the composition of governing bodies of colleges of further education	Nil	Online
2007	Further Education Means Business - Policy Proposals	3,745.00	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2007	Disability Action Plan	Nil	E-mailed to Section 75 Groups
2007	Preparing for Success - A Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Strategy for Northern Ireland	Nil	Online publication only. Consultation prepared jointly by DEL & DE officials.
2008	Consultation on Proposals to Amend Trade Union Law	441.55	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2008	Employment Agencies and Businesses: Proposed Changes to Investigation Powers and Penalty Regime	213.95	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2008	New Regulatory Arrangements for Vocational Qualifications in Northern Ireland	Nil	Online

Calendar Year in which the consultation commenced	Title of Public Consultation	Total Cost of individual Public Consultation	Type of consultation
2009	Development of a Higher Education Strategy for Northern Ireland	32,935.84	HE Strategy Steering Group, Project Group, 5 Expert Groups, Pre-consultation event, Public Consultation and supporting public consultation events
2009	Disputes in the Workplace: a Systems Review	5,459.73	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	Flexible Working and Time to Train: Proposed extension of Flexible Working Law. Introduction of a new right to request time to train.	72.35	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	Employment tribunal claims and the Public Interest Disclosure Act	67.39	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	Choice for Families: Additional Paternity Leave and Pay: Consultation on Draft Regulations	68.94	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	Implementation of the European Works Council Directive 2009/38/EC	123.00	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	An Amendment to the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005	81.64	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2009	Qualifications required to teaching in institutions of Further Education	Nil	Online
2010	A Consultation on a Regional Strategy for Widening Participation in Higher Education	11,696.43	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2010	Regulations to Prohibit the Blacklisting of Trade Union Members	471.58	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.

Calendar Year in which the consultation commenced	Title of Public Consultation	Total Cost of individual Public Consultation	Type of consultation
2010	The Agency Workers Directive	483.52	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2010	Disability Action Plan	Nil	E-mailed to Section 75 Groups
2010	Government STEM Strategy	2,251.16	Online Design and publication of consultation document
2010	Success through Skills 2	6,734.00	Online Design and publication of consultation document
2011	Evaluation of Foundation Degree Forward	405.00	Online and postal questionnaires
2011	Proposed discontinuance of Stranmillis University College and its proposed merger with the Queen's University of Belfast	4,066.00	Online. Consultation launched at public event at Stranmillis University College, consultation document placed on DEL website and copies circulated to a list of consultees.
2011	Future policy on higher education tuition fees and student finance arrangements in Northern Ireland	5,246.00	Hard copy and online.
2011	Call for evidence in relation to the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 and the Service Provision Change (Protection of Employment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006	27.74	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2011	Qualifications required to deliver Essential Skills	340.00	Online
2011	Draft Equality Scheme	Nil	E-mailed to Section 75 Groups
2011	Audit Of Inequalities & Action Plan	Nil	E-mailed to Section 75 Groups
2011	Disability Action Plan	Nil	E-mailed to Section 75 Groups
2011	A Strategy for those not in Education, Employment or Training.	2,578.00	Online and public meetings
2012	Future of Education Maintenance Allowance Scheme	973.00	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.

Calendar Year in which the consultation commenced	Title of Public Consultation	Total Cost of individual Public Consultation	Type of consultation
2012	Employment Law Review - discussion paper	177.14	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2012	Implementation of EU Directive: Extension to Parental Leave Entitlement	76.71	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2012	Consultation on the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 and the Service Provisions Change (Protection of Employment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006	298.90	On line (DEL website), Hardcopy distribution and notification letter/e-mails.
2012	Proposals to Widen the Powers of the General Teaching Council for NI and Extend Its Remit to Include the FE Sector	420.00	Online
2012	STEPS2SUCCESS(NI)	8,992.59	Online and information sessions
		Total	96,926.58