



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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Our Ref: CSD/011/2011/SK

Mr Nelson McCausland MLA
Minister for Social Development
Department for Social Development
Lighthouse Building
1 Cromac Place
Gasworks Business Park
Ormeau Road
Belfast BT7 2JB

Dear Nelson

On behalf of the Social Development Committee, I would like to submit the attached response to the Equality Impact Assessment on the Proposals for a Pensions Bill.

However, the Committee has also asked me to convey its disappointment that the Department laid the completed Equality Impact Assessment in the Business Office without having received the Committee's formal response to the EQIA. This is despite the Committee having the role as a super consultee and despite

the Committee noting in its official minutes of the 13 October that it *would* make a formal response.

I entrust that you will ensure that this misunderstanding does not happen again.

Yours sincerely

Alex Maskey
Chair, Committee for Social Development