Social Security Policy and Legislation Division

Dr Kevin Pelan Committee for Social Development Room 284 Parliament Buildings Stormont BELFAST BT4 3XX



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Your reference:

Our reference: DS1/14/83703

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Dear Kevin

Briefing – Proposed Pensions Bill Equality Impact Assessment

Officials from Social Security, Policy & Legislation Division are scheduled to brief the Committee on 6 March in relation to the proposed Pensions Bill Equality Impact Assessment.

The consultation period ran from 21 November 2013 to 14 February 2014 and responses were received from:

- Advice NI
- Northern Ireland Public Sector Alliance
- Women's Support Network

In general, the respondents expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed changes to State pension age, the frequency of pension payments, pensioner poverty and the impact of the changes on women.

In advance of the briefing session please find attached:

- An outline of the main provisions in the Bill;
- A summary of the impacts;
- A summary of the issues raised; and
- Copies of the responses received.

Yours faithfully

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Anne McCleary Social Security Policy & Legislation Division