

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

Abandonment of Academic Selection

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Legislation

Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, as amended by Article 24 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 2003



When is a Development Proposal needed?

- *Establishment of a new school or unit within a school*
- *Seeking grant-aid for an existing school*
- *Discontinuance of a school*
- *To make a significant change in character or size of a school; and*
- *To make a change to a schools which will have a significant effect on another grant-aided school.*

Stages of the DP Process

- *Pre-publication consultation*
- *Publication*
- *Statutory 2 month period for representations*
- *Decision*

Purpose

- **Inform key stakeholders**
 - Scope
 - Timing
- **Provide opportunity for interested parties to comment**
 - Support
 - Object

Pre-publication consultation stages

1. *The Proposer consults with directly affected parties*
2. *ELBs consult with any schools they consider may be directly affected*

The Department has no role in this stage of the process

Publication

- Development Proposal to ELB for publication
- ELBs publish all Development Proposals
- Proposal published in local and national newspapers

Statutory Consultation

- Publication triggers a two month statutory consultation period
- Anyone can make their views known to the Department
- All comments received at this stage will be taken account of in reaching a decision

Decision

- All Development Proposals are submitted to the Minister for a decision
- Each DP is considered on its specific merits
- Supporting documentation

Making the Decision

Supporting Evidence

- The case made by the proposer
 - Scope and timing of proposal
 - Evidence of consultation with other interested parties
 - Rationale for change
 - Compliance with DE Policies
 - Intended benefits
 - Financial implications

Making the Decision

- Wider Policy Context
 - Area Planning
 - Sustainable Schools
 - Every School A Good School
 - Revised Curriculum
 - Entitlement Framework
 - Affordability

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Specific issues:-

- Provision in the area
- Previous intake patterns
 - Proposing school
 - Other local schools
- Intended benefits
 - Pupils in proposing school
 - Pupils in wider local community
- Managing change

DE Guidance

What will it cover?

- **Process**
 - Steps
 - Roles and responsibilities
- **Templates**
 - Development proposal for publication
 - Supporting evidence