

**PRESUMPTION OF DEATH BILL
(NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008**

REPORT ON CONSULTATION

Civil Law Reform Division
Departmental Solicitor's Office
Department of Finance and Personnel
May 2008

INTRODUCTION

1. On 23rd January 2008 the Department of Finance and Personnel (“the Department”) published a Consultation Paper (“the Paper”) on a draft Presumption of Death Bill (Northern Ireland) 2008. The draft Bill is designed to provide a comprehensive legal framework addressing the wider needs of the families of people from Northern Ireland who go missing. It is both intended to help address the immediate concerns of the families of the disappeared and also be a useful piece of law reform.
2. The Bill has two primary client groups.

(1) The disappeared

At the time of writing there remain nine individuals who were abducted and murdered during the Troubles whose remains have still not been located, despite the ongoing efforts of the *Independent Commission for the Location of Victims’ Remains (ICLVR)*. The families of some of the disappeared had expressed concerns that there is no facility within Northern Ireland law to allow the deaths of their family member to be registered by the Registrar General and death certificates made available to the families.

(2) Other missing persons

Several thousand persons are reported missing each year in Northern Ireland, the largest group of them young people absent from care. While the vast majority of all missing persons return home within 72 hours, there will always remain some people who are reported missing and who never return home and from whom nothing more is heard or known. From the circumstances of the disappearance it may often be inferred that the person has died at their own hand or in some freak accident – the personal belongings found near a cliff edge or onboard a ferry etc. For others it will likely be the passage of time itself which points to a conclusion that the missing person is dead.

CONSULTATION

3. The consultation on the draft Bill ran from 23rd January to 15th April 2008. Over 600 copies of the paper were distributed to a wide range of organisations and individuals including political parties, MLAs and MPs, local councils, faith groups and churches and local and voluntary groups as well as interested individuals. A full list of those who received the Paper from the Department is included in Part 2 of the Appendix to this report. The Victims’ Unit of OFMDFM also circulated copies of the Paper on the Department’s behalf to victims’ groups in Northern Ireland. A reminder letter was issued on 26th March 2008 to selected non-respondents encouraging responses by 15th April 2008.
4. Publication of the Paper was accompanied by the issue of a Press Release and the placing of public notices in the *Belfast Telegraph*,

Newsletter and *Irish News*. The Paper was also placed on the Department's website.

5. During the course of the consultation period officials met with several of the families of the disappeared (20th March 2008) to discuss their concerns. The meeting was organised by *WAVE* and the Department is very grateful for that organisation's assistance in providing a forum for the views of the families to be heard. While all the families were invited to participate in the meeting, some viewed the idea of discussing how to obtain death certificates too difficult and declined the invitation.
6. The Department is grateful to those who took the time to meet with officials or who responded in writing.

RESPONSE

7. Seven written responses were received during the consultation period. A List of those who responded is contained in Part 1 of the Appendix to this report.

CONSULTATION PAPER

8. Section 1 of the Paper set out the background to the project and explained those aspects of current law which deal with presumed deaths in specific circumstances and highlighted the gaps in existing legal provision. The Department identified a number of options for reform but concluded that what was needed was a new comprehensive piece of legislation similar to the Presumption of Death (Scotland) Act 1977. The Paper therefore proceeded on the assumption that there would be new legislation in Northern Ireland addressing the issues which arise when a person goes missing.
9. The primary content of the new legislation is the creation of a new right to apply to the High Court for a declaration that a person may be presumed dead on the basis that there is evidence that the missing person (a) died during a particular period of time as a result of a particular event or (b) has not been known to be alive for a period of more than 7 years.
10. The consultation issues upon which the Department sought views concerned specific matters relating to the operation of the proposed new statutory High Court jurisdiction and issues surrounding human rights compliance and equality and regulatory impacts.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

11. Since the Department assumed responsibility for this project several other organisations have begun work on projects dealing with the legal consequences of a person going missing.

(1) Council of Europe

In 2007 the Committee of Experts on Family Law of the Council of Europe established a Working Party on Missing Persons. That Working Party prepared a preliminary study on "*missing persons, presumption of death and commorientes following, in particular, terrorist attacks and natural disasters*". The Committee of Experts considered the Working Party's initial report in November 2007. As part of its deliberations the Working Party has been examining the **Convention relating to the establishment of death in certain cases** of the International Commission on Civil Status signed at Athens on 14 September 1966. The UK is not a party to this Convention. It is envisaged that the Working Party will continue its deliberations during 2008 with a view to making a final report about the form of a new legal instrument which the Council of Europe may adopt. It is likely a new instrument will take the form of a recommendation rather than a new Convention.

(2) Law Reform Commission, Ireland

The Law Reform Commission of Ireland published its Third Programme of Law Reform in December 2007. The Commission has identified "**Civil Law Aspects of the Law of Missing Persons**" as a new law reform project. It explains the project as follows:

"This project will examine the civil law aspects of missing persons, including the presumption of death, the issuing of a death certificate and the effect of a declaration of presumed death. The project will examine the effect on the civil status of those left behind (such as married status) and the succession and property rights of the missing person and those left behind."

Officials in the Department are in touch with colleagues in Dublin on matters of common interest regarding the law on missing persons.

CONSULTATION ISSUES

12. Since the Paper proceeded on the basis that the Executive was committed to introducing new legislation, the Department did not seek views on whether new legislation was necessary or desirable. Rather, the Paper set out to explain the key features of the proposed High Court jurisdiction and raised questions about specific elements of the process, in particular the jurisdictional rules, the powers of the court and the effect of a declaration. The Paper raised 10 specific consultation issues.

General comment

13. All of those who responded considered that new legislation dealing with the problems associated with missing persons was to be welcomed or supported. In commenting generally on the draft Bill respondents acknowledged that legislative intervention can only go so far to ease the pain and anguish of the families and friends left behind when a person goes missing, whatever the circumstances of the disappearance. One respondent put the matter as follows:

“New legislation cannot cure or remove the psychological impact felt by the families but it can deal with the practical problems more effectively and sympathetically than the law does at present. In doing so, it may alleviate some of the pressures on the families.” (Church of Ireland)

Addressing the needs of the families of the disappeared

14. As noted in paragraph 5 above, officials met with some of the families of the disappeared under the auspices of WAVE. The views of the families were also put to us in written responses from WAVE and Eastern Health & Social Services Board.

15. The families of the disappeared have welcomed the draft Bill in so far as it will assist in general terms the families of those who go missing. They consider, however, that it:

“does not meet the particular needs of the families of the ‘Disappeared’”.

Both orally and in writing that have indicated that given the unique and exceptional circumstances surrounding the disappearance of their loved ones the situation of the families of the disappeared is different from those of other families whose family member goes missing. The response from WAVE has raised the question of what role might be played by the *Independent Commission for the Location of Victims’ Remains* in verifying the deaths of the disappeared. They have also queried whether the deaths of the disappeared should be described as “presumed” given the admission of responsibility by certain organisations for their abduction and murder.

Legal aid

16. One issue not discussed in the Paper but raised with the Department on consultation was the availability for legal aid (public legal funding) for proceedings under the new legislation. The response from WAVE also asked for consideration to be given to assisting the families with the cost of undertaking the necessary legal proceedings.

Issue 1 – applications to the High Court

17. Paragraphs 30 to 35 of the Paper explained the circumstances in which a person may apply to the High Court for a declaration of presumed death in relation to a missing person and asked:

Do consultees agree with the formulation of the jurisdictional rules in Clause 1(2) of the draft Bill?

18. As currently drafted the Bill allows any person with an interest to apply to the High Court for a declaration. However, the Bill provides that the High Court can only hear cases in relation to missing persons who were domiciled or habitually resident in Northern Ireland, except where the applicant is the spouse or civil partner of the missing person. In that case, it is sufficient for the applicant to have a connection to Northern

Ireland by being domiciled or habitually resident here. Special provision is made for applications by the spouse or civil partner in Clause 1(3) in that such applicants will be deemed to have a sufficient interest in seeking the declaration under Clause 1(1).

19. In Annex B to the Paper the Department had explored in some detail the potential adverse equality implications of the jurisdictional rules which do not place cohabitants in the same privileged position as spouses or civil partners of the missing person. The Paper also noted that the draft Bill did not contain a jurisdictional rule analogous to that in section 230 Civil Partnership Act 2004 to the effect that a person who formed a civil partnership in Northern Ireland should have access to the High Court notwithstanding that person did not satisfy the domicile or habitual residence requirements.

Response

20. The jurisdictional rules were broadly welcomed by the majority of respondents. However two respondents expressed some concerns. The Eastern Health & Social Services Board noted that the draft Bill applied only to people normally domiciled in Northern Ireland. Noting that the *International Commission for the Location of Victims' Remains* is an all-island body, there is a suggestion that some of the disappeared within the remit of the Commission may not be domiciled in Northern Ireland and may fall outside the scope of the draft Bill.
21. A second respondent (Mr Alan Hewitt, retired former partner L'Estrange & Brett) queried the need for Clause 1(2)(b)(ii) which allows a spouse or civil partner of a non Northern Ireland domiciled missing person to apply to the High Court if that spouse or civil partner can establish domicile or habitual residence. He noted that in a given situation neither the missing person nor the applicant may have any real connection with Northern Ireland. However, if the applicant moves to Northern Ireland (say from England) he or she may apply to the High Court in Northern Ireland even though the marriage or civil partnership was formed in England and the missing person and the applicant were both domiciled in England at the time of the disappearance.
22. Only one respondent addressed the issues noted in paragraph 18 above and agreed that the draft Bill produced no unfair disadvantage for either cohabitants or non-domicile civil partners of a missing person.
23. In respect of the requirement to advertise the making of an application for a declaration under Clause 1 the WAVE response suggested that this additional burden should not be imposed on applications from the families of the disappeared.

Issue 2 – duration of disappearance (Clause 1)

24. Paragraphs 38 to 40 of the Paper addressed the length of time which a person must be missing before the High Court will conclude that the person may be presumed dead (except in cases where evidence points to death a particular time). The Paper noted that the common law requires a minimum absence of 7 years. The Department asked:

Do consultees agree the High Court should have power to make a declaration of presumed death where a person has not been known to be alive for a period of seven years or more?

Response

25. Two respondents (Eastern Health & Social Services Board and WAVE) considered that the seven year period was too long. It was suggested that families affected by the disappearance of a loved one would consider a five year period as more appropriate.
26. Other respondents who commented considered the seven year period to be appropriate.

Issue 3 – effect of the declaration of presumed death (Clause 3)

27. Paragraphs 42 to 44 of the Paper discussed the effect which a declaration of presumed death would have. The effect of a declaration is that the missing person is regarded in law as dead. Following the making of the declaration it is as if the missing person had died and his or her body found and the death registered in accordance with the general rules as set out in the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

28. The Department recognised that there may be additional sensitivities involved where the missing person was married or in a civil partnership and the spouse or civil partner is not the applicant and does not wish the marriage or civil partnership to be brought to an end. The Department's view was that it would not be right to seek to protect the status of the subsisting marriage or civil partnership. The Department asked:

Do consultees agree that a declaration of presumed death should be binding on all persons and for all purposes, including the dissolution of the missing person's marriage or civil partnership?

Response

29. Apart from one respondent, all those who commented agreed that a declaration of presumed death should be binding on all persons and for all purposes. Although recognising that the making of a declaration may involve ending a person's marriage or civil partnership against their wishes respondents acknowledged the Department's explanation that it is undesirable for a person to be recognised as dead for some purposes but not others.

30. One respondent did not believe that a declaration should in every case be binding on all persons for all purposes (Mr Alan Hewitt, retired former partner, L'Estrange & Brett). A concern was raised about the provision in Clause 3(2) (that a declaration shall bind the Crown) to the extent that this might possibly prevent criminal or civil proceedings against a missing person who has gone missing to avoid criminal or tax problems. The same respondent also queried the availability of remedies in cases where an insurance fraud was being perpetrated if the 5 year rule applied automatically to prevent the High Court from making an order for restitution under Clause 6(2).

Issue 4 – ancillary powers of the court (Clause 4)

31. Paragraphs 48 to 51 of the Paper explained briefly the ancillary powers which the High Court might require in cases where it makes a declaration of presumed death. We would expect that in the majority of cases the applicant will seek only the declaration of presumed death and there will be no cause for the High Court to make further orders relating to property rights or determinations in relation to domicile or interests in the property of the missing person. If further action is required it is likely that this will relate to the administration of the estate of the missing person and in such a case the existing law governing succession to the estates of deceased persons will apply.
32. The Department asked:

Do consultees consider that the range of ancillary powers available to the High Court is appropriate?

Response

33. Those who responded generally agreed that the draft Bill contained sufficient ancillary powers to enable the High Court to deal with the cases which came before it. A concern was expressed by the Northern Bank Ltd that the draft Bill did not give the High Court “leave to grant ancillary orders to corporate entities, especially creditors, with an interest in the missing person’s property” and sought clarification.

Issue 5 – insurance (Clause 7)

34. Recent press reports have highlighted the real but rare possibility that a person who has been declared to be dead will in fact still be alive. This could happen either through simple mistake where the person declared dead had simply wanted to break contact with his or her family and was unaware that the disappearance had resulted in court proceedings for a declaration of presumed death. Or, the declaration of presumed death may have been obtained by fraud.
35. Issues 5 and 6 in the Paper addressed two questions which may arise if the original declaration of presumed death was either granted by mistake and requires to be revoked or where new evidence has come to light as to the time of death of the missing person.

36. In paragraphs 52 to 54 of the Paper the Department explained the need for Clause 7 of the Bill which deals with insurance issues which arise following the making of a declaration of presumed death. Although modelled on section 6 of the Presumption of Death (Scotland) Act 1977, Clause 7 departed from the Scottish model in its treatment of insurance monies paid out on foot of a declaration. The Department asked:

Do consultees agree that the payment of insurance monies by way of annuity or periodical payment should be treated in the same way as payment of a capital lump sum?

Response

37. While the inclusion in the draft Bill of a requirement on certain persons to take out insurance to cover subsequent claims was accepted in principle, two respondents expressed some reservations. One respondent questioned the reasons for departing from the insurance provisions in the Presumption of Death (Scotland) Act 1977 which exclude the obligation to repay capital sums paid by an insurer by way of an annuity and other periodical payment. It was suggested by the Church of Ireland that depending on the actual amount of any annuity or periodical payment the person in receipt of such a payment may find it difficult financially to raise the amount of any insurance premiums payable, as would be required by Clause 7(3).

38. The other issue raised with us was the general cost of taking out the insurance. It was suggested that unless there is conclusive evidence that the missing person was dead the premiums could be prohibitively expensive (Alan Hewitt, retired former partner L'Estrange & Brett). Further clarification of this issue with the insurance industry was suggested.

Issue 6 – effect on property rights of variation order (Clause 6)

39. Paragraphs 55 to 59 of the Paper explained that the High Court would have power to vary or revoke a declaration of presumed death. The need to vary the terms of the declaration may arise because new evidence comes to light that the person may be presumed to have died at a time or date other than that specified in the declaration. The need to revoke the declaration will arise if the missing person turns out to be alive.

40. If the declaration has been revoked the question arises as to whether any property of the missing person or its value can be returned to him or her. Clause 6 sets out the circumstances in which the High Court can make an order for the return of property to the missing person following a revocation of the declaration. It also deals with cases where a new time of presumed death of the missing person (a variation of the declaration) might result in the property of the missing person being

transferred to persons other than the original recipients. The Department asked:

Do consultees agree that a variation or revocation of a declaration of presumed death made more than five years after the date of the declaration should have no effect on the rights to or in property of others acquired as a result of the making of the declaration of presumed death in relation to the missing person?

Response

41. This Issue in fact raises two separate issues: (a) should the High Court have power to make a property variation order under Clause 6(2) disturbing the original allocation of the missing person's property, and (b) should the High Court be precluded from making such an order if the application for a variation order is made more than 5 years after the date of the making of the declaration.
42. No respondent objected to the Court having power to make a property variation order. Several respondents, however, expressed strong reservations about the lack of flexibility which the 5 year rule imposes on the Court. Arguments were made that the Court should have some measure of discretion in deciding whether the 5 year rule should apply in a specific case. For example, the judiciary noted that the automatic application of a 5 year rule may not be appropriate in the case of a child who is declared to be presumed dead. It was suggested that in exceptional cases such as this the Court should have the power to order that the 5 year period should not begin until the date of the child's 18th birthday had been reached. Another respondent also argued for greater judicial discretion

Issue 7 – disclosure of information relevant to the presumed death of missing persons

43. Paragraphs 65 to 68 of the Paper discussed the desirability of including within the draft Bill some provision allowing disclosure of information from government departments which might assist the High Court in deciding whether or not to make the declaration of presumed death sought by the applicant. The purpose of such disclosure would be to ensure that government departments did not have information which might contradict the evidence presented to the Court by the applicant. The Department asked:

Do consultees consider that it would be useful to include provision requiring specified government bodies to disclose information which may be relevant to the question of whether a missing person may be presumed dead? If such a duty is placed on government departments should the information be disclosed directly to the Court?

Response

44. Almost all the respondents who commented, including the judiciary, emphasised the need for some provision in the Bill which would enable all relevant information to be before the High Court to ensure the Court is fully informed when making an order for a declaration of death. A number agreed with the proposition that the information be disclosed directly to the Court by the holders of relevant information. As noted in paragraph 15 above, the families of the disappeared have suggested a role for the *Independent Commission for the Location of Victims' Remains* in assisting the High Court.

Issue 8 – human rights assessment

45. Paragraphs 69 to 73 of the Paper explored whether any provisions of the Bill engaged any provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights and asked:

Do you agree with the Department's opinion that the provisions of the draft Bill are Convention compliant?

Response

46. Three respondents commented on this question and agreed with the Department's view that the provisions of the draft Bill were Convention compliant.

Issue 9 – equality impact

47. Paragraphs 74 to 77 of the Paper highlighted some of the equality issues which are raised by the draft Bill and which were explored in more detail in the Department's Equality Impact Screening at Annex B of the Paper. The Department had concluded that an Equality Impact Assessment was not required.
48. Equality considerations are largely confined to Clause 1 of the Bill which sets out the jurisdictional rules which must be satisfied before the High Court may hear an application for a declaration of presumed death. The primary jurisdictional rule is that the missing person must have been domiciled in Northern Ireland on the date on which he or she was last known to be alive or habitually resident there throughout the period of one year ending with that date. This in itself raises no equality issues. Rather, Clause 1 makes special provision for applications by the spouse or civil partner of the missing person. In those cases it is the applicant's domicile or habitual residence which is important and in such cases the High Court can hear the case even though the missing person himself was neither domiciled nor habitually resident in Northern Ireland. As paragraph 77 of the Paper noted, this raises the question as to why other persons who lived/cohabited with the missing person before his or her disappearance should not be treated in the same way as spouses and civil partners.

49. The Department invited consultees:

to comment on the Department's Equality Impact Screening exercise at Annex B and its recommendation that a full Equality Impact Assessment of the provisions of the draft Bill is not required.

Response

50. No respondent argued that the proposals in the draft Bill merited a full Equality Impact Assessment. Those who responded on the issues raised in Annex B commented that the proposals in relation to the jurisdictional rules in Clause 1 did not result in any adverse impact/unfair disadvantage on any of the groups identified in section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

Issue 10 – regulatory impact

51. The Department included as Annex C to the Paper a consideration of the regulatory impacts which may arise as a result of the draft Bill. The Department had concluded that the impacts on businesses, charities, social economy enterprises and the voluntary sector would be negligible, if any costs arose at all. The Department nevertheless invited consultees to:

comment on the consideration of regulatory impacts at Annex C.

Response

52. No respondent argued that the proposals merited a Regulatory Impact Assessment.

CONCLUSION

53. The Department regrets that so few organisations and individuals took the opportunity to comment on the draft Bill and the specific Consultation Issues. The Department acknowledges that the draft Bill is technical and not easy for a non-lawyer to understand. It is possible that some potential respondents may have found the technical detail of the bill to challenging. Other people, for example those whose family members or friends have gone missing, may have found the subject matter too emotionally difficult with which to engage.

54. Officials are currently considering a number of changes to the draft Bill to reflect the comments received during the consultation process.

APPENDIX

PART 1 LIST OF RESPONDENTS

Church of Ireland (Church in Society, Social Justice and Theology (NI) Group)
Eastern Health & Social Services Board
Mr Alan Hewitt (Retired Solicitor, former partner L'Estrange & Brett)
Lisburn City Council
Lord Chief Justice's Office (on behalf of the judiciary)
Northern Bank Ltd
WAVE

PART 2 LIST OF CONSULTEES

NI Members of Parliament (MPs)
Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs)
Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)
NI Lords and Commons
Spokespersons (all parties)
NI members of the House of Lords
NI Political Parties
District Councils
Health and Social Services Trusts
Health and Social Services Boards
Health and Social Services Councils
Education and Library Boards
NI Solicitors' Associations

ADAPT NI
Action Mental Health
Age Concern (NI)
Alex Stewart Partnership Sols
Alzheimer's Society
Amalgamated Engineering & Electrical Union
Amalgamated Transport & General Workers Union
Anglo-Irish Bank
AN t-Uasal
Cardinal Sean Brady (Archbishop of Armagh)

The Most Rev Alan Harper (Archbishop of Armagh)
Arts Council for Northern Ireland
Association of Baha'i Women
Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland
Association of British Insurers
Association of Local Authorities
Association of Northern Ireland Colleges
Baha'i Council for Northern Ireland
Ballymena Strategy Partnership
Ballymoney District Partnership
Bank of Ireland
Bar Council/Bar Library
Barnardo's
BASW
Belfast Butterfly Club
Belfast Local Strategy Partnership
Belfast Hebrew Congregation
Belfast Islamic Centre
Belfast Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual
Belfast Magistrates' Court
Big Lottery Fund
Blind Centre (NI)
British Council (NI)
British Deaf Association (NI)
British Epilepsy Association

Carafriend
CARE for Northern Ireland

Carers NI
Catholic Bishops of NI
Castlereagh Local Strategy
Partnership
Castlereagh Partnership for Peace &
reconciliation
Cedar Foundation
Child Care NI
Child Poverty Action Group
Children in NI (CiNI)
Children's Law Centre
Chinese Chamber of Commerce
Chinese Christian Church
Chinese Lay Health Project
Chinese Welfare Association
Christian Institute
Chrysalis Women's Centre
Church of Ireland
Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day
Saints
Civic Forum Secretariat
Civil Service Commissioners
Coalition on Sexual Orientation
Coiste na-iarchimi
Coleraine Borough Strategic
Partnership
Commissioner for Children & Young
People NI
Committee on the Administration of
Justice
Community Development & Health
Network (NI)
Community Foundation for Northern
Ireland
Community Relations Council
Confederation of British Industry
Contact Youth Counselling Services
Cookstown Local Strategy Partnership
Co-ordinator AMEN
Co-ordinator Just Men
Council for the Advancement of
Communication with Deaf People
Council of County Court Judges
Craigavon District Partnership
Craigavon Standing Conference on
Women's Organisations
Craigavon Traveller Supportive
Committee
Cruse Bereavement Care (NI)

Democratic Dialogue
Derry Local Strategy Partnership
Derry Well Women
Dial UK

Disability Action
Bryson House
Down & Connor Family Ministry
Commission
Down District Partnership Board
Down Syndrome Association

E.P.O.C.H.
East Belfast Community Development
Agency
Equality Commission for NI
Equality Forum NI
Executive Council of the Inn of Court
of NI
Falls Community Council
Falls Women's Centre
Families Need Fathers
Family Mediation NI
Family Planning Association
Federation of Small Businesses
Federation of Women's Institutes NI
Fermanagh District Partnership
Fermanagh Women's Network
First Division Association
First Trust Bank
Foras na Gaeilge
Foundry Regeneration Trust
Foyle Friend
Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster
Gay & Lesbian Youth NI
General Consumer Council for NI
General Register Office (Scotland)
General Register Office (E&W)
Gingerbread NI
GMB Union

Help The Aged (NI)
Housing Executive
Housing Rights Service
Human Rights Consortium

Indian Community Centre
Institute of Directors
Institute of Professional Legal Studies
(QUB)

James Murland & Co Sols
Johns Elliot Sols
JMU Access Partnership
JW Russell Sols

King & Gowdy Sols

Law Centre (NI)
Law Society (NI)

Larne Enterprise Development Co
Law Commission (E&W)
Law Commission (NI)
Law Commission (Scotland)
Law Reform Commission of Ireland
Lesbian Line
L'Estrange & Brett Sols
Limavady District Partnership
Lisburn Peace & Reconciliation
Partnership
Local Authority Chief Executives
Local Government Staff Commission
for NI
Lord Chief Justice
Lurgan Council for Voluntary Action

Magherafelt Area Partnership
Magherafelt Womens Group
Magistrates Courts Association
Mandarin Speakers Association
MD Loughrey Solicitors
Mediation Network NI
MENCAP
Men's Advisory Project
Methodist Church in Ireland
Mid Ulster International Cultural Group
Mid-Ulster Women's Network
Missing People (National Helpline)
Multi-Cultural Resource Centre

National Union of Students & Union of
Students in Ireland
Newry & Mourne Senior Citizen's
Consortium
Newry & Mourne Peace &
reconciliation Partnership
Newry & Mourne Women
Newry & Mourne Senior Citizens
Consortium
Newtownabbey Local Strategy
Partnership
Newtownabbey Senior Citizens Forum
Nexus Research Co-operative
NI Association of Citizens Advice
Bureau
NI Association for Mental Health
NI Chamber of Commerce & Industry
NI Co-ownership Housing Association
NI Committee ICTU
NI Council for Voluntary Action
NI Federation of Housing Associations
NI Economic Research Centre
NI Gay Rights Association
NI Human Rights Commission
NI Legal Services Commission

NI Local Government Association
NI Muslim Family Association (NIMFA)
NI Ombudsman
NI Pakistani Cultural Association
NI Women's Aid Federation
NI Women's European Platform
NI Youth Forum
NICEM
NIPSA
North/South Ministerial Council
North West Forum of People with
Disabilities
Northern Bank
Northern Ireland Bankers' Association
Northern Ireland Court Service
Northern Ireland Filipino Association
Northern Ireland Islamic Centre
NI Judicial Appointments Commission
NIO

Omagh District Partnership
Omagh Women's Area Network

Pakistani Community Association
Parental Equality
Parenting Forum NI
Parents Advice Centre
Playboard
POBAL
PPRP
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Press for Change
Probation Board for NI
PSNI

Queen's University Belfast

Rainbow Project Belfast
Reformed Presbyterian Church of
Ireland
RELATE
Royal College of Nursing
Royal National Institute for Deaf
People (RNID)
Russell Brothers Sols
Rural Community Network (NI)

Salvation Army
Save The Children NI
Scottish Justice Department
Sense NI
Shameem Athar AL-NUR
Shelter (NI) Ltd
Sikh Cultural Centre
Simon Community

South Tyrone Area Partnership
South West Belfast Community Forum
Sperrin Lakeland Senior Citizen's
Consortium
St Vincent de Paul Society
Staff Commission for Education &
Library Boards

The Women's Centre
Training for Women Network
Travellers Movement (NI)
Ulster Bank
Ulster Farmers Union
Ulster People's College
Ulster Quaker Service Committee
Ulster Scots Heritage Council
ULTACH Trust
Union of Construction, Allied Trades &
Technicians (UCATT)
UNISON
University of Ulster

Victim Support
Voice of Young People in Care
(VOYPIC)

Wave Trauma Centre
West Belfast Economic Forum
Woman's Information Group
Women's Forum NI
Women's Information Group
Women's Resource & Development
Agency
Women's Support Network
Workers Education Association

Youth Council for Northern Ireland
YouthNet