



Subject:	DSD Consultation - Accounting and Reporting by Charities
Date:	13 October 2015
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Cate Taggart Community Development Manager

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To agree a response to the consultation document from DSD on their regulation for Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The regulation provides for the preparation and scrutiny of accounts prepared by charities and the preparation of annual reports by charities. It also covers the preparation of group annual reports by parent charities.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to approve the draft Belfast City Council response to the consultation and raise any additional issues, relating to the consultation document, that they would like to be included.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The Council was made aware of the consultation on 14/09/2015 and comments are required to be returned by the 30/10/15. The consultations document was distributed to officers across Council and their responses have been included in the provisional draft response attached in Appendix 1 .
3.2	The consultation is supported by an online form posing a series of specific questions and space for any additional comments. The full proposal is available online:

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>https://www.dsdni.gov.uk/consultations/accounting-and-reporting-by-charities</p> <p>Overall officers consider that the proposals appear to be reasonable. The main concern is that the technical nature of the requirements and the legal language used in the regulation may cause problems for smaller charities. The draft response stresses the need for appropriate communication, training and support for smaller groups.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial implications directly to the Council from the regulations. The regulations may have an effect on the quality of, and monitoring of, applications for grants to the Council by Charities.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications from the regulations..</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1: Draft BCC Response to DSD Consultation – Accounting and Reporting by Charities</p>