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10 June 2011

Dear Colleague

The Health and Social Care Board together with the Public Health Agency, intend to bring forward a Community Development Strategy with the aim of improving community development approaches across health and social care organisations in Northern Ireland.

The Board and Agency want to see strong, resilient communities where everyone has good health and wellbeing, places where people look out for each other and have community pride in where they live. The Board and Agency seek a reduction in inequalities which means addressing the social factors which affect health and wellbeing.

The Community Development Strategy is an important way to address health and wellbeing inequalities and empower service users, families and communities to get involved in promoting their own health and wellbeing and helping to ensure the most effective use of resources.

The Board and Agency are looking towards a number of benefits such as:

- Helping to reduce inequalities;
- Strengthening partnership working with service users, the community and voluntary sectors and other organisations;
- Strengthening families and communities;
- Supporting volunteering;
- Making best use of our resources.

We are now seeking your views on the draft Community Development Strategy (attached) and would be very interested in hearing from you.

We would be grateful if you would please complete the attached questionnaire or send your comments by **4pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011** as follows:

**By post:**           **Mr Martin O'Neill**  
**Community Development Lead**  
**Health and Social Care Board**  
**Southern Office**  
**Tower Hill**  
**Armagh**  
**BT61 9DR**

**By email:**        [lorraine.johnston@hscni.net](mailto:lorraine.johnston@hscni.net)

**By telephone:** (028) 3741 4615

**By fax:**           **(028) 3741 4552**

If you require any of these documents in an alternative format such as Braille, larger print or another language if you are not fluent in English, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A report of feedback received as part of this consultation will be made available.

Yours sincerely



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Mr John Compton  
Chief Executive  
Health and Social Care Board



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Dr Eddie Rooney  
Chief Executive  
Public Health Agency

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