

**CONSULTATION ON THE HEALTH (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL (NI)**

**Response Form**

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**Are you replying on behalf of an organisation:**  
**Yes**

**If yes please provide the name and address of that organisation.**

This response is provided by the **Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom** (Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow).

**May we contact you should clarification be required on your response?**

**Yes**

**1. Do you agree that the sale of nicotine-containing products, such as e-cigarettes, should be restricted to persons over the age of 18?**

Yes

**Comment**

There is concern that nicotine-containing products such as e-cigarettes may be marketed and appeal to young people and act as a 'gateway' product to the use of tobacco cigarettes.

The Federation already endorse enforcing an age limit of 18 for purchase of electronic cigarettes in other parts of the UK so extending that to Northern Ireland is welcome.

**2. Do you agree with the proposed amendments to the Tobacco Retailers (NI) Act 2014, as detailed in Schedule 1 of the draft Bill?**

Yes

**Comment**

The inclusion of provisions on proxy purchasing are important, as this is a significant means of obtaining cigarettes for many young smokers.

**3. Do you agree with the amendments to the dental provisions in the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (NI) 2008?**

Yes

**Comment**

These amendments are required to fully introduce new dental contracts.

**4. Do you agree with the amendments to the general ophthalmic services provisions in the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (NI) 2008?**

**Comment**

It is our understanding that the Department will consult further before legislating on this matter.

**5. Do you agree with the amendments to the pharmaceutical services provisions in the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (NI) 2008?**

**Comment**

It is our understanding that the Department will consult further before legislating on this matter.

**6. Do you agree with the amendments to the charges for services provided to persons not ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland in the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (NI) 2008?**

Yes

**Comment**

With regard to charging for services provided for the persons not ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland, the minor changes that have been made to phraseology have been incorporated to avoid any ambiguity and improve clarity. This amendment seems sensible.

**7. Any additional comments?**

N/A