



EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Citizenship and Safety Education (CASE) Programme
Consultation Summary
December 2008

1.1 Introduction

This report summarises the work that PSNI have done so far to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) on the PSNI Citizenship and Safety Education (CASE) Programme.

1.2 What is an Equality Impact Assessment?

An EQIA is a way of finding out how different groups of people are affected by the work of PSNI in Northern Ireland. The groups include:

- people from different religions;
- people with different political opinions;
- people from different racial groups;
- people of different ages;
- married, single, widowed and divorced people;
- heterosexual, gay, lesbian and bisexual people;
- men and women;
- people with a disability; and
- people with children or other dependants.

If any of these groups are affected negatively, PSNI will try to find ways to improve their experience of the CASE Programme.

1.3 What is the CASE Programme?

This EQIA looks at whether any groups are affected negatively by the CASE Programme. The CASE Programme is delivered by PSNI Officers in schools and youth clubs across Northern Ireland. The Programme focuses on safety issues such as internet use, drug education, personal safety and citizenship.

1.4 How Did We Conduct the EQIA?

To assess the impact of the CASE Programme, we looked at different sorts of information. This included records of the schools that asked for the CASE Programme and the schools in which the CASE Programme was delivered. We then compared this information to details of all of the schools in Northern Ireland to see if different types of schools were less likely to ask for or receive the CASE Programme.

We also held meetings with school related organisations and held discussion groups with young people in schools.

1.5 What Did We Decide?

After looking at all of the information, we feel that the following groups might be affected by the CASE Programme.

- **Roman Catholics** – Roman Catholic Maintained schools are less likely to ask for the CASE Programme. We think that Irish Language schools are less likely to request the CASE Programme than other schools;
- **Nationalists** – schools in areas with higher levels of nationalist voters are less likely to ask for the CASE programme;
- **Nursery and primary school children** – nursery and primary schools are less likely to ask for or receive the CASE Programme than secondary schools; and
- **Children and young people attending special schools** – special schools are less likely to ask for or receive the CASE programme than other schools.

We do not think that there were any differences in how the following groups are affected by the CASE Programme:

- people from different racial groups,
- married, single, widowed and divorced people;
- heterosexual, gay, lesbian and bisexual people;
- men and women; and
- people with children or other dependants.

We would like to know whether you agree with us about the groups that are and are not affected by the CASE Programme.

1.6 What Will We Do?

As a result of the EQIA and to try to improve how the CASE Programme affects different groups, PSNI plan to do the following:

- deliver the CASE Programme to all that request it and advertise the CASE programme to schools that do not request it;
- talk to schools in Northern Ireland that do not ask for the CASE Programme to find out why;

- try to make sure that the officers delivering the programme include women as well as men and are from different racial backgrounds;
- translate introductory and curriculum materials and offer the CASE Programme in Irish Language;
- improve how we monitor the delivery of the CASE programme;
- talk to pupils about how the CASE programmes meets the needs of different groups;
- meet with staff and pupils in schools new to the CASE Programme to answer any questions and discuss any concerns (such as whether officers will wear uniforms and have radios with them); and
- develop CASE lessons on young people rights and responsibilities, and how to complain about the Police.

We would like to hear your views on these suggestions and welcome any other suggestions on how we could improve the CASE Programme.

1.7 Tell Us Your Views

We want to get feedback on this report, and as the CASE Programme is directed at young people, we especially want to hear what young people think about the EQIA.

There are different ways to provide feedback such as by email, text, telephone and post or through a face to face meeting and we hope to have gathered all feedback by 27th February 2009.

If you want to provide feedback or get more information, please contact the PSNI Education Adviser Dympna Thornton at:

Address: Community Safety Branch, 42 Montgomery Road, Belfast, BT6 9LD

Email: Section75@psni.pnn.police.uk

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