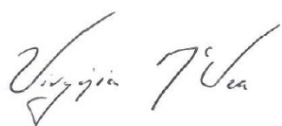


Equality Action Plan 2022 - 2027

This document can be made available on request and where reasonably practicable in an alternative format including large print, Braille, audio formats and minority languages to meet the needs of those for whom English is not their first language.

Timeframe	Actions	Performance Measures
Ongoing	Carry out research to identify sectors of the population with lower levels of registration and from that prioritise outreach programmes	Enhanced comprehensiveness of the electoral register – reported on to Parliament and the parties and reviewed by the Electoral Commission annually
	Develop a programme of work with the education and care sectors	Increase in registration rates including attainers, young people and those in care facilities – new tracking programme in place and proactive reporting to parties and Electoral Commission The same programme is in place for care homes Increased data mining and improved data matching reports which run at least monthly and are reported to the Senior Management Team will identify the position and improvements
	Citizenship ceremonies – engagement with those who attend	Engagement with ethnic minority groups
	Review of accessibility in count centres	Improvements for candidates and agents using wheelchairs Feedback, all party meetings and staff surveys and review by Electoral Commission. The Local elections are due in May 2023 potential Parliamentary 2024 and a NI Assembly is outstanding
	Operationalising the Election Act which is new legislation including requirements on accessibility and adjustments for polling stations	Improve accessibility for voters across all Section 75 groups – reporting on action and spend to the NIO and the Electoral Commission and responding to the survey from 2022 elections as above
	Review on the progress of EONI's equality action plan	Annual reporting to the Equality Commission

	Consultation on EONI's equality action plan and disability action plan and publication of plans on website	Final action plans approved by SMT for 2022 – 2027
	All new and revised policies equality screened	Adverse impact identified and mitigation where appropriate.
2022/24	Review of the polling station scheme which includes suitability and accessibility of premises used during elections.	Public consultation of the Local Council scheme February 2023. A further Parliamentary review will be due in 2024 and then repeating
	Develop the website platform with a focus on security and accessibility.	To run the new website through at least two 3rd Party Online Accessibility Checkers prior to full user acceptance to ensure AA standard has been met by the vendor
	Develop translation and interpretation material and services to help people access EONI information	Review of current process in 2023/24



Virginia McVea
Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland