**Compendium of Northern Ireland Education Statistics – suggested discontinuation**

The purpose of this note is to inform users of proposals to discontinue the Compendium of Northern Ireland Education Statistics, effective this year. It details the reasons behind this suggestion and seeks views from users regarding this change.

The publication is designated as a National Statistic and is governed by the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007 and the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Within the Code, the Protocol on User Engagement requires all changes to a National Statistic to be subjected to a public consultation

You are invited to provide feedback on these proposals (using the template provided in the Annex) no later than Friday 15th July 2016.

Please return to: paul.matthews@education-ni.gov.uk

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**Background**

Every two years, the Department of Education publishes a compendium of Northern Ireland Education Statistics. This includes data on pupil enrolments and teacher numbers in schools, and Further and Higher Education. The most recent publication issued in May 2014 can be found here: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/de/compendium-0001-to-1213.pdf>

**Rationale for suggested discontinuation**

Analytical Services Unit in the Department of Education has undertaken an in-depth review of its statistical outputs, and has consequently deemed that the publication is no longer fit for purpose. We intend to discontinue the publication, for the following reasons:

* All of the data is already published elsewhere. in other publications:
	+ Number of schools and enrolments of pupils in funded education: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/school-enrolments>
	+ Number of teachers and pupil : teacher ratios: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/education-workforce>
	+ School leavers’ qualifications and destinations: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/school-leavers>
	+ Further education: <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-economic-research/further-education-statistics>
	+ Higher education: <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-economic-research/higher-education-statistics>
* The Code of Practice for Official Statistics states under Principle 7: Resources that *“The resources made available for statistical activities should... be used effectively and efficiently”.* If data is already available, producing a publication that duplicates this data is deemed not to be an effective or efficient use of statistical resource.
* Much of the data is at least one year out of date by the time it is published. More recent information is available in the above publications.
* Ad hoc analyses are still available from relevant statisticians in the Department of Education (for any school data – statistics@education-ni.gov.uk) and Department of the Economy (for Further Education and Higher Education data - analyticalservices@delni.gov.uk) on request.

**RESPONSE FORM:**

**CONSULTATION ON SUGGESTED DISCONTINUATION OF COMPENDIUM OF NORTHERN IRELAND EDUCATION STATISTICS**

(Please expand response boxes as required)

**Details of respondent**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name  |  |
| Organisation(s) represented: |  |
| Address |  |
| Telephone number  |  |
| E-mail address |  |

**1. Do you currently use this publication?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (please tick your answer)

If yes, what uses do you make of the information in the publication (list as many as appropriate) and what types of decision does this information inform?

**2. Will discontinuation of the publication impact your organisation (either positively or negatively)?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**3. If yes at Q2, to what extent will the data sources listed on page 2 of this document provide the information that you require?**

**Responses should be returned no later than Friday 15th July 2016.**

**Please return to:** paul.matthews@deni.gov.uk

**Paul Matthews
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**Many thanks for your response to this consultation. Please note that responses may be made public and attributable to the respondent.**