



2009 CHAPTER 1

Patient representation and public involvement

Public involvement and consultation

19.—(1) Each body to which this section applies must take such steps as it considers appropriate—

- (a) to promulgate information about the health and social care for which it is responsible;
- (b) to obtain information about—
 - (i) the needs of persons to whom that care is being or may be provided; and
 - (ii) the efficacy of that care;
- (c) to encourage and assist persons to whom that care is being or may be provided—
 - (i) to avail of that care in an appropriate manner, having regard to the need to use resources in the most economic, efficient and effective way; and
 - (ii) to maintain and improve their own health and social well-being.

(2) In particular, each body to which this section applies must, before the end of the period of 9 months beginning with the day appointed for the coming into operation of this section, or, if later, the establishment of the body concerned—

- (a) prepare a consultation scheme in accordance with section 20; and
- (b) in the case of a health and social care body, submit the scheme to the Department.

(3) The Department may direct any health and social care body to which this section applies to submit a revised scheme to it.

(4) The Department may, after consulting the Patient and Client Council, approve a consultation scheme submitted to it under this section with or without amendments.