



WRDA Stormont and Westminster Update – January 2022

Summary

This summary reflects Bills within both the Stormont Executive and Westminster Government and relevant questions tabled to Stormont Ministers during Departmental Question Times; alongside, consultation responses from both WRDA and the Women's Policy Group (WPG). This month there has been a number of political developments surrounding the thematic issues highlighted within the [Women's Policy Group \(WPG\) Covid-19 Feminist Recovery Plan](#).

The issue of **violence against women and girls** featured prominently with the tragic murder of Ashling Murphy dominating the Department of Justice and Executive Office Question Times. Issues related to issuing a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, whether misogyny should be treated as a hate crime, and the importance of tackling violence against women in our society were discussed during both Question Time sessions. Naomi Long's Protection from Stalking Bill Sexual Offences and Trafficking Victims Bill are both at Consideration Stage, with the resignation of the First Minister it is vital that these Bills complete their legislative journey or our resumed within the next mandate. These Bills are vital at tackling misogyny and sexism within our society which has proven itself lethal. We must assert that not one more woman will have their life cut short again as a result of misogynist- motivated crimes, and that we stamp out misogynistic and sexist attitudes and behaviours across all members of our society – including our political leadership who fail to recognise misogynistic jokes are just one aspect of normalising and perpetrating abusive and deadly behaviours towards women and girls.

This update has been put together by Courtney Girvin (WRDA volunteer)

Stormont

Executive Bills

Issue	Proposed by	Stage	Comments	Links to the feminist recovery plan (FRP)
Protection from Stalking Bill	Naomi Long, Minister for Justice	Consideration Stage	<p>A Bill to provide protection from threatening or abusive behaviours, and from stalking behaviours. This new legislation will have greater penalties and protections from stalking behaviour compared to current legislation.</p> <p>The introduction of stalking protection orders (SPOs) will enable the police to intervene prior to any conviction to address stalking behaviours before they become entrenched or escalate in severity, therefore, protecting victims when there is an immediate risk of harm. The Bill is divided into three parts. Part 1 creates the specific offence of stalking and creates the offence of threatening and abusive behaviour, which can be triggered by a single incident. Part 2 provides for the introduction of SPOs. Part 3 deals with the interpretation, commencement, and short title of the Bill.</p> <p>With Assembly elections approaching and the potential collapse of Stormont, it is vital that this Bill completes its legislative journey and the issue of stalking and gendered violence is not neglected.</p>	<p>Stalking is an inherently gendered crime, with women representing a disproportionate number of victims.</p> <p>Domestic homicide is linked to high-risk indicators such as coercive and controlling behaviour, stalking and domestic violence</p> <p>The FRP also notes NI specific considerations such as the link between paramilitarism and stalking behaviours.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>

Justice (Sexual Offences and Trafficking Victims) Bill	Naomi Long, Minister for Justice	Consideration Stage	<p>A Bill to make provision about and in connection with sexual offences; regulate particular matters relating to cases of trafficking or exploitation; and amend rules applying with respect to certain sexual or violent offences prevention orders.</p> <p>The Bill is divided into four parts. Part 1 legislates for the sexual offences covered within this Bill and the right to anonymity and privacy for both victims and perpetrators. Part 2 details trafficking and slavery offences separately. Part 3 detail what offences qualify for sexual offences prevention orders. The final part deals with the interpretation, commencement, and short title of the Bill.</p> <p>At its core this Bill has two key aims. Firstly, to enhance public safety by implementing elements of the Gillen review of serious sexual offence cases and from a review of the law on child sexual exploitation and sexual offences against children. Secondly, to improve services for victims of trafficking and exploitation.</p> <p>The Bill also creates new sexual offences and penalties such as behaviours of upskirting and downblousing. With Assembly elections approaching it is vital that this Bill completes its legislative journey and gendered violence is not neglected.</p>	<p>The FRP is pleased to see the implementation of the Gillen Review recommendations and believes they have the potential to transform the</p> <p>The FRP is pleased to see the implementation of the Gillen Review recommendations and believes they have the potential to transform the experience of those reporting their experience of rape and other sexual offences.</p> <p>This is vital given that recent research found that 97% of women have been sexually harassed and 96% chose not to report as they believed it would not do anything. Link to information on the Bill here</p>
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Parental Bereavement (Leave and Pay) Bill	Diane Dodds (previous), Minister for Economy – continued by Gordon Lions (current)	Final Stage	<p>A Bill to make provision about leave and pay for employees who have lost their children.</p> <p>The Bill is divided into two main sections. Firstly, parental bereavement leave which will curate the right of parents who have lost their child to be absent from work, regardless of how long they have worked for their employer. Secondly, parental bereavement pay in which those eligible will receive a fixed or earnings-related weekly rate of pay.</p> <p>Consideration stage debate highlighted three divergences of opinion among members. Firstly, when the Bill was first introduced there was no inclusion of bereavement pay and leave in the case of miscarriage. Second, how soon to implement this legislation, and finally how much the implementation of this Bill will cost – with the figure of £100 million being estimated.</p>	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by the Parental Bereavement Bill.</p> <p>Parental leave is recommended as a day one employment right within the FRP.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Climate Change (No.2) Bill	Edwin Poots, Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Consideration Stage	<p>A Bill to set targets for the years 2050, 2040 and 2030 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; to provide for a system of carbon budgeting; to provide for reporting and statements against those targets and budgets; to confer power to impose climate change reporting duties on public bodies; to provide for reports and advice from the Committee on Climate Change; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>The speaker noted the Private Member's Bill introduced by Clare Bailey and how "this is the first time that a Bill with provisions that are mutually inconsistent with an existing Bill (with the same topic) has been introduced to</p>	<p>The move to a "Green Economy" & an environmentally sustainable job market is reflected in the FRP. Gender equality must be at the heart of plans to tackle the climate crisis which will require a transformation of civil society and the economy.</p> <p>A new Energy Strategy will set ambitious targets and</p>

			<p>the Assembly.”</p> <p>The Minister asserted that he will not agree to a net zero target and that achieving net zero emissions by 2050 is not possible and therefore the goal of this Bill is to reduce it by at least 82%. Whereas Bailey’s Private Member’s Bill aims for a net zero carbon target by 2045. The GPNI leader has offered to compromise and incorporate elements of both Bills together, but this is unlikely given the Minister’s stance that the proposed targets within the Private Member’s Bill would decimate tens of thousands of jobs in the agri-food sector.</p>	<p>actions for a fair and just transition to a zero-carbon society.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Private Tenancies Bill	Deirdre Hargey, Minister of Communities	Committee Stage	<p>A Bill to amend the law relating to private tenancies. The private rented sector accounts for 17% of all housing stock in Northern Ireland and is now larger social housing sector. 48% of people living in private renting housing receive state financial support to help with housing costs. As this sector has grown it is important to ensure it is appropriately regulated. The key objectives of the clauses in the Bill are to make the private rented sector a safer and more secure housing option for a wider range of households, to ensure better regulation of the sector and offer greater protection to private renters.</p> <p>Contents of the Bill includes notice given to tenants in relation to current and past matters; tenants to be provided with receipts for cash payments; limits placed on deposit amounts; restrictions on rent increases; and increased health and safety clauses related to fire, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and electrical safety</p>	<p>The FRP asserts that private renting is one of the most accessible for young people, those with precarious working arrangements, and those escaping domestic abuse – yet it is the most expensive form of housing.</p> <p>The average weekly cost of private renting is £97 per week; this is not fit for purpose for many young women working in underpaid and undervalued occupations such as retail and the care sector.</p>

			standards.	Link to information on the Bill here
Welfare Supplementary Payments (Amendment) Bill	Deirdre Hargey, Minister of Communities	Consideration Stage	<p>A Bill to change the end date for qualifying for payments under Article 137A of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015; and provide for monitoring of and reporting on arrangements for payments having effect by virtue of Article 137 and Article 137A of that Order.</p> <p>The Bill contains four clauses. Clause 1 substitutes a new end date of 31st March 2025 for qualifying for mitigation payments in respect of the Social Sector Size Criteria. Clause 2 provides that payments cannot be made under Article 137A for any period between 31st March 2020 and the date on which the Act comes into operation. Clause 3 provides for the Department for Communities to report on the operation of payments made under both mitigation schemes under Articles 137 and 137A. Clause 4 deals with commencement of and the short title for the Bill.</p>	<p>The FRP has an entire section dedicated to the importance of mitigation caused by welfare reform and austerity measures, as this agenda compounded by COVID-19 has created a crisis situation where women need more support financially.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>

Non-Executive Bills

Issue	Proposed by	Stage (as of date of writing)	Comments	Link to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill	Initially introduced by Paul Givan (First Minister – Lagan	Narrowly defeated at Consideration Stage (14/12/21)	A Bill attempting to restrict access to abortion by amending the Abortion (Northern Ireland) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 to remove the ground for abortion in cases of severe non-fatal fetal disability. There has been no public consultation for this Bill, and it should be noted that the Northern Ireland Office	This would infringe upon the bodily autonomy of women and others, and violates the reproductive justice principle of the

	Valley) but sponsorship has been transferred to Christopher Stalford (DUP – South Belfast)	Further Consideration Stage to be scheduled	<p>conducted a public consultation when developing abortion law reform which resulted in the current 2020 legislation.</p> <p>FM stated he will challenge the Secretary of State Brandon Lewis in the courts over his direction that Stormont must commission full abortion services by next March.</p> <p>A second legal challenge has been issued by anti-abortion campaigners against the government for issuing the direction on Stormont to impose a deadline to establish services.</p> <p>In October both Sinn Fein and the SDLP abstained on this Bill at Committee level enabling it to move to consideration stage. This Bill fails to comply with human right standards and would force those who receive certain foetal diagnoses to travel for abortion healthcare or continue with their pregnancy – removing their right to choose.</p> <p>This month, the Bill was narrowly defeated at Consideration Stage by 45 votes to 43 votes. It will now be referred back to the speaker, Alex Maskey, and it is understood the DUP is seeking legal advice.</p>	<p>right to not have a child.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p> <p>Link to FM Paul Givan’s position on the issue here</p> <p>Link to information about the defeat at Consideration Stage here</p>
Climate Change Bill	Clare Bailey (Green Party NI – South Belfast)	Committee Stage – completed 08/12/21	<p>A Bill attempting to mitigate the effects of climate change in Northern Ireland. The Bill seeks to establish a legally binding net-zero carbon target for NI, establish an NI Climate Commissioner and resultant Climate Office, achieve a climate sustainable economy by 2045, and guarantee existing climate and environmental protections.</p> <p>This Bill would declare a climate emergency until the</p>	<p>The move to a “Green Economy” and a more environmentally sustainable job market is reflected in the FRP. The effects of climate change are disproportionately</p>

			<p>threshold of the global temperature as defined by the Paris Agreement has been met. These goals are much more ambitious than the Executive Bill proposed by Edwin Poots.</p> <p>The Committee Stage report found that there is a strong difference in opinion in relation to the net zero target by 2045, and concern about the local agri-food sector. The Committee feels it is an important Bill and recommend its progression, but they did not come to an agreement in relation to the 2045 target, believing it should be debated by the entire Assembly.</p> <p>The WPG & WRDA suggested amendment to the Climate Change Bill (read the full response here) has been accepted by the Committee of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (read pg70 of the report here). This means that Northern Ireland is the first country in the world to include gender proofing within climate change legislation – which is fantastic.</p>	<p>gendered globally.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill to here</p>
Safe Access Zones Bill (Public Health and Well Being Bill)	Pat Catney (SDLP – Lagan Valley)	Second Reading	<p>A Bill to secure the provision throughout Northern Ireland of free period products; and for connected purposes. England, Scotland, and Wales each have varying schemes in place to provide sanitary products free of charge in schools and some other public buildings. Northern Ireland has been the only place in the United Kingdom where such products are not provided free of charge in schools.</p> <p>This Bill strives to place a duty on the Department of Health to ensure that period products are available free of charge on a universal basis in appropriate locations; and to create</p>	<p>The FRP has highlighted the importance of good, gendered governance elsewhere globally – highlighting policies related to free period products as an example of this.</p> <p>Furthermore, WRDA and the Women’s Policy Group have been vocal in their</p>

			regulations which specify which public service bodies have said duty to ensure access to free period products	<p>support of movement towards free period products in past consultations.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Domestic Abuse (Safe Leave) Bill	Rachel Woods (Green Party NI – North Down)	Committee Stage to be scheduled	<p>A Bill to make provision for an entitlement to 10 days paid safe leave in each year for victims of domestic abuse; and for connected purposes. The Bill makes this a day one right to be guaranteed to all employees.</p> <p>Safe Leave can help mitigate some of the barriers that victims/survivors face when attempting to seek help and support. It can also help address some of the costs of domestic abuse for employers.</p>	<p>The FRP has highlighted the good practice of similar policies elsewhere globally such as in New Zealand.</p> <p>The FRP supports this legislation but would like to see up to 20 days paid safe leave as a day one right which should be available to take either as a block or more flexibly.</p> <p>Link to more information on the Bill here</p>

Questions – Jan 2022

Issue	Date	Asked by:	Notes	Link to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Misogynistic Online Abuse	17/01/22	Ms Dolan (Sinn Fein – Fermanagh and South Tyrone) To Naomi Long, Justice Minister	<p>“In light of the recent cruel murder of Ashling Murphy, the misogynistic abuse that women experience online and the sick cyber-flashing incident that happened during the online vigil last night, will the Minister join me in condemning that abuse?”</p> <p>The Minister agreed with Ms Dolan and condemned such abuse and actions and labelled the events as misogyny, sexism and hate directed at women.</p>	<p>The FRP recommends that gender-based violence, threats and abuse are included in any upcoming Hate Crime Legislation Review in Northern Ireland; and that gender is a protected characteristic by treating misogyny as a standalone hate crime.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>
Violence Against Women and Girls	17/01/22	Mr Lyttle (Alliance – East Belfast) To Naomi Long, Justice Minister	<p>“What actions are being taken and what actions can be taken to eradicate violence against the women and girls in our community?”</p> <p>The Department of Justice has launched calls for views related to two strategies aimed at tackling domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. The Minister highlights legislation proposed and implemented under her premiership as Justice Minister such as new domestic abuse offence, the Protection from Stalking Bill, the Justice (Sexual Offences and Trafficking Victims) Bill and changes to implement recommendations in the Gillen review of serious sexual offences.</p>	<p>One of the key ethos of the FRP is tackling gendered violence and violence against women within our society, in all its forms.</p> <p>The FRP supports the creation and implementation of a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.</p>

Misogyny as a Hate Crime	17/01/22	Mr McAleer (West Tyrone – Sinn Fein) To Naomi Long, Justice Minister	<p>“Given that sexism and misogyny are at the root of crimes against women and that tackling those issues is crucial to tackling violence against women, has the Minister considered making misogyny a new category of hate crime?”</p> <p>The Minister intends to go to the first-stage consultation on the Hate Crime Bill, which we hope will be able to be proceeded with in the next mandate. One of the questions on which we are seeking views in that consultation is specifically whether gender should be a protected characteristic or whether misogyny itself should be recognised as a hate crime.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the FRP recommends that that gender is a protected characteristic by treating misogyny as a standalone hate crime.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>
Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy	24/01/22	Ms Dolan (Sinn Fein – Fermanagh and South Tyrone) and Mrs Dodds (DUP – Upper Bann) To Michelle O'Neill, Deputy First Minister	<p>“Can the Minister provide an update on the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy?” & “How does the Executive intend to deal with online abuse against women?”</p> <p>The Minister affirms a commitment to dealing with violence against women and girls in all of its forms. A new strategic approach is required to deliver cultural and societal changes to combat misogynistic attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours. The strategy intends to examine root causes, and tackle how damaging attitudes progress into abusive behaviours.</p>	<p>One of the key ethos of the FRP is tackling gendered violence and violence against women within our society, in all its forms.</p> <p>The FRP supports the creation and implementation of a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>
Online Safety Bill	24/01/22	Mrs Erskine (DUP – Fermanagh and South Tyrone)	<p>“In light of the publication of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee report on Westminster's Online Safety Bill, when such legislation will come into force in Northern Ireland, particularly because, as the deputy First Minister will agree,</p>	<p>The FRP explicitly recognises the online sphere as one of many spaces in which violence against women and girls</p>

		To Michelle O'Neill, Deputy First Minister	<p>the language and discourse online is toxic – what are we doing to protect against sexism and misogyny in the online sphere?”</p> <p>The Department of Justice are working on keeping all officials up to date on what it will mean for Northern Ireland. The Executive Office will continue to call on social media companies to combat misogynistic and sexist abuse in the online sphere.</p>	<p>can occur, and asserts that this sphere must be included within any Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>
Relationships and Sex Education – Link with Violence Against Women and Girls	25/01/22	Miss Woods (Green Party NI – North Down) To Michelle McIlveen, Education Minister	<p>“Violence against women and girls is prolific. We do not feel safe on our streets, and there is a lack of knowledge of what a healthy relationship looks like. My question is this: does the Minister accept that, without legislating for mandatory, standardised and comprehensive RSE, the Executive are complicit in perpetuating an education system that is failing to tackle harmful beliefs and behaviours.”</p> <p>The Minister did not agree with the sentiment that she has expressed, because RSE is already mandatory with a minimum content order.</p>	<p>RSE has been identified as a key factor in addressing violence against women and other issues of gender inequality. As a mechanism to enhance long-term change on these issues RSE must be standardized and in line with CEDAW recommendations.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>

[Consultations](#)

Issue	Women's Policy Group response (WPG)	Link to Feminist Recovery plan
NI Women's Policy Group Response to Home Affairs Committee	Rates of spiking across the UK have increased by 108% in the last three years. Existing data shows that women are more likely than men to be victims of spiking and have negative outcomes as a result of the spiking. Therefore, spiking should be treated by the government and other authorities as a gendered crime with gendered impacts. Current attempts at tackling	The upsurge in spiking behaviours in our clubs and bars, using both tablets within drinks and forcible injections,

Inquiry into Spiking	<p>this gendered violence has placed the onus on potential victims to protect themselves in the first instance which results in victim blaming behaviours.</p> <p>The WPG recommends:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A dedicated awareness programme on spiking specific to certain areas of work such as nightclub security staff, paramedics, A&E staff etc. 2. Place responsibility for spiking onto perpetrators and not individuals to protect themselves from spiking. 	<p>illustrates how prevalence violence against women remains within our society which must be addressed.</p> <p>Link to consultation response here</p>
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[Westminster](#)

Bills

Issue	Date	Sponsored by	Stage	Notes	Links to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Police, Crime and Sentencing Bill	31/01/2022	Robert Buckley, Ministry for Justice (House of Commons) Baroness Williams of House of Lords, Conservative Life Peer	House of Commons & House of Lords passage completed; Consideration of Amendments (Final Stages)	A Bill to make provision about the police and other emergency workers; to make provision about collaboration between authorities to prevent and reduce serious violence; to make provision about the powers of the police and other authorities for the purposes of preventing, detecting, investigating or prosecuting crime or investigating other matters; to make provision about the maintenance of public order; to make provision about sentencing, detention, release, management and rehabilitation of offenders; etc.	<p>This is a very broad Bill covering a range of topics including gender and sexual based violence. However, the right to protest has also been essential in furthering women's legislation.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>

		(House of Lords)		<p>This has been controversial as it is viewed as an attack on the right to protest.</p> <p>Debates have highlighted that the impact of violence against women, particularly domestic violence, sexual violence, controlling and coercive behaviour by men and their impact on the community is included in that strategy to reduce violence against women and girls.</p>	
Northern Ireland (Ministers, Elections and Petitions of Concern) Bill	03/02/2022	<p>Brandon Lewis, Ministry for Northern Ireland Office (House of Commons)</p> <p>Lord Caine, Conservative Life Peer (House of Lords)</p>	House of Commons & House of Lords passage completed; Consideration of Amendments (Final Stages)	<p>A Bill to make provision about Ministerial appointments, extraordinary Assembly elections, the Ministerial Code of Conduct and petitions of concern in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This Bill will deliver aspects of the New Decade, New Approach Agreement which was agreed by the five main NI political parties in January 2020. The Bill is concerned with the sustainability and transparency of the Northern Ireland institutions.</p> <p>Some key changes include requiring petitioners to come from more than one Northern Irish political party and updating the code of conduct for Northern Ireland Ministers.</p>	<p>These new provisions reform the Petition of Concern mechanism in order to reduce misuse.</p> <p>Previously the Petition of Concern has been abused and used to block socially progressive legislation such as equal marriage. Such reforms go some ways in ensuring one party cannot override the democratic process.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Bereavement Leave and Pay	20/10/2021	Sarah Owen (Labour)	Second Reading	A Bill to extend entitlement to parental bereavement leave and pay to parents of babies	The FRP highlights the importance of

(Stillborn and Miscarried Babies) Bill			(House of Commons)	<p>miscarried or stillborn during early pregnancy; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>The Miscarriage Association reports that about a quarter of a million people each year in the UK miscarry and happens to 1 in 4 pregnancies. Many are forced to take sick pay or sick leave. Ms Owen stated that “we are not sick we are grieving.”</p>	<p>employment protections for mothers and fathers.</p> <p>Parental leave is recommended as a day one employment right within the FRP.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Conversion Therapy (Prohibition) Bill	22/06/2021	Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to prohibit sexual orientation and gender identity conversion therapy.</p> <p>There is little detail about this Bill currently given its early stages, however, it will be interesting to keep an eye on it given similar legislation is in conversation in the Northern Ireland Executive.</p>	<p>This is a gendered offence, in which people were targeted as a result of their sexual orientation and gender identity. It is important to support victims/survivors, and future generations deserve to be free from the repetition of similar gendered violence.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here</p>
Miscarriage Leave Bill	06/12/2021	Angela Crawley (SNP)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to make provision for paid leave for people who have experienced a miscarriage.</p> <p>There is little detail on the Bill in its current stages;</p>	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers</p>

				<p>however given the introductions of a Parental Bereavement Bill within Stormont this will be worth keeping an eye on especially as one of the WPG recommendations is that paid leave entitlement should be included in the Parental Bereavement Bill for those who have suffered a miscarriage.</p>	<p>and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by this Bill.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Pregnancy and Maternity (Redundancy Protection) Bill	17/11/2021	Maria Miller (Conservative)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to prohibit redundancy during pregnancy and maternity leave, including up to six months after the end of pregnancy or leave; except in specified circumstances.</p>	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by the Bill.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Hate Crime (Misogyny) Bill	26/11/2021	Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to make motivation by misogyny an aggravating factor in criminal sentencing; to require police forces to record hate crimes motivated by misogyny; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>Many in the WPG have campaigned for misogyny to be recognised as a motivation for hate crime – therefore the progression of this Bill will be one to watch.</p>	<p>The FRP recommends that future Hate Crime Legislation Review in Northern Ireland includes gender-based violence, threats, and abuse included as protected characteristics.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here</p>