

Appendix I - Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) Template

SECTION 1 - Defining the activity subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

1A. Name of Public Authority.

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Public consultation on The Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

1C. Please indicate which category the activity specified in Section 1B above relates to.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Developing a | Policy <input type="checkbox"/> | Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> | Plan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adopting a | Policy <input type="checkbox"/> | Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> | Plan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementing a | Policy <input type="checkbox"/> | Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> | Plan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Revising a | Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> | Plan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Designing a Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Delivering a Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

The Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

To reduce the overall number of carrier bags in circulation throughout Northern Ireland and improve the environment for all.

1F. What definition of 'rural' is the Public Authority using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Population Settlements of less than 5,000 (Default definition).

Other Definition (Provide details and the rationale below).

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.

N/A

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

N/A

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

N/A

SECTION 2 - Understanding the impact of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

The current policy impacts on members of the public in both urban and rural settings and as such any revised policy would therefore impact everyone. The policy applies to everyone in Northern Ireland equally.

2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

There is nothing to suggest that the policy would impact those in rural areas differently from those in urban areas.

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

Rural Businesses

Rural Tourism

Rural Housing

Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas

Education or Training in Rural Areas

Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas

Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas

Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas

Poverty in Rural Areas

Deprivation in Rural Areas

Rural Crime or Community Safety

Rural Development

Agri-Environment

Other (Please state)

Environmental initiatives for all members of the public.

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

SECTION 3 - Identifying the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

3A. Has the Public Authority taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas that are relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **3E**.

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Consultation with Rural Stakeholders | <input type="checkbox"/> | Published Statistics | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation with Other Organisations | <input type="checkbox"/> | Research Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Surveys or Questionnaires | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below). | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

The department liaises with local businesses and sectoral business organisations across Northern Ireland on an ongoing basis. Carrier Bag Levy Team officials have already been in contact with large retailers and representatives of recognised retail groups in relation to this policy. The department are aware that such a change in policy will impact all members of the public and businesses throughout Northern Ireland and are proposing a full consultation.

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified by the Public Authority?

The social and economic needs of people in rural areas in relation to this policy does not differ from the social and economic needs of people in urban areas. The proposed consultation will be open to all everyone, regardless of their location.

If the response to Section 3A was **YES GO TO Section 4A.**

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

SECTION 4 - Considering the Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

4A. Please provide details of the issues considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

The social and economic needs of people in rural areas in relation to this policy does not differ from the social and economic needs of people in urban areas. The proposed consultation will be open to all everyone, regardless of their location.

SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

5A. Has the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, been influenced by the rural needs identified?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **5C**.

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES** GO TO Section **6A**.

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

There have been no specific rural needs identified. The needs of all members of the public have been considered, regardless of their location.

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

| | |
|---|---|
| Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by: | RORY O'BOYLE |
| Position/Grade: | GRADE 7 |
| Division/Branch | Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division |
| Signature: |  |
| Date: | 1 April 2021 |
| Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by: | DAVE FOSTER |
| Position/Grade: | GRADE 5 |
| Division/Branch: | Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division |
| Signature: |  |
| Date: | 11 May 2021 |