

Title: Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (Membership, Procedure, Functions and Committee) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012	Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)
	Date: xx September 2021
	Type of measure: Secondary
Lead department or agency: DoH	Stage: Initial Source of intervention: Domestic NI
Other departments or agencies: SBNI	Contact details: Family and Children’s Policy fcpdadmin@health-ni.gov.uk

Summary Intervention and Options

What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary? (7 lines maximum) <p>In a review of operations and impact in 2016 (the Jay Review), a number of areas for service development of the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (SBNI) were identified. The Review was accepted by the Department in August 2016. The Safeguarding Board Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 details specific functions of the SBNI that require change as a result of the Jay Review, and thus regulatory/legislative amendment. The Department is also taking this opportunity to make additional changes to facilitate operational and corporate hosting improvements in relation to the SBNI.</p>	
What are the policy objectives and the intended effects? (7 lines maximum) <p>Following the outcome of the review of the SBNI, the department’s overall aim is to reduce bureaucracy and to introduce greater flexibility around issues such as corporate hosting, staffing and business processes thereby ensuring that these functions are performed as effectively as possible. Progressing this work will enable the Department to bring about the recommended changes required to help ensure a fully effective Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland</p>	
What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base) (10 lines maximum) <p>The Department has considered the maintenance of the status quo and found this to be insufficient to continue the effective functioning of the SBNI, as per the findings of the Review. Indeed, member organisations/staff of the SBNI found the existing Regulations to be restrictive in terms of their operations. These changes are the best way to improve the operational and procedural arrangements of the SBNI.</p>	
Will the policy be reviewed?	If applicable, set review date: Month/Year

Cost of Preferred (or more likely) Option		
Total outlay cost for business £m	Total net cost to business per year £m	Annual cost for implementation by Regulator £m

Does Implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
Is this measure likely to impact on trade and investment?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
Are any of these organisations in scope?	Micro Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Small Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Medium Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Large Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

The final RIA supporting legislation must be attached to the Explanatory Memorandum and published with it.

Approved by: Date:

Description:

ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT (Option)

Costs (£m)	Total Transitional (Policy)		Average Annual (recurring)	Total Cost
	(constant price)	Years	(excl. transitional) (constant price)	(Present Value)
Low	Optional		Optional	Optional
High	Optional		Optional	Optional
Best Estimate	0		0	0
Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups' Maximum 5 lines				
The policy will have no anticipated monetary impact upon business. The proposed a mendment to Regulation 17 places a new notification requirement on all organisations which make up the SBNI, including voluntary/community/social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations. However, the proposed change will not				
Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups' Maximum 5 lines				
It is not anticipated that the proposed a mendments will place any unnecessary regulatory aministrative burden on the VCSE group. Consequently, the policy will have no impact on VCSE organisations. There is no anticipated impact to business.				
Benefits (£m)	Total Transitional (Policy)		Average Annual (recurring)	Total Benefit
	(constant price)	Years	(excl. transitional) (constant price)	(Present Value)
Low	Optional		Optional	Optional
High	Optional		Optional	Optional
Best Estimate				
Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups' Maximum 5 lines				
N/A				
Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups' Maximum 5 lines				
N/A				
Key Assumptions, Sensitivities, Risks Maximum 5 lines				
None				

BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option)

Direct Impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m				
Costs:	Benefits:	Net:		

Cross Border Issues (Option)

How does this option compare to other UK regions and to other EU Member States (particularly Republic of Ireland) Maximum 3 lines

Evidence Base

The SBNI is a partnership of key organisations from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors with statutory responsibility for coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of work undertaken by those represented on the SBNI for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Its functions include developing policies and procedures, promoting communications and awareness of the need to safeguard children and young people and undertaking Case Management Reviews (CMRs).

Following the outcome of the Review of the SBNI, the Department's overall aim is to reduce bureaucracy and to introduce greater flexibility around issues such as corporate hosting (the SBNI's corporate host is the Public Health Agency), staffing and business processes thereby ensuring that these functions are performed as effectively as possible.

In addition to seeking views on proposed legislative amendments arising from the recommendations and points of note contained in the SBNI Review, the Department is also seeking views on a number of other proposed amendments which it considers will improve the operational and procedural arrangements of the SBNI.

Maintenance of the status quo has been considered and deemed insufficient to effectively discharge the duties of the SBNI in its core role of improving child protection in the jurisdiction.

There are no impacts to business, other than potential minor impacts on social enterprises (included as part of the community/voluntary sector for the purposes of this assessment). VCSE impacts are considered to be minor, both financially and in terms of other costs (see PO1 above).

Due to the relatively low regulatory impact of the policy, a more detailed RIA is not considered necessary.

Wider impacts as a result of the policy and its attendant regulatory/legislative amendment would be hoped to include a more effective regional child protection and overall safeguarding service within Northern Ireland. This may not have any immediate financial or administrative impact, but in the longer-term a more protected/safe cohort of children growing up is likely to have positive societal and economic benefits.]