



2022 CHAPTER 17

*Operational matters*

**Guidance on data collection**

**18.—(1)** The Department—

- (a) may issue guidance to the listed bodies, or any additional bodies the Department considers appropriate, about the sort of information it seeks to obtain from them for the purpose of the assessment by it of the operation of this Act, and
- (b) must have regard to relevant information it obtains from the listed bodies, or from any additional bodies to whom such guidance is issued, in relation to the operation of this Act when determining the steps (if any) that could be taken by it for the purpose of ensuring the effectiveness of the operation of this Act.

**(2)** The listed bodies are—

- (a) the Police Service of Northern Ireland, and
- (b) the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland.