

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of the Environment to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under section 89 (1) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of the draft Order is to specify performance indicators and standards by reference to which a council's performance in exercising a related function can be measured or met.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Local Government Act (NI) 2014 conferred a new duty of performance improvement on councils from 1st April 2015. The Act sets out a framework for the operation of council performance improvement.
- 3.2. Section 89 of the Act provides that the Department may, by order, specify factors of performance (performance indicators) against which a council's performance will be measured, the purpose being to improve service delivery for the benefit of citizens.
- 3.3. This provides the legislative authority to make the Order.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. The proposed Order was subject to a ten week consultation period which closed on 2 March 2015. The Department received 12 responses to the consultation and none were opposed to the Order. The proposed Order was approved by the Environment Committee on 11 June 2015 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure in the Assembly.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. An Equality Impact Assessment has not been produced for this Order. The proposed Order will apply equally across councils and as a result is neutral in terms of impact. The policy proposal was subject to public consultation and no equality issues were raised.

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been produced for this Order because the Order does not place any additional burdens on businesses, charities, voluntary bodies or the public sector.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no additional costs implications associated with the introduction of this Order.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

8.1. The Order is considered compliant with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. EU Implications

9.1. There are no EU implications associated with the draft Order.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

10.1. Not applicable.

11. Additional Information

11.1. None.