

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The Northern Ireland (Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan) Act 2016 (Independent Reporting Commission) Regulations 2016 make provision in relation to the Independent Reporting Commission (“the Commission”) provided for in the Northern Ireland (Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan) Act 2016 (c. 13) (“the Act”).

Regulations 2 and 3 give full effect to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Reporting Commission dated 13th September 2016, a copy of which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-treaties#treaty-command-papers>. Regulation 2 provides that, in addition to the provisions in section 2 of the Act, the Commission must exercise its functions with a view to supporting long term peace and stability in society and stable and inclusive devolved Government in Northern Ireland, and that it does not act in a way which might prejudice the prosecution of crime. Regulation 3 requires the Secretary of State to lay the reports of the Commission, and the Commission’s accounts and auditor’s report, before Parliament and to arrange for them to be published.

A full impact assessment of the effect that this instrument will have on the costs of business, the voluntary sector and the public sector is annexed to the Explanatory Memorandum which is available alongside the instrument at www.legislation.gov.uk.