

# **The Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016**

## **Rural Needs Impact Assessment Template**

(April 2018)



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

**1A. Name of Public Authority - Department of Health and Department of Justice**

**1B. Please provide the official title/ description of the Strategy, Policy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative:**

Establishment of a Regional Care and Justice Campus.

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

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

**1D. Please provide the aims and/or objectives of the Strategy, Policy, Plan or Public Service:**

It is proposed that the Regional Care and Justice Campus will comprise (i) a Secure Care Centre made up of the existing regional facilities at Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre (JJC) and Lakewood Secure Care Centre; and (ii) multi-agency satellite provision, including a step-down facility and community-based provision. In addition, it is proposed that a multi-agency Panel will be established to make decisions about admissions to the Secure Care Centre; and a new relationship-based, trauma-informed therapeutic practice framework will apply in the Campus and across all settings for looked after children.

Taken together, the proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus are aimed at providing effective community-based services as an alternative to a secure placement. Where a secure placement is considered essential for the child's own safety or for the safety of others, the proposals are aimed at securing emotional and behavioural stability and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible.

Overall, it is intended that the proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus will enable more children and young people to be supported in the community; or, where this is not possible, the proposals aim to ensure that any child who does require to be securely accommodated will be safe and protected from harm and will experience safety and greater stability following discharge from a secure placement. Recognising the vital role of staff working across the Campus, the proposals also aim to ensure that staff are safe and



supported to do their job.

**1E. Which 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)

Empty text box for providing details and rationale for the 'Other Definition'.

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable<sup>1</sup>

**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?**

Please Yes  No  explain:

The proposals to establish a Regional Care and Justice Campus will impact on a very small cohort of children, with a variety of complex needs. Rurality has not been identified as a significant contributory factor to the needs of these young people, and it is unlikely that proposals will impact significantly on people in rural areas any more than on those living in urban areas.

The Secure Care Centre element of the Campus will integrate the existing regional services provided in Bangor at the Lakewood Secure Care Centre and Woodlands JJC. The table below provides admissions data to both Woodlands and Lakewood by Trust area, for the period from 1/4/14 to 31/3/19. It is notable that the majority of admissions were from the Belfast and South Eastern Trust areas (the two Trusts located closest to the regional facilities), while there were lower levels of admissions from Trusts located further away from the Bangor-based facilities and those with higher levels of rurality.

<sup>1</sup>If a definition of 'rural' is not applicable, the policy is unlikely to fall under the scope of the Act and you should be able to screen out at this stage

Admissions to Lakewood Secure Care Centre and Woodlands JJC by Trust 1/4/2014-31/3/2019				
	Lakewood		Woodlands	
	Number	% of total admissions	Number	% of total admissions
Trust				
BHSCT	55	27.8	216	25.7
NHSCT	29	14.6	134	15.9
SEHSCT	39	19.7	200	23.8
BHSCT	37	18.7	129	15.3
WHST	38	19.2	158	18.8
Not known	0	0.0	3	0.4
ROI	0	0.0	1	0.1
TOTAL	198		841	

The overall aim of the proposals being consulted on is that the establishment of a Regional Care and Justice Campus will enable more children and young people to be supported in the community, with fewer children requiring to be placed in secure accommodation. Where a child does need to be placed in secure accommodation, the proposals aim to ensure that they will be safe and protected from harm and will experience safety and greater stability following discharge from a secure placement. The intention is that this will be achieved through the provision of effective and coordinated community-based services as an alternative to a secure placement or, for those children who do require a secure placement, through a focus on securing emotional and behavioural stability and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible.

If the response is **NO** after entering explanation **GO TO Section 3**

**2B. 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 will impact people in rural areas differently:**

**2C. Please indicate the rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on (see list at note 1):**

## 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

Please explain:

The proposals to establish a Regional Care and Justice Campus will impact on a very small cohort of children, with a variety of complex needs. Rurality has not been identified as a significant contributory factor in the needs of these young people, and it is unlikely that proposals will impact significantly on people in rural areas any more than on those living in urban areas.

If the response is **NO** please explain above and **GO TO Section 4**

**3B. Please indicate which methods or information sources were used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas (see note 2 for examples) and provide details including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc:**

**3C. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas which have been identified:**

## **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 identified by the Public Authority:**

The proposals to establish a Regional Care and Justice Campus will impact on a very small cohort of children, with a variety of complex needs. Rurality has not been identified as a significant contributory factor in the needs of these young people, and it is unlikely that proposals will impact significantly on people in rural areas any more than on those living in urban areas.



## SECTION 5 – Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

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

Yes

No

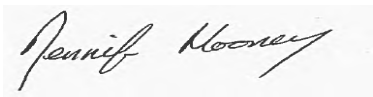
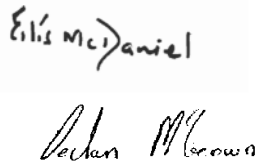
Please explain:

The proposals to establish a Regional Care and Justice Campus will impact on a very small cohort of children, with a variety of complex needs. Rurality has not been identified as a significant contributory factor in the needs of these young people, and it is unlikely that proposals will impact significantly on people in rural areas any more than on those living in urban areas.



## SECTION 6 – Documenting and Recording

6A. I confirm that details of the Rural Needs Impact Assessment will be recorded on the Public Authority’s Annual Monitoring Return and the RNIA Template retained by the Public Authority (please check box)

<b>Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:</b>	<b>Jennifer Mooney</b>
<b>Position / Grade:</b>	<b>G7</b>
<b>Division/Branch</b>	<b>Regional Facilities for Children and Young People Programme Team</b>
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>27/8/20</b>
<b>Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:</b>	<b>Eilis McDaniel (DoH) and Declan McGeown (DoJ)</b>
<b>Position / Grade:</b>	<b>Director of Family and Children’s Policy Directorate, DoH</b> <b>Chief Executive of Youth Justice Agency</b>
<b>Division / Branch</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>28/08/20</b>

**Note 1**

**Rural Policy Areas (relates to question 2C):**

- 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
- Other (Please specify)



**Note 2**

**Examples of methods or information sources used (relates to question 3B):**

- Consultation with Rural Stakeholders
- Consultation with Other Organisations
- Surveys or Questionnaires
- Other Methods or Information Sources (include details)
- Published Statistics
- Research Papers
- Other Publications