

Appendix I - Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) Template

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

1A. Name of Public Authority.

Department of Justice – Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Branch

1B. Please provide a short title which describes the activity being undertaken by the Public Authority that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

Public Consultation on the Northern Ireland Draft Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Strategy

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

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

1D. Please provide the official title (if any) of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service document or initiative relating to the category indicated in Section 1C above.

Northern Ireland Draft Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Strategy

1E. Please provide details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service.

The purpose of the strategy is to raise awareness of modern slavery offences and so to reduce the threat from, the vulnerability to, and the prevalence of, modern slavery in Northern Ireland. The strategy:

- enhances the operational response to PURSUE and disrupt offenders and bring them to justice;
- puts the PROTECTION and needs of victims at the centre of our response and;
- engages partners across key services, business, non-Governmental organisations and the wider public in PREVENTING.

1F. What 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).

A definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

Details of alternative definition of 'rural' used.

N/A. The strategy seeks to address all types of slavery across the whole of Northern Ireland and does not differentiate between urban and rural areas.

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

N/A

Reasons why a definition of 'rural' is not applicable.

Human trafficking and slavery practices take place across Northern Ireland and not limited to urban or rural areas. Forced labour and human trafficking for forced labour may take place in rural areas. For example, there have been incidents of forced labour within the agricultural sector. However, the agricultural sector is not the only sector where forced labour can take place: there have also been instances of forced labour within factories (including food processing factories) and the maritime sector. Modern slavery can take place in any setting. The Strategy aims to identify and eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking offences wherever they occur.

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?

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **2E**.

2B. Please explain how the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas.

.Rural and urban areas are equally susceptible to human trafficking/modern slavery. Traffickers and enslavers are targeting vulnerable people across Northern Ireland and globally. Their crimes can take place in inner city areas, in large factories, in rural border areas or, due to immigration controls avoidance, in areas accessible by small boats. Therefore, the public consultation on the proposed Modern Slavery Strategy does not seek to differentiate between rural and urban areas but actions will impact on all areas of Northern Ireland.

2C. 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 is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently.

N/A

2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.

Rural Businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education or Training in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broadband or Mobile Communications in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport Services or Infrastructure in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deprivation in Rural Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Crime or Community Safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agri-Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please state)	<input type="text"/>

If the response to Section 2A was YES GO TO Section 3A.

2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.

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 If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **3E**.

3B. Please indicate which of the following methods or information sources were used by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas.

Consultation with Rural Stakeholders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Published Statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation with Other Organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surveys or Questionnaires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Methods or Information Sources (include details in Question 3C below).			<input type="checkbox"/>

3C. Please provide details of the methods and information sources used to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas including relevant dates, names of organisations, titles of publications, website references, details of surveys or consultations undertaken etc.

The Department of Justice has engaged directly with the NGO Engagement Group and the OCTF MSHT Sub Group on the development of the draft strategy. A number of these civic society groups have a reach across Northern Ireland, in both urban and rural areas including faith groups which reach into churches across Northern Ireland.

The Gangmasters Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) can report the mistreatment of workers, labour providers operating without a licence or a business using an unlicensed gangmaster to the GLAA. In recent months the GLAA has provided assistance in collaboration with the PSNI to combat exploitation across both rural and urban areas, more specifically in working to publish an awareness raising article in the Farming Life magazine.

Civic society groups also reflect the views of other NGO partners with whom they work, providing the Department with a wide range of input from across the whole of Northern Ireland. Similarly, statutory partners such as the PSNI, Home Office Visas and Immigration and Immigration Enforcement, HMRC, the Health and Social Care Board etc all have reach into all areas of Northern Ireland. An Garda Síochána also work as a partner on cross-border aspects, with issues affecting rural areas on both sides of the border. Through public consultation all groups will have the opportunity to provide comment on the development of the strategy.

3D. Please provide details of the social and economic needs of people in rural areas, which have been identified by the Public Authority?

N/A Rural and urban areas are equally susceptible to human trafficking/modern slavery. Traffickers and enslavers are targeting vulnerable people across Northern Ireland and globally. Their crimes can take place in inner city areas, in large factories, in rural border areas or, due to immigration controls avoidance, in areas accessible by small boats. Therefore, the consultation paper on the draft strategy does not seek to differentiate between rural and urban areas but will impact on all areas of Northern Ireland

If the response to Section 3A was YES GO TO Section 4A.

3E. Please explain why no steps were taken by the Public Authority to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?

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.

No specific rural needs have been identified and the evaluation process will cover Northern Ireland-wide measures

SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

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

Yes No If the response is **NO** GO TO Section **5C**.

5B. Please explain how the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or delivery of the Public Service, has been influenced by the rural needs identified.

If the response to Section **5A** was **YES** GO TO Section **6A**.

5C. Please explain why the development, adoption, implementation or revising of the Policy, Strategy or Plan, or the design or the delivery of the Public Service, has NOT been influenced by the rural needs identified.

Rural and urban areas are equally susceptible to human trafficking/modern slavery. Traffickers and enslavers are targeting vulnerable people across Northern Ireland and globally. Their crimes can take place in inner city areas, in large factories, in rural border areas or, due to immigration controls avoidance, in areas accessible by small boats.

There are examples of human trafficking/modern slavery for forced labour occurring in rural areas. However, human trafficking/slavery for forced labour can also occur in urban areas.

SECTION 6 - Documenting and Recording

6A. Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Public Authority and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.

I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:	Richard Black
Position/Grade:	DP
Division/Branch	Department of Justice – MSHT Branch
Signature:	Richard Black
Date:	13 October 2022
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	Ronnie Pedlow
Position/Grade:	7
Division/Branch:	Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Branch POCD
Signature:	Ronnie Pedlow
Date:	13 October 2022