

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.

Invest Northern Ireland

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.

Northern Ireland Aerospace Customer Diversification Programme

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing a	Policy <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input checked="" 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 Aerospace Customer Diversification Programme

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

The information and outputs procured will form the roadmap for the recovery of the Northern Ireland Aerospace sector and in practical terms, provide the Invest NI Trade, International and Sector teams with knowledge and collateral to professionally promote the Northern Ireland Aerospace proposal to identified high-value manufacturing sectors across the world. The plan commits to developing a range of interventions to support viable businesses through the short and medium term. The proposed Programme will support Invest NI, DfE and the wider Executive to deliver their commitment to rebuild a more competitive, inclusive and greener economy in the short and medium term. It has the potential to support the development of a highly skilled, agile workforce.

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.

Rationale for using alternative definition of 'rural'.

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

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.

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.

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

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

Agri-Environment

Other (Please state)

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.

The ultimate objective of the proposed Programme is to sustain as many high-value Northern Ireland Aerospace companies and skilled employees through the challenges arising from Covid-19 / EU Exit.

It is anticipated that the programme will run until end of financial year 2022 over a period of 4 years subject to budget and satisfactory performance. The programme will ultimately assist Invest NI customers in the Aerospace sector.

A consultant provider will be procured through CPD to procure specialist research and expertise to

- Undertake a review of the capabilities of the wider Northern Ireland Aerospace supply chain
- Research and identify new sectors / global markets / customers for the Northern Ireland Aerospace cluster
- Research and identify opportunities for the existing manufacturing supply chain to collaborate with the technology sector to target emerging opportunities in aerospace and in particular green aviation
- Develop a strategic 5-year plan¹
- Identify key differentiators / USPs – how does the Northern Ireland Aerospace cluster compete
- Develop a 3 year Sales and Marketing Plan
- Develop an associated communications plan – engage a sector specialist consultant experienced at working in aerospace and other high value sectors
- Develop sector specific sales and marketing collateral

We do not therefore anticipate that this programme will 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 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.

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

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?

The strategic context for the introduction of this programme is to contribute to the aims and objectives of the wider governmental industrial strategies and Invest NI's business and international strategies, which are inclusive of the whole Northern Ireland community. There is no specifically rural impact on the social or 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.

From a local perspective, since 24 March, the impact of Covid-19 has seen announcements of over 1,800 aerospace-related job losses – 23% of total employment.

The Minister for the Economy, has held a number of virtual meetings with representatives from seven leading aerospace companies and the sector body, ADS NI. The companies stressed that the Northern Ireland sector was significantly and more proportionately impacted than other regions in the UK. The Minister indicated her goal is to sustain and retain the skills and capabilities developed in Northern Ireland. The Minister acknowledges the importance of the sector and consequently is actively engaged to ensure its needs are raised both locally and nationally.

These job losses are not disproportionately located in rural areas.

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.

No rural needs were identified, as this programme has not been found to impact on the rural community.

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:	PAMELA DENNISON
Position/Grade:	INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISOR
Division/Branch	Market Promotions
Signature:	<i>Pamela Dennison</i>
Date:	04/09/20
Rural Needs Impact Assessment approved by:	PAMELA MARRON
Position/Grade:	EQUALITY MANAGER
Division/Branch:	Equality
Signature:	<i>Pamela Marron</i>
Date:	15/09/20