Regulatory Policy Committee	OPINION
Impact Assessment (IA)	Early Years Foundation Stage (Learning and Development Requirements) (Amendment) Order 2012
Lead Department/Agency	Department for Education
Stage	Final
Origin	Domestic
Date submitted to RPC	12/03/2012
RPC Opinion date and reference	14/03/2012 RPC12-DfE-1279
Overall Assessment	AMBER

The IA is fit for purpose. The costs and benefits of the proposal have been adequately assessed, with the underlying assumptions for this analysis explained clearly throughout. However, the IA would benefit from presenting the main elements of the proposed changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) more clearly

Identification of costs and benefits, and the impacts on small firms, public and third sector organisations, individuals and community groups and reflection of these in the choice of options

Presentation of the proposal. The IA presents a number of measures under the preferred option which are intended to support several objectives. However, the IA should present the main elements of the proposed changes to the EYFS more clearly so that the impacts can be fully understood.

Have the necessary burden reductions required by One-in, One-out been identified and are they robust?

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The IA says that the proposal is a deregulatory measure that has a direct net benefit to business (an 'OUT') with an Equivalent Annual Net Cost to Business (EANCB) of -£10m. As the policy is designed to simplify, reduce and clarify existing requirements this appears consistent with the current One-in, One-out Methodology and provides a reasonable assessment of the likely impacts.

Signed

Michael Gibbons, Chairman