Regulatory Policy Committee	(OPINION	
Impact Assessment (IA)	Consumer Bill of Rights - Enhanced Civil Enforcement Remedies		
Lead Department/Agency	Department for Business, Innovation and Skills		
Stage	Final		
Origin	Domestic		
IA number	BIS0391		
Date submitted to RPC	01/03/2013		
RPC Opinion date and reference	02/04/2013	RPC12-BIS-1542(2)	
OIOO Assessment		GREEN	

Overall comments on the robustness of the OITO assessment.

The IA says that the proposal for new remedies for public enforcers of consumer law will affect only non-compliant business. As the proposal probably has no direct impacts on compliant business, it is out of scope of current One-in, Two-out methodology (paragraph 2.9.8 i of the Better Regulation Framework Manual).

Overall quality of the analysis and evidence presented in the IA

The IA suggests that the proposals for improving the remedies for use by public enforcers would have no direct impact on compliant businesses. It is noted, however, that the IA says: "There is a risk that some unmeritorious cases may be taken under the proposed reforms. However, any business which is subsequently found to have been incorrectly accused of non-compliance can apply to the courts for its costs" (paragraph 60). The IA would benefit from explaining further the potential risk of a cost to a compliant business in seeking redress following an incorrect accusation of non-compliance.

Signed

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Michael Gibbons, Chairman