 Regulatory Policy Committee	Validation of the One-in, Two-out Status and the Net Direct Impact on Business
Validation Impact Assessment (IA)	Amendment to the Early Years Register and General Childcare Register, including threshold for compulsory registration
Lead Department/Agency	Department for Education
IA Number	DFE0050
Origin	Domestic
Expected date of implementation	October 201X (SNR8)
Date of Regulatory Triage Confirmation	19 December 2014
Date submitted to RPC	24 March 2014
Date of RPC Validation	24 April 2014
RPC reference	RPC13-FTDfE-1905(4)
Departmental Assessment	
One-in, Two-out status	Zero Net Cost
Estimate of the Equivalent Annual Net Cost to Business (EANCB)	N/A
RPC assessment	VALIDATED
Summary RPC comments	
<p>The Validation IA is fit for purpose. The IA proposes a series of elements aimed at reforming the childcare registration system by aligning and streamlining the requirements of both the Early Years and General Childcare registers. The measure is expected to be net beneficial to business. However, as the Department has not been able to monetise the benefits, the policy is assessed as being Zero Net Cost.</p>	
Background (extracts from IA)	
What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?	
<p><i>“The Government intends to streamline existing childcare regulations so there is a single set of safeguarding and welfare requirements for providers for children aged 0-7, with some specific duties for the under 5s. Currently, there are two sets of different requirements for providers on the Early Years Register and those on the General Childcare Register. This is unhelpful and confusing as the majority of providers look after children of a variety of ages and have to join both registers. Furthermore, some of the current arrangements are unnecessarily prescriptive and do not effectively contribute to children’s safety or the quality of childcare. Providers can be maintained or independent schools, private and voluntary sector organisations.”</i></p>	

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

“The policy objectives and intended effects are to:

- streamline and strengthen measures and accountability to keep children safe*
- make it easier for schools and other providers to offer out-of-hours care from 8am to 6pm”.*

RPC comments

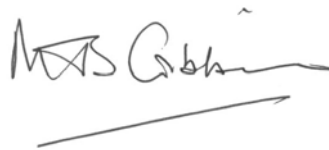
The IA covers a proposal to reform the childcare registration system by aligning and streamlining the requirements of the two registers. The proposal covers a series of elements, a number of which appear to be regulatory.

The IA explains that *“We are unable to precisely quantify the benefits in particular because we cannot be confident how many providers will take advantage of the new flexibilities and to what extent.”*(page1). However, the Department has provided sufficient evidence that the impacts of the policy will be net beneficial to business. The measure is, therefore, assessed as being Zero Net Cost.

The IA provides a reasonable assessment of the likely impacts and is consistent with the current Better Regulation Framework Manual (paragraph 1.9.12).

On this basis, we are able to validate the estimated EANCB.

Signed



Michael Gibbons, Chairman