Regulatory Policy Committee	OPINION
Impact Assessment (IA)	Health Research Authority
Lead Department/Agency	Department of Health
Stage	Final
Origin	Domestic
Date submitted to RPC	04/04/2012
RPC Opinion date and reference	02/05/2012 RPC12-DH-1329
Overall Assessment	GREEN

The IA is fit for purpose. There appears to be limited direct regulatory impact from the proposed change in legal status of the Health Research Authority (HRA) from a Special Health Authority to an executive Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB).

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

Impacts. The IA considers the impact of the proposed change in legal status of the Health Research Authority (HRA) from a Special Health Authority to an executive Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB). The potential effects of this change in legal status have been adequately discussed in the IA. We note that the proposal will allow HRA to take other regulatory functions, which will be the subject of future IA(s).

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

The IA says that the proposal is out of scope of One-in, One-out (OIOO) as there is no direct impact on business. This appears to be reasonable.

Signed Michael Gibbons, Chairman