Regulatory Policy Committee	OPINION
Impact Assessment (IA)	New approval process for prospective adopters and legislation on referrals to the Adoption Register
Lead Department/Agency	Department for Education
Stage	Final
Origin	Domestic
IA number	
Date submitted to RPC	02/05/2013
RPC Opinion date and reference	20/05/2013 RPC13-DfE-1728(3)
OITO Assessment	GREEN

Overall comments on the robustness of the OITO assessment.

The IA is fit for purpose. The IA says that it is a deregulatory proposal (an OUT) with an Equivalent Annual Net Cost to Business of -£0.06m. This is consistent with the current Better Regulation Framework Manual (paragraph 2.9.11) and provides a reasonable assessment of the likely impacts.

Overall quality of the analysis and evidence presented in the IA

Costs and Benefits. The IA addresses the key issue raised in our previous opinion (RPC13-DfE-1728(2) dated 29/04/13). The IA now provides the hourly labour cost rates used to calculate the costs and benefits. These rates are now consistent with the salary and non-wage labour cost data in the document referenced at footnote 21 in the IA.

The IA provides an explanation (paragraph 21) for deducting non-working days (annual leave, statutory leave days, study/training days and sickness leave) from the calculation of hourly labour costs. However, given that this does not appear to be established practice across government, the IA should explain this further, in particular why it is appropriate to remove study/training days (which can normally be assumed to contribute to the output of an organisation).

Signed Michael Gibbons, Chairman