

## Rural Needs Impact Assessment

### Section 1: Define activity subject to Section 1(1) of Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

**1A. Short title describing activity being undertaken that is subject to Section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016:**

Staff Guidance regarding HSC Patients who wish to pay for additional treatment – Oncology and Haematology Services at the Belfast City Hospital Site

**1B. Are you Developing, Adopting, Implementing or Revising a Policy a Strategy or a Plan? (Underline or Circle)**

**Or are you delivering or designing a public service? (Underline or Circle)**

**What is official title of this Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public service (if any)?**

Policy for HSC Patients who wish to pay for additional treatment- Oncology and Haematology Services at the Belfast City Hospital Site

**1C. Give details of the aims and/or objectives of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service:**

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Ensure that HSC principles are upheld, namely:
  - that the HSC provides a comprehensive service, available to all
  - that access to HSC services is based on clinical need, not ability to pay
- Safeguard against:
  - the HSC subsidising private care with public funding
  - patients being charged for their publicly funded care

**1D. What definition of 'rural' is the Trust using in respect of the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service:**

Rural is classified by those settlements with populations of less than 5,000 together with the open countryside.

### Section 2 - Understanding impact of Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

**2A. Is the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service likely to impact on people in rural areas?**

Yes  No  If response is NO Go To Section 2E.

**2B. How is it likely to impact on people in rural areas?**

**2C. If the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently from people in urban areas, please explain how it is likely to impact on people in rural areas differently?**

**2D. Please indicate which of the following rural policy areas the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is likely to primarily impact on.**

Jobs or Employment in Rural Areas		Community Safety or Rural Crime		Agriculture-Environment	
Education or Training in Rural Areas		Health or Social Care Services in Rural Areas		Other, please state below;	
Rural Development		Broadband/Mobile Communications in Rural Areas			
Poverty or Deprivation in Rural Areas		Rural Business, Tourism or Housing			

**2E. Please explain why the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service is NOT likely to impact on people in rural areas.**

The policy is staff guidance in respect of operational matters relating to HSC Patients who wish to pay for additional treatment – Oncology and Haematology Services at the Belfast City Hospital Site.

The Northern Ireland Cancer Centre provides specialist cancer treatment (brachytherapy, radiotherapy and chemotherapy) to people from across NI and is the local cancer treatment unit providing chemotherapy for people living within the Belfast Trust area with a diagnosis of Breast, Lung, Genitourinary and Lower GI Cancers (more commonly occurring cancers). People from rural areas can access the top up treatment either via the regional specialist centre at Belfast or via their own HSC Trust.

If you completed 2E above GO TO Section 6

### SECTION 3 - Identifying Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

**3A. Has the Trust taken steps to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas, relevant to the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service? Yes  No  if the response is NO, GO TO Section 3D**

**3B. Which of following methods or information sources were used by the Trust to identify these needs?**

Consultation with relevant stakeholders / Survey or Questionnaire / Research / Statistics / Publications / Other methods.  
Please provide details:

**3C. What social and economic needs of the people in rural areas have been identified?**

**3D Please explain why no steps were taken by the Trust to identify the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

### SECTION 4 - Considering Social and Economic Needs of Persons in Rural Areas

**4A. What issues were considered in relation to the social and economic needs of people in rural areas?**

### SECTION 5 - Influencing the Policy, Strategy, Plan or Public Service

**5A. Has the policy, strategy, plan or public service been changed by consideration of the rural needs identified?**  
 Yes  No  if the response is NO, GO TO Section 5C

**5B. If yes, how have rural needs influenced the policy, strategy plan or public service?**

**5C. If no, why have the rural needs identified not influenced the policy, strategy, plan or public service?**

**Section 6: Documentation:**

**6A.** Please tick below to confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained by the Trust and relevant information on the Section 1 activity compiled in accordance with paragraph 6.7 of the guidance.  
 I confirm that the RNIA Template will be retained and relevant information compiled.

<b>Rural Needs Impact Assessment undertaken by:</b>	Anne Flynn		
<b>Job Title/Directorate</b>	Service Improvement Manager, CSM		
<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	9/8/19
<b>Approved by:</b>	Gillian Traub		
<b>Job Title/Directorate</b>	Co-Director of CSM Division		
<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	9/8/19