

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004 (Amendment of section 8(4)) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015**

**SR 2015 No. 168**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the the Attorney General for Northern Ireland to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under the powers conferred by section 8(5) of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004 and is subject to the draft affirmative resolution procedure.

#### **2. Purpose**

- 2.1. The Statutory Rule adds the Police Service of Northern Ireland to the list of organisations to which guidance on human rights standards is to be given by the Attorney General for Northern Ireland under section 8 of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. Section 8(1) of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004 obliges the Attorney General for Northern Ireland to issue guidance for criminal justice organisations on the exercise of their functions in a manner consistent with international human rights standards. This Statutory Rule adds the Police Service of Northern Ireland to the list of organisations to which guidance on human rights standards is to be given by the Attorney General.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. The Attorney General has consulted with the Advocate General pursuant to section 8(5A) of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004.

#### **5. Equality Impact**

- 5.1. The Attorney General for Northern Ireland is not listed as a public authority for the purposes of section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

#### **6. Regulatory Impact**

- 6.1. A Regulatory Impact Assessment is not required.

#### **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. Not applicable.

#### **8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998**

- 8.1. It is the view of the Attorney General that this Statutory Rule is compliant with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

#### **9. EU Implications**

- 9.1. Not applicable.

**10. Parity or Replicatory Measure**

10.1. The Statutory Rule applies to Northern Ireland only. There is no corresponding Great Britain Statutory Instrument.

**11. Additional Information**

11.1. Not applicable.