

EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE SOCIAL WORK INSPECTIONS (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2006 SSI/2006/531

1. The above instrument will fall to be made in exercise of the powers conferred on the Scottish Ministers by sections 5(3) and 6(1) and (2) of the Joint Inspection of Children's Services and Inspection of Social Work Services (Scotland) Act 2006. The instrument is subject to draft affirmative procedure.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

2. The purpose of these regulations is to enable inspectors to conduct an inspection or investigation into the provision of social work services.

3. These powers build on existing legislation and ensure that the range of powers held by inspectors will replicate those held by other inspectorates. For example, the powers of entry and the creation of offences for non-compliance in these regulations replicate those held by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. The powers also match powers in respect of the joint inspection of children's services provided by the Joint Inspections (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/263).

CONSULTATION

4. The Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) have been fully consulted on the draft regulations, and have indicated that they are content with the powers contained in the regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no additional financial implications arising from these regulations that were not anticipated when budgets were allocated for the Social Work Inspection Agency for the period 2005-2008.

Scottish Executive Education Department
June 2006