EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (Designated Organisations) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

SR 2013 No. 38

1. Introduction

1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Justice to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under paragraph 7(3) of Schedules 1 and 2 to the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and is subject to the draft affirmative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

2.1. This Order lists a number of bodies that will have a requirement placed upon them to provide representation on all Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) and District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (DPCSPs) across Northern Ireland. These bodies are: the Police Service of Northern Ireland, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, the Youth Justice Agency of Northern Ireland, the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, Health and Social Care Trusts (not including the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service), Education and Library Boards and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.

3. Background

3.1. This Order aims to ensure that those bodies which have a wide contribution to make to enhancing community safety are active participants in the work of PCSPs/DPCSPs. The bodies will sit as members of the partnerships and will be expected to contribute to the development and implementation of partnership plans in terms of addressing community safety issues.

4. Consultation

4.1. The Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 required the Department of Justice to consult with all PCSPs and DPCSPs prior to making an Order. A twelve week targeted consultation concluded in August 2012, and responses were received from 25 out of 26 partnerships. The majority of respondents felt that the list above was suitable as it covered a broad range of organisations with a key role to play in enhancing community safety. Some also emphasised the view that formal designation would be beneficial in terms of ensuring consistency across all PCSPs.

5. Equality Impact

5.1. An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on this aspect of the Justice Bill 2010. Consideration has again been given to compliance with section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and no further equality issues relating to designation have been identified by the Department.

6. Regulatory Impact

6.1. All the organisations put forward for formal designation are statutory bodies, therefore there is no regulatory impact.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. There are no direct costs associated with designating a range of bodies, however staff time will be taken up by attendance at PCSP meetings across Northern Ireland. We estimate that, as these organisations may already have been involved in the work of the former Community Safety Partnerships, any increase in time demands would be relatively small.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

8.1. The Order is compatible with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. EU Implications

9.1. Not applicable.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

10.1. Not applicable.

11. Additional Information

11.1. Not applicable.