

*These notes refer to the Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (c.10) which received Royal Assent on 09 December 2015*

# Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### *Section 1: Well-being of children and young persons*

Section 1 acts as a purpose section, making clear that the Act is designed to improve the well-being of children and young persons. It also defines the key concept of “well-being”, drawing on language used in the Children's Strategy and the Northern Ireland Act 1998. In addition, subsection (3) stipulates that in interpreting “well-being” regard must be had to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Subsections (5) and (6) allow the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister (OFMdfM) to modify the meaning of “well-being” by means of subordinate legislation which would have to be approved by the Assembly.