



# Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

2016 CHAPTER 4

## PART 2

### INVESTIGATIONS

#### *Matters which may be investigated*

#### **Matters which may be investigated: universities**

**18.—**(1) This section applies where the listed authority is—

- (a) The Queen's University of Belfast,
- (b) University of Ulster.

(2) The Ombudsman may investigate alleged maladministration through action taken by a university in the exercise of administrative functions, in respect of students enrolled in courses provided or validated by the university.

(3) Where the investigation is under section 5 or 6, the complaint must have been made by a student, or a person who has been a student.

(4) But the Ombudsman has no jurisdiction to investigate a matter to the extent that it relates to a matter of academic judgement.

(5) If the Ombudsman has jurisdiction in respect of a complaint, the visitor of a university has no jurisdiction in respect of that complaint.

(6) Where, before this section has come into operation, a complaint has been made to the visitor but has not been resolved by the visitor, the visitor has

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**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016, Section 18. (See end of Document for details)*

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jurisdiction to deal with that complaint as if the other provisions of this section had not come into operation.

(7) In this Act, references to a university include references to a constituent college, school or hall or other institution of a university.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016, Section 18.