



## 2016 CHAPTER 4

### PART 3

#### COMPLAINTS HANDLING PROCEDURE

##### **Statement of principles**

**35.—**(1) The Ombudsman must publish a statement of principles concerning complaints handling procedures of listed authorities.

(2) The first statement of principles is not to be published unless a draft of the statement has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

(3) Before laying a draft statement of principles before the Assembly, the Ombudsman must consult—

- (a) Ministers of Northern Ireland departments, and
- (b) such listed authorities and other persons as the Ombudsman thinks fit.

(4) The Ombudsman must, in preparing the draft statement of principles, have regard to any representations made during the consultation.

(5) The statement of principles comes into force when it is published by the Ombudsman.

(6) The Ombudsman may from time to time revise and re-publish the statement of principles.

(7) Where the Ombudsman considers that any revision of the statement of principles is material, subsections (2) to (5) apply to that statement of principles as they do to the first statement of principles.