
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No. 417

**The Protection of Children and Vulnerable
Adults (Northern Ireland) Order 2003**

**PART I
INTRODUCTORY**

Interpretation: general

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 (c. 33) applies to this Order as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

(2) In this Order—

“adult” means a person who is not a child;

“child” means a person under the age of 18;

“the Children Order” means the [Children \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1995 \(NI 2\)](#);

“the Department” means the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety;

“director of social services” means—

(a) a director of social services of a Health and Social Services Board; or

(b) an executive director of social work of a Health and Social Services trust;

“employment” (except in Article 31)—

(a) means any employment, whether paid or unpaid and whether under a contract of service or apprenticeship, under a contract for services, or otherwise than under a contract; and

(b) includes an office established by or by virtue of a prescribed statutory provision,

and references to an individual being employed shall be construed accordingly;

“employment agency” and “employment business” have the same meanings as in the [Employment \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1981 \(NI 20\)](#); but no business which is an employment business shall be taken to be an employment agency;

“nursing agency” has the same meaning as in Part II of the Nursing Homes and Nursing Agencies Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 (c. 32);

“nursing home” has the meaning given by Article 16 of the [Registered Homes \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1992 \(NI 20\)](#);

“organisation” means a body corporate or unincorporate or an individual who employs others in the course of a business;

“the Pre-Employment Consultancy Service Register” means the list kept under that name by the Department;

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations;

“private hospital” has the meaning given by Article 90(2) of the [Mental Health \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1986 \(NI 4\)](#);

“regulations” means regulations made by the Department subject to negative resolution;

“residential care home” has the meaning given by Article 3 of the Registered Homes (Northern Ireland) Order 1992;

“statutory provision” has the meaning given by section 1(f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 (c. 33).

- (3) For the purposes of this Order, an individual is made redundant if—
- (a) he is dismissed; and
 - (b) for the purposes of the [Employment Rights \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1996 \(NI 16\)](#) the dismissal is by reason of redundancy.