

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO  
POLICE POWERS FOR DESIGNATED STAFF (CODE OF ETHICS) ORDER  
(NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008**

**S.R. 2008 No. 243**

1. 1.1 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Northern Ireland Office and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
  
1.2 It has been prepared by the Northern Ireland Office to assist the reader in understanding the Order. It does not form part of the Order.
2. **Description**  
  
2.1 The Order applies the Code of Ethics for the Police Service of Northern Ireland, as modified, to persons designated under Sections 30, 30A and 31 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003.  
  
2.2 A revised Code of Ethics came into operation on 10 March 2008. The Police Service of Northern Ireland (Conduct)(Amendment) Regulations 2008 (S.R. 2008 No. 56) introduced this revised code.  
  
2.3 The code of ethics sets out the ethical standards required of police officers of the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Under this order the Code of Ethics will be applied to designated persons in a modified form.  
  
2.4 The Order comes into operation on 1 July 2008.
3. **Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments**  
  
None.
4. **Legislative Background**  
  
This Order is made under section 37 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003
5. **Territorial Extent and Application**  
  
This Order applies to Northern Ireland.

## **6. European Convention on Human Rights**

As the Order is subject to negative resolution procedure at Westminster and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

## **7. Policy background**

7.1 Sections 30, 30A and 31 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003 give the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland the authority to designate persons as officers who may carry out certain functions with certain police powers. These persons may be police support staff designated under Sections 30 and 30A or contracted-out staff designated under section 31 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003.

7.2 This Order applies the Code of Ethics for the PSNI, issued by the Policing Board, to designated staff, subject to modifications.

## **8. Impact**

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

## **9. Contact**

Clare Brady at the Northern Ireland Office Tel: 028 9052 3458 or e-mail: [Clare.Brady@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Clare.Brady@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk) can answer any queries regarding the instrument.