

*These notes refer to the Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.)
Act 2003 (c.25) which received Royal Assent on 18th September 2003*

NORTHERN IRELAND (MONITORING COMMISSION ETC.) ACT 2003

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 5: Secretary of State's powers in relation to exclusion

Exclusion of individual Ministers

24. The Secretary of State is given power to exclude a Minister or junior Minister from holding ministerial office for a period of between three and twelve months (new section 30A(2)). The power is exercisable by direction. The parliamentary procedure which must be followed is set out in section 9 of the present Act (see below). He is also given power to extend a period of exclusion for a further period of between three and twelve months (new section 30A(3)). The same test as is applied by the Assembly (see paragraph 1616 above) applies to the exercise of these powers by the Secretary of State (new section 30A(4)).