

These notes refer to the Northern Ireland (St Andrews Agreement) Act 2006 (c.53) which received Royal Assent on 22 November 2006

NORTHERN IRELAND (ST ANDREWS AGREEMENT) ACT 2006

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 2: Amendments of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 Etc

Ministerial conduct

Section 7: Pledge of office

51. [Section 7](#) amends the pledge of office, as set out in Schedule 4 to the 1998 Act, which all Ministers are required to affirm on taking up office. Under this section Ministers are required to make four new commitments as conditions of office. They must promote the interests of the whole Northern Ireland community, participate fully in the Executive Committee, the NSMC and the BIC, observe the joint nature of the offices of First Minister and deputy First Minister and uphold the rule of law (including by supporting policing and the courts as set out in paragraph 6 of the St Andrews Agreement).