

*These notes refer to the Budget (No. 2) Act (Northern Ireland)
2015 (c.7) which received Royal Assent on 24th July 2015*

Budget (No. 2) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 1: Issue of sum out of the Consolidated Fund for the year ending 31st March 2016 and appropriation of that sum

Sub-section (1) authorises the issue out of the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland of the sum of £8,336,067,000 for 2015-16.

Sub-section (2) appropriates that sum for the purposes specified in column 1 of Schedule 1.

Section 2: Power of the Department of Finance and Personnel to borrow

This section authorises the temporary borrowing by the Department of Finance and Personnel of approximately half the sum covered by Section 1 (1). This is a normal safeguard against the possibility of a temporary deficiency arising in the Northern Ireland Consolidated Fund.

Section 3: Use of resources (other than accruing resources) in year ending 31st March 2016

This section authorises the use of resources amounting to £9,004,299,000 for 2015-16, for the purposes specified in column 1 of Schedule 2.

Section 4: Limit on use of accruing resources in year ending 31st March 2016

This section sets the limits on the accruing resources that may be directed to be used for certain specified purposes in the year ending 31st March 2016 in addition to the resources authorised by Section 3. Sub-section (2) provides authority for the direction of accruing resources as specified in column 3 of Schedule 2 to be used for the purposes specified in the corresponding entries in column 1 of that Schedule.

Section 5: Resource excesses for the year ending 31st March 2014

Subsection (1) authorises the use of resources by the two departments mentioned in Schedule 3 that exceeded the authorised provision in 2013-14.

Subsection (2) authorises the amounts that may be used, as detailed in column 2 of Schedule 3, and the purposes for which they may be used, as specified in column 1 of that Schedule.

Subsection (3) clarifies the additionality of the resources authorised by Section 5 over any existing statutory provision for 2013-14.

This section gives effect to the 2013-14 Statement of Excesses for the two departments following the report of the Public Accounts Committee confirming that it sees no objection to the resource amounts necessary being provided by Excess Votes.

Section 6: Repeal of spent provisions

This section removes from the statute book two Budget Acts which are no longer operative.

Section 7: Interpretation

As in Budget Act.

Section 8: Short title

This section sets out the title of the Act.

Schedules to the Act

Schedule 1: Sums granted for the year ending 31st March 2016.

Schedule 2: Amounts of resources authorised for use and amounts of accruing resources which may be used in year ending 31st March 2016.

Schedule 3: Excess amounts of resources authorised for use in year ending 31st March 2014.

Schedule 4: Repeals