



United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020

2020 CHAPTER 27

PART 5

NORTHERN IRELAND PROTOCOL

Northern Ireland's place in the UK internal market and customs territory

46 Northern Ireland's place in the UK internal market and customs territory

- (1) An appropriate authority must have special regard to the following matters when exercising any function for a relevant purpose—
 - (a) the need to maintain Northern Ireland's integral place in the United Kingdom's internal market;
 - (b) the need to respect Northern Ireland's place as part of the customs territory of the United Kingdom; and
 - (c) the need to facilitate the free flow of goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland with the aim of—
 - (i) streamlining trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and
 - (ii) maintaining and strengthening the integrity and smooth operation of the internal market in the United Kingdom.
- (2) A function is exercised for “a relevant purpose” if it is exercised for—
 - (a) the purpose of—
 - (i) implementing, or
 - (ii) otherwise dealing with matters arising out of, or related to, the Northern Ireland Protocol,
 - (b) the purpose of enabling or facilitating a purpose described in paragraph (a) to be achieved, or
 - (c) a purpose relating to movement of goods within the United Kingdom (including movement that involves movement in a country or territory outside the United Kingdom).

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

(3) In this section “appropriate authority” means—

- (a) a Minister of the Crown;
- (b) the Scottish Ministers;
- (c) the Welsh Ministers;
- (d) the First Minister and deputy First Minister in Northern Ireland acting jointly, a Northern Ireland Minister or a Northern Ireland department;
- (e) any other person who exercises functions of a public nature.