

*These notes refer to the Financial Assistance Act (Northern Ireland)
2009 (c.2) which received Royal Assent on 4 February 2009*

Financial Assistance Act (Northern Ireland) 2009

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 5 – Interpretation

Section 5 sets out the definitions of various terms used in the Act. It defines the following terms –

“the relevant department” – in relation to establishing a scheme for providing financial assistance, means the Northern Ireland department designated by the First Minister and deputy First Minister, or (if no such designation is made) the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister;

“OFMDFM” – this is an abbreviation of the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister;

“public body” – means:

- a Northern Ireland department;
- a body established by or under a statutory provision. This means any provision of an Act or a statutory instrument made under an Act;
- a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1991. Article 2 of the 1991 Order defines a “statutory undertaker” as meaning persons authorised by any statutory provision to carry on any railway, road transport, water transport, inland navigation dock or harbour undertaking or a gas undertaker, or an electricity undertaker or a universal service provider (within the meaning of the Postal Services Act 2000) in connection with the provision of a universal postal service (within the meaning of that Act) or the airport operator (within the meaning of the Airports (Northern Ireland) Order 1994) of any airport to which Article 25 of that Order applies; or
- any body which exercises functions wholly or mainly of a public nature and which are prescribed in regulations made for this purpose by the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister. These regulations will be subject to negative resolution procedure in the Assembly.

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“scheme” – means a scheme contained within regulations made under section 1 or section 2 of the Act; and

“specified” – in relation to a scheme, means specified in the scheme.