

*These notes refer to the Commissioner for
Older People Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (c.1)*

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMISSIONER FOR OLDER PEOPLE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2011

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES

CONSULTATION

OVERVIEW

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 1- The Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland

Section 2- Principal aim of the Commissioner

Section 3 - Duties of the Commissioner

Section 4- General Powers of the Commissioner

Section 5 - General review of advocacy, complaint, inspection and whistle-blowing arrangements of relevant authorities

Section 6 - Review of advocacy, complaint, inspection and whistle-blowing arrangements of relevant authorities in individual cases

Section 7 - Assistance with complaints to relevant authorities

Section 8 - Investigation of complaints against relevant authorities

Section 9 - Actions which may be investigated: restrictions and exclusions

Section 10 - Power to bring, intervene in or assist in legal proceedings

Section 11 - Assistance in relation to legal proceedings

Section 12 – Conciliation of disputes

Section 13 - Formal investigations

Section 14 - Formal investigations: exclusions

Section 15 - Report on formal investigation

Section 16 - Further action following report on formal investigation

Section 17 - Evidence in formal investigations

Section 18 - Powers of entry and inspection for purposes of formal investigation

Section 19 - Obstruction and contempt in relation to formal investigation

Section 20 - Disclosure of information by Commissioner

Section 21 - Review of this Act

Section 22 - Privilege for certain publications

Section 23 – Application of this Act: relevant authorities with mixed functions

Section 24 - Application of this Act: matters arising before commencement

Section 25 - Interpretation: “older person”

Section 26 - Interpretation: “relevant authority”

Section 27 - Interpretation: general

Section 28 - Commencement

Section 29 - Short title

SCHEDULES TO ACT

SCHEDULE 1 THE COMMISSIONER FOR OLDER PEOPLE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

1. Status
2. General powers
3. Tenure of office
4. Salary,
5. Staff

6. Exercise of functions of Commissioner

7. Seal

8. Evidence

9. Property

10. Funding

11. Accounts

12. Annual report

13. The Northern Ireland Assembly Disqualification Act 1975 (c. 25)

14. The Commissioner for Complaints (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (NI 7)

15. The Freedom of Information Act 2000

SCHEDULE 2 INVESTIGATION UNDER SECTION 4(4)

SCHEDULE 3 RELEVANT AUTHORITIES

HANSARD REPORTS