## Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

Part 3: Protection of residential occupiers from eviction and harassment

## Section 12 - Protection of occupiers against eviction and harassment

Section 12 protects those living in caravans on residential (protected) caravan sites from eviction (other than through court proceedings) and harassment. It is an offence for the owner of a protected site or their agent to intend to cause the caravan occupier to abandon the caravan, remove it from the site or prevent them having access to their rights or a form of redress by withholding or withdrawing services or doing acts likely to interfere with the peace or comfort of the caravan occupier or anyone living with them.

Sub-section(8) sets out the penalties for a person guilty of such an offence and sub-section (12) enables district councils to prosecute such offences in relation to sites within their districts.