

*These notes refer to the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act
(Northern Ireland) 2011 (c.23) which received Royal Assent on 4 May 2011*

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 6 – Noise

Chapter 2: Amendments to the Noise Act 1996

Section 60 – Dealing with noise at night

This section amends the Noise Act 1996, which currently gives powers to district councils to deal with noise at night (by way of warning notices, fixed penalties etc.). These powers have previously only applied to a district council in Northern Ireland that adopts them in its district. Subsection (2) confers these powers on all councils. Subsection (3) removes the previously associated duty (once the powers had been adopted) to take reasonable steps to investigate a complaint, and substitutes a discretionary power to take such steps in response to a complaint. Subsection (4) removes a provision that would have applied to a situation where one district council had adopted powers under the Act but a neighbouring council had not, as this will no longer apply.