

*These notes refer to the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c.12) which received Royal Assent on 11 April 2016*

# Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **OVERVIEW**

14. The Act has 6 sections and comprises 6 headings:-

*Control of information of a relevant person* – places an obligation on the Department to make regulations to make provision for the processing of Health and Social Care information.

*Establishment of committee to authorise processing of confidential information and the dissemination of information* - places an obligation on the Department to make regulations to establish a committee to authorise the processing of confidential information as defined in the Act and to disseminate information to the public about the operation of the Act and any other relevant matter, and in particular about the rights of relevant persons regarding the processing of confidential information of those persons. This section also allows the Department to set out in regulations the make-up of the committee and its procedures.

*Code of Practice* - places an obligation on the Department to publish a Code of Practice in respect of the processing of information to which health and social care bodies, and any other person providing health and social care, must have due regard in exercising their functions in relation to the provision of health and social care.

*Regulations* - relates to control of regulations made under the Act.

*Interpretation* - sets out the definitions of specific terms used within the Act.

*Short title and commencement* - sets out the title and commencement dates.