

*These notes refer to the Water and Sewerage Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c.7) which received Royal Assent on 23 March 2016*

# Water and Sewerage Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***Section 6: Connection of drains and private sewers to public sewers: adoption agreements***

Section 6 limits the right, conferred by Article 163 of the 2006 Order, to connect to a sewer. The Section introduces a requirement to enter into a sewer adoption agreement within the meaning of Article 161 of the 2006 Order (agreements to adopt sewer, drain or waste water treatment works at future date) as a condition of that right. This is in order to enable NI Water(*i*) to set the standards to which the private sewerage, including any necessary sustainable drainage system, must be constructed and (*ii*) to require an appropriate security (such as a bond). Provided the agreed construction standards are met, connection may not then be refused by NI Water. A mechanism for appeals to the Regulator about any issue regarding the sewer adoption agreement is also included.