

These notes refer to the Protection from Stalking Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c.17)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

PROTECTION FROM STALKING ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2022

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES

OVERVIEW

First part – Offences

Second part – Stalking Protection Orders

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Sections 1 to 5 - Offences

Section 1 - Offence of stalking

Section 2 - Offence of threatening or abusive behaviour

Section 3 - Special measures directions

Section 4 - Alternative to conviction of the domestic abuse offence

Section 5 - No right to claim trial by jury

Section 6 to 17 – Stalking Protection Orders

Section 6 - Meaning of act associated with stalking and risk associated with stalking

Section 7 - Applications for orders

Section 8 - Power to make orders

Section 9 - Duration of orders

Section 10 - Variations, discharges and renewals

Section 11 - Interim stalking protection orders

Section 12 - Content of, and procedure for, orders

Section 13 - Offence of breaching order

Section 14 - Notification requirements

Section 15 - Method of notification and related matters

Section 16 - Offences relating to notification

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Section 21 - Interpretation

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HANSARD REPORTS