

RATES (AMENDMENT) (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2004

S.I. 2004 No. 703 (N.I. 4)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

COMMENTARY ON ARTICLES

Article 7: Powers of entry

This Article inserts a new Article 26A in the principal Order which provides authorised officers of the Department with a power to enter non-domestic property for the purpose of gathering information. The power is exercisable at any reasonable time with the consent of the occupier or, if the property is vacant, with the consent of the person entitled to possession of the property. In the absence of such consent, the power may be exercisable after 24 hours notice has been given. A property that has been entered under this Article must be left in a secure state and compensation is payable if a property is damaged.

Obstructing an authorised officer of the Department is also an offence under Article 60 of the principal Order.