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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order provides for the coming into operation on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009 of section 1, section 2, section 3, section 4(c), and section 10 of the Building Regulations (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009.

Section 1 introduces a definition of low or zero carbon systems into the Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 (NI 16) (“the Principal Order”). It also introduces into Schedule 1 to the Principal Order a number of new matters for which building regulations may be made.

Section 2 requires district councils to take account of the desirability of preserving the character of protected buildings in carrying out their functions under building regulations.

Section 3 amends the Principal Order to require nominations to the Building Regulations Advisory Committee to come from “persons” rather than “bodies”.

Section 4(c) expands Article 5(5) of the Principal Order to allow building regulations to be made for the purposes of preserving or enhancing the environment and to promote sustainable development.

Section 10 creates a new offence to knowingly or recklessly submit false or misleading information for the purposes of securing building regulations approval.