# NORTHERN IRELAND ARMS DECOMMISSIONING (AMENDMENT) ACT 2002

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **COMMENTARY**

#### Section 1

## **Subsection (4)**

8. In case section 1 did not come into force until after 26 February 2002, this subsection provides that a scheme which would at any time have been a decommissioning scheme for the purposes of the 1997 Act, but for the fact that the amnesty period had not been extended by section 1 at that time, would have been treated as having been such a scheme at that time. This means that anything done in accordance with such a scheme would, once the Act was enacted, have fallen within the amnesty provided for by section 4(1) of the 1997 Act. Since the Act came into force on 26 February 2002, it will not be necessary to rely on the provision made by this subsection.