# **ARMED FORCES ACT 2006**

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

#### **COMMENTARY**

First Group of Parts - Discipline

**Part 9 – Sentencing: Principles and Procedures** 

Chapter 2 - Principles and Procedures applying to Service Courts only

## General

### Section 257: Pre-sentence reports: supplementary

- 512. This section applies the definition of a "pre-sentence report" in the 2003 Act for the purposes of section 256, but allows reports to be prepared for service courts by social workers as well as probation officers.
- 513. Subsection (4) applies the relevant provisions of section 159 of the 2003 Act, which requires copies of a written report to be given to the offender or his legal representative and the prosecutor. If the offender is under 18 a copy must also be given to any parent or guardian of his who is in court; but a complete copy need not be given to such an offender, or to his parent or guardian, if this would create a risk of significant harm to the offender. The prosecutor must not use the report for any purpose except making representations to the court about the contents of the report.