*These notes refer to the Environment (Wales) Act 2016* (*c.3) which received Royal Assent on 21 March 2016* 

# **ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016**

# **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

### **Part 2 - Climate change**

### Section 33 – The net Welsh emissions account

- 158. Subsection (1) defines the net Welsh emissions account as the aggregate of net Welsh emissions, minus any carbon units credited to the account for the period plus any carbon units debited from the account for the period.
- 159. Subsection (2) enables the Welsh Ministers to define in regulations which carbon units can be credited to and debited from the net Welsh emissions account, and how this can be done.
- 160. Subsection (3) provides that regulations made under subsection (2) must ensure that, where carbon units are used to reduce the net Welsh emissions account, they are not also used to offset other emissions elsewhere. This could otherwise lead to "double-counting".
- 161. Subsection (4) provides that regulations must limit the extent to which carbon units can be used to reduce the net Welsh emissions account.