
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1973 No. 1228 (N.I. 16)

Enterprise Ulster (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 ^{F1}

[16th July 1973]
^{F2}

F1 functions transf. by SR 1999/481

F2 Order repealed (prosp.) by [Public Authorities \(Reform\) Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2009 \(c. 3\)](#), ss. 4(1)(a), 6, 7(1), [Sch. 3](#) (with [Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 4\(3\)](#))

Title and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Enterprise Ulster (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 ...
Commencement ...

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

(2) In this Order—

“the Comptroller and Auditor-General” means the Comptroller and Auditor-General for Northern Ireland;

“the Corporation” means Enterprise Ulster;

“government department” means a department of the Government of Northern Ireland;

“the Minister” means the Minister of Health and Social Services;

“the Ministry” means the Ministry of Health and Social Services;

“public body” means a body (including a district council) established by or under any transferred provision but does not include a government department;

“transferred provision” has the meaning assigned to it by section 1(g) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954.

Para.(3) rep. by SLR 1976

Enterprise Ulster

3.—(1) There shall be established a body corporate with perpetual succession to be called Enterprise Ulster to which section 19 of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall apply.

(2) The Corporation shall have such functions as are conferred on it by this Order.

(3) The constitution of the Corporation shall be as provided in that behalf in Part I of Schedule 1, and the supplementary provisions contained in Part II of that Schedule shall have effect.

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(4) Subject to any arrangements made with a government department under Article 4(4)(*d*), the Corporation shall not be regarded as the servant or agent of the Crown or as enjoying any status, immunity or privilege of the Crown or as exempt from any tax, duty, rate, levy, or other charge whatsoever, whether general or local, and its property shall not be regarded as the property of, or property held on behalf of, the Crown but nothing in this Order shall be construed as derogating from any privilege, immunity or exemption of the Crown in relation to any matter as respects which the Corporation acts as agent of the Crown by virtue of Article 4(4)(*d*).

Functions of the Corporation

4.—(1) For the purpose of creating^{F3}, or providing training for,] employment in Northern Ireland the Corporation may, subject to and in accordance with any directions given by the Ministry under paragraph (7), do anything which the Corporation considers to be of environmental, amenity, cultural, community or social value and may evaluate the need for or make preparations for or concert, promote, assist or undertake suitable action for the carrying out of works or activities which it considers to be of such value and to be directly or indirectly conducive to that purpose.

(2) The Corporation may conduct, promote or assist research or investigations into any aspects of unemployment in Northern Ireland or any part of it (including the causes of and remedies for unemployment) in so far as the Corporation considers any such research or investigation consistent with the objects of the Corporation.

(3) Any government department may co-operate with the Corporation in any research or investigation under paragraph (2) if, apart from this paragraph, it would not have power to do so.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraphs (1) and (2), the Corporation may—

- (a) give assistance by way of grant to any person proposing to carry out, or carrying out, any work or activity such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) or any research or investigation such as is mentioned in paragraph (2);
- (b) contribute towards expenses incurred by any person in preparing for submission to the Corporation proposals for any such work, activity, research or investigation;
- (c) delegate to any person (including government departments) the carrying out of any such work, activity, research or investigation;
- (d) act as agent for any person (including government departments) in relation to any matter within the scope of the Corporation's functions;

and may do so on such terms and conditions as may be agreed between the Corporation and the person concerned.

(5) Any assistance by way of grant under paragraph (4)(*a*) to a person other than a government department or public body shall not exceed one half of the cost of the work or activity except where the Ministry with the consent of the Ministry of Finance authorises the payment of a larger grant in any particular case.

(6) Where a person proposing to carry out any work, activity, research or investigation as mentioned in paragraph (4)(*a*), (*b*) or (*c*) is a body corporate or unincorporate, that body shall have power to carry out the work, activity, research or investigation if, apart from this paragraph, it would not have power to do so; but a body shall not do anything by virtue of this paragraph—

- (a) if it is expressly prohibited by its constitution from doing that thing; or
- (b) where it is a public body, otherwise than with the consent of the Ministry concerned.

(7) The Ministry may, after consultation with the Corporation, give to the Corporation directions of a general or specific nature as to the discharge of its functions under this Order and the Corporation shall act in accordance with those directions.

(8) In paragraph (6)(b) “the Ministry concerned”, in relation to any public body, means the government department concerned with the functioning of the body, and if any question arises as to what department is the Ministry concerned, the question shall be determined by the Ministry of Finance.

(9) The Ministry may by order made with the approval of the Ministry of Finance and subject to affirmative resolution alter the functions of the Corporation, and any such order may modify or repeal any of the foregoing provisions of this Article.

F3 1990 NI 8

Power to obtain information

5.—(1) For the purpose of obtaining information reasonably required by the Corporation in order to allow the Corporation to create employment in Northern Ireland the Corporation may with the approval of the Ministry by notice in writing served on a public body preparing proposals for the carrying out of or proposing to carry out works or activities such as are mentioned in Article 4(1), require that body to furnish to the Corporation such information as may reasonably be specified in the notice.

(2) For the purpose of obtaining information reasonably required by a district council as to any proposals of the Corporation for the district of that council, the district council may with the approval of the Ministry of Development by notice in writing served on the Corporation, require the Corporation to furnish to the council such information as may reasonably be specified in the notice.

(3) A notice under paragraph (1) or (2) may require any such information to be furnished in such manner and within such time as may be specified in the notice, and either periodically or on one occasion or more.

Powers with respect to land

6.—(1) The power of the Corporation to acquire or dispose of land shall not be exercisable otherwise than with the consent of the Ministry and the Ministry of Finance.

(2) The Corporation may acquire compulsorily in accordance with the following provisions of this Article any land which it may require for the purposes of its functions under the Order.

(3) Where the Corporation in exercise of the power conferred by paragraph (2) desires to acquire any land otherwise than by agreement, it may apply to the Ministry for an order (in this Article referred to as a “vesting order”) vesting the land in the Corporation and the Ministry shall have power to make a vesting order.

(4) Schedule 6 to the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 shall apply for the purposes of the acquisition of land by means of a vesting order made under this Article in the same manner as it applies to the acquisition of land by means of a vesting order under that Act subject to the following modifications—

- (a) for any reference to the district council there shall be substituted a reference to the Corporation;
- (b) for any reference to the Ministry concerned there shall be substituted a reference to the Ministry;
- (c) for any reference to that Act there shall be substituted a reference to this Order.

(5) The power to make a vesting order in respect of land—

- (a) which is the property of any public body which has power under any transferred provision to acquire land compulsorily; or

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(b) which is declared by or under any transferred provision to be inalienable;

shall not, where representations objecting to the proposal for making the order have been duly made by the owner of the land and have not been withdrawn, be exercised in relation to that land unless the proposal for making the order has been approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

Power to enter on land

7.—(1) A person authorised in writing by the Corporation (in this Article referred to as an “authorised person”) may, on production if required of his credentials, at any reasonable time enter any land for the purpose of survey, valuation or examination—

- (a) where the Corporation proposes to acquire the land compulsorily under Article 6; or
- (b) where it appears to the Corporation that survey, valuation or examination is necessary in order to determine whether the land should be so acquired.

(2) A power of entry under paragraph (1) shall not be exercisable in relation to any land except—

- (a) with consent given by the occupier of the land; or
- (b) after at least twenty-four hours' notice of the intended entry has been served on the occupier or owner of the land.

(3) If any person, other than the owner or occupier of the land, knowingly prevents an authorised person from carrying out anything which the authorised person is duly authorised to do or obstructs the authorised person in carrying out any such thing, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding^[F4] level 2 on the standard scale].

(4) If any person, being the owner or occupier of land, knowingly prevents an authorised person from duly carrying into effect any survey, valuation or examination of the land or obstructs the authorised person in doing any such survey, valuation or examination, a court of summary jurisdiction on proof thereof may order him to permit to be done on the land all things requisite for carrying into effect such survey, valuation or examination; and, if he fails to comply with the order, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall, for every day during which the failure continues, be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding^[F4] level 2 on the standard scale].

(5) Where under this Article an authorised person enters any land, he shall ensure that the land is not left less secure by reason of the entry, and the Corporation shall make good or pay compensation for any damage to property caused by, or in consequence of, the authorised person exercising any right or failing to perform any duty under this Article.

(6) Any question of disputed compensation under this Article shall be referred to and determined by the Lands Tribunal.

(7) Any reference in this Article to an occupier or to an owner shall be construed as including a reference to a person appointed in writing by the occupier or owner as his representative for purposes including all or any of the purposes of this Article.

(8) Any power conferred by this Article shall be construed as including power to search and bore for the purpose of ascertaining the course of any sewers or drains or of ascertaining the nature of the subsoil therein and to take and carry away for examination specimens of the subsoil found therein.

F4 1984 NI 3

Expenses of the Corporation

8. For the purpose of enabling the Corporation to carry out its functions under this Order, the Ministry shall pay to the Corporation such sums as the Ministry may, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, determine.

[^{F5}Accounts and audit

9.—(1) The Corporation shall—

- (a) keep proper accounts and proper records in relation to the accounts; and
- (b) prepare a statement of accounts in respect of each financial year.

(2) The statement of accounts shall—

- (a) be in such form; and
- (b) contain such information,

as the Department may, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel, direct.

(3) The Corporation shall, within such period after the end of each financial year as the Department may direct, send copies of the statement of accounts relating to that year to—

- (a) the Department; and
- (b) the Comptroller and Auditor General.

(4) The Comptroller and Auditor General shall—

- (a) examine, certify and report on every statement of accounts sent to him by the Corporation under this Article; and
- (b) send a copy of his report to the Department.

(5) The Department shall lay a copy of the statement of accounts and of the Comptroller and Auditor General's report before the Assembly.]

F5 2003 NI 5

Reports

10.—(1) The Corporation shall as soon as possible—

Sub-para.(a) rep. by SLR 1976

(b) **10.** (1) (b) within a period of three months after the end of each ...^{F6} financial year, make to the Minister a report, in such form and containing such information as the Ministry may direct, on the performance of its functions ...^{F6} during the financial year ...^{F6}.

(2) The Minister shall lay before each House of Parliament a copy of each report made to him under this Article^{F7}. . . .

F6 SLR 1976

F7 2003 NI 5

Disclosure of information to the Ministry

11.—(1) The Corporation shall provide the Ministry with such returns and information relating to its activities as the Ministry may require.

(2) For that purpose, the Corporation shall permit any person authorised by the Ministry in that behalf to inspect and make copies of its accounts, books, documents and papers and shall afford such explanation thereof as that person or the Ministry may reasonably require.

Cesser of functions of the Corporation

Paras. (1)#(2) rep. by 1986 NI 23

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(3) Subject to paragraph (4), the Ministry may by order made subject to affirmative resolution make provision for and in connection with the dissolution and winding-up of the Corporation.

(4) On the dissolution of the Corporation for any reason whatsoever, the property of the Corporation and any rights or liabilities to which it is entitled or is subject shall vest in the Ministry, and may be enforced by and against the Ministry accordingly in its own name.

Art.13 rep. by SLR 1976

Modification and exclusion of transferred provisions in relation to the Corporation

14.—(1) The Employer's Liability (Defective Equipment and Compulsory Insurance) (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 shall not require insurance to be effected by the Corporation.

Para. (2) rep. by 1996 NI 16

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Article 3(3).

ENTERPRISE ULSTER

PART I

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CORPORATION

1. The Corporation shall consist of—
 - (a) a Chairman appointed by the Minister;
 - (b) not less than seven nor more than eleven other members appointed by the Minister of whom—
 - (i) two shall be appointed after consultation with such organisation representative of employers as appears to the Minister to be appropriate;
 - (ii) two shall be appointed after consultation with such organisation representative of workers as appears to the Minister to be appropriate.
- 2.—(1) A member of the Corporation shall hold and vacate his office in accordance with the terms of his appointment and shall, on ceasing to hold his office, be eligible for re-appointment.
(2) Any member may at any time by notice in writing to the Minister resign his office.
3. The Minister may, by notice in writing addressed to a member, terminate his appointment as a member of the Corporation if of the opinion that he is unfit to continue in office or incapable of performing his duties as a member.
4. The proceedings of the Corporation or any committee thereof shall not be invalidated by any vacancy in the membership of the Corporation or committee or by any defect in the appointment of any of its members.

PART II

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS AS TO THE CORPORATION

Remuneration

5. The Corporation may pay—
 - (a) to the Chairman and to the other members of the Corporation appointed under paragraph 1(b), such remuneration and such allowances for expenses;
 - (b) to persons attending meetings of the Corporation or any committee thereof, such allowances for expenses (including compensation for loss of remunerative time); and
 - (c) to persons who are not members of the Corporation but who at the invitation of the Corporation or any committee thereof act as advisers at meetings of the Corporation or

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committee held to consider matters on which those persons are specially qualified or otherwise, such fees,
as the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance may determine.

Procedure

6.—(1) The Corporation may constitute one or more committees to which it may delegate such of its functions as it may specify.

(2) The functions and proceedings of any committee constituted under sub-paragraph (1) shall be exercised subject to, or regulated in accordance with, any directions of the Corporation.

(3) Such a committee may consist exclusively of persons who are members of the Corporation, or partly of such persons and partly of persons who are not members of the Corporation but who appear to the Corporation to be suitably qualified for service on the committee.

(4) A member of such a committee who is not a member of the Corporation shall have the same exemption from personal liability as if he were a member of the Corporation.

7. The Ministry and, if the Ministry thinks fit in a particular case or class of cases, such other Ministries as it may specify may each appoint one person to attend the meetings of the Corporation and of committees of the Corporation, and any person so appointed shall be entitled to take part in the proceedings of the meetings and receive copies of all documents distributed to the members, but shall have no vote.

Restrictions affecting members

8.—(1) A member of the Corporation who is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a contract made or proposed to be made by the Corporation shall, as soon as possible after the relevant circumstances have come to his knowledge, disclose the nature of his interest at a meeting of the Corporation; and the disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of the Corporation, and the member shall not take part in any deliberation or decision of the Corporation with respect to that contract.

(2) Where under sub-paragraph (1) a member is prohibited from taking part in any deliberation or decision, that member shall be disregarded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of the Corporation for any such deliberation or decision.

(3) A member of the Corporation need not attend in person at a meeting of the Corporation in order to make any disclosure which he is required to make under this paragraph if he takes reasonable steps to secure that the disclosure is made by a notice which is brought up and read at the meeting.

Para.9(1) rep. by 1975 c.25;

Para.9(2) rep. by 1996 NI 7

The seal

10. The seal of the Corporation shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman or some other member of the Corporation authorised by the Corporation to act for that purpose.

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Execution of contracts and instruments not under seal

11. Any contract or instrument which, if entered into or executed by an individual would not require to be^[F8] executed as a deed] may be entered into or executed on behalf of the Corporation by any person generally or specially authorised by the Corporation to act for that purpose and any document purporting to be such a contract or instrument shall be deemed to be such a contract or instrument until the contrary is proved.

F8 2005 NI 7

Borrowing

12. The Corporation may borrow, by way of temporary loan or overdraft from a bank or otherwise, any sum which it may temporarily require for the purpose of defraying expenses pending the receipt of revenues receivable by the Corporation; but—

- (a) the total amount for the time being outstanding on foot of such borrowings shall not exceed such sum as the Ministry may with the approval of the Ministry of Finance specify in writing to the Corporation;

Para.(b) rep. by 1995 NI 16

Staff

13.—(1) The number of persons employed by the Corporation who fall within a class specified by the Ministry for the purposes of this paragraph shall be determined by the Corporation subject to the approval of the Ministry.

(2) The Corporation shall not determine the remuneration of any person or class of persons employed by the Corporation otherwise than with the approval of the Ministry and the Ministry of Finance.

(3) The Corporation may pay to persons employed by it such allowances for expenses incurred in connection with the business of the Corporation as the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance may determine.

(4) The Corporation may, in the case of such persons employed by it as may be determined by the Corporation with the approval of the Ministry and the Ministry of Finance, pay to or in respect of them such pensions, allowances or gratuities, or provide and maintain for them such pension schemes (whether contributory or not) or contributory or other pension arrangements as may be so determined.

Schedule 2 rep. by 1996 NI 16

Changes to legislation:

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Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the Enterprise Ulster (Northern Ireland) Order 1973

Commencement Orders bringing legislation that affects this Order into force:

- [S.R. 2015/230 art. 2 commences \(2009 c. 3 \(N.I.\)\)](#)