

*These notes refer to the Child Maintenance Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (c.10)*

---

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **CHILD MAINTENANCE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES**

#### **CONSULTATION**

#### **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

#### **OVERVIEW**

#### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

##### **PART 1: ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT**

Section 1: Promotion of child maintenance

Section 2: Provision of information and guidance

Section 3: Fees

Section 4: Agency arrangements and provision of services

Section 5: Contracting out

Section 6: Supplementary provisions

##### **PART 2 – CHILD SUPPORT ETC.**

###### **Removal of compulsion for benefit claimants**

Section 7: Repeal of Articles 9 and 43

###### **Maintenance calculations**

Section 8: Changes to the calculation of maintenance

Section 9: Power to regulate supersession

Section 10: Determination of applications for a variation

Section 11: Transfer of cases to new rules

### **Collection and enforcement**

Section 12: Use of deduction from earnings orders as basic method of payment

Section 13: Deduction from earnings orders: the liable person's earnings

Section 14: Orders for regular deductions from accounts

Section 15: Lump sum deduction orders

Section 16: Orders preventing avoidance

Section 17: Administrative liability orders

Section 18: Disqualification for holding or obtaining a travel authorisation

Section 19: Curfew orders

Section 20: Commitment to prison

Section 21: Disqualification for driving

### **Debt management powers**

Section 22: Power to treat liability as satisfied

Section 23: Power to accept part payment of arrears in full and final satisfaction

Section 24: Power to write off arrears

Section 25: Transfer of arrears

### **Miscellaneous**

Section 26: Meaning of "child"

Section 27: Notification of Change of Address

Section 28: Additional special case

Section 29: Recovery of arrears from deceased's estate

Section 30: Disclosure of information relating to family proceedings

Section 31: Disclosure of information to credit reference agencies

Section 32: Pilot schemes

Section 33: Extinction of liability in respect of interest and fees

Section 34: Use of information

Section 35: Liable relative provisions: exclusion of parental duty to maintain

### **PART 3 - GENERAL**

Section 36: Regulations

Section 37: General interpretation

Section 38: Minor and consequential amendments

Section 39: Repeals

Section 40: Transition

Section 41: Commencement

Section 42: Short title

Schedule 1: Changes to the calculation of maintenance

Schedule 2: Maintenance calculations: transfer of cases to new rules

Schedule 3: Use of information

#### **Powers in relation to use of information**

Schedule 4: Minor and consequential amendments

Schedule 5: Repeals

### **HANSARD REPORTS**