

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

**2007 No. 1351**

**The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups  
(Northern Ireland) Order 2007**

*Miscellaneous*

**Crown application**

**53.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Article, this Order and any regulations or orders made under it bind the Crown to the full extent authorised or permitted by the constitutional laws of Northern Ireland.

(2) No contravention by the Crown of any provision of this Order or of any regulations or order made under it makes the Crown criminally liable.

(3) Despite paragraph (2), this Order and any regulations or orders made under it apply to persons in Crown employment (within the meaning of the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (NI 16)) as they apply to other persons.

(4) Paragraph (2) of Article 10 does not apply in relation to any activity carried out by the Crown.

(5) Each government department and other body performing functions on behalf of the Crown—

(a) if the department or body engages in regulated activity, is the regulated activity provider in relation to the activity;

<sup>F1</sup>(b) .....

(6) In paragraph (5) “body” includes office-holder.

**Textual Amendments**

**F1** Art. 53(5)(b) repealed (10.9.2012 immediately after the coming into force of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/2157)) by [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\), s. 120, Sch. 9 para. 98, Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2\(aa\)\(v\)\(bb\)](#)

**Commencement Information**

**II** Art. 53 wholly in operation; art. 53 not in operation at date of making see art. 1(3); art. 53 in operation for certain purposes at 14.4.2008 by [S.R. 2008/127, art. 4\(1\)](#); art. 53 in operation at 12.10.2009 in so far as it is not already in operation by [S.R. 2009/346, art. 3, Sch.](#)

**Referrals: findings of fact immaterial**

**54.**—(1) For the purposes of the provisions mentioned in paragraph (2), it is immaterial whether there is a finding of fact in any proceedings.

(2) The provisions are—

(a) Article 37(3)(b) and (c);

(b) Article 38(4)(b) and (c);

(c) Article 41(2)(b) and (c) and (5)(a);

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**Changes to legislation:** *The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007, Miscellaneous* is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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- (d) Article 43(2)(b) and (c) and (5)(a);
- (e) Article 47(2)(b) and (c) and (5)(a).

### Fostering

**55.**—(1) Despite Article 4, this Order applies to activity that is regulated activity by virtue of paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 2.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not affect the operation of this Order in relation to any other activity that is carried out in connection with a foster child.

(3) Paragraph (4) applies if a person (P)—

- (a) makes arrangements for another person to foster a child as a private foster parent, and
- (b) has power to terminate the arrangements.

(4) P is, if he would not otherwise be, a regulated activity provider in relation to fostering carried out by the foster parent in pursuance of the arrangements.

(5) The following provisions of this Article apply for the purposes of this Order.

(6) A person fosters a child if he is a foster parent of the child.

(7) A person is a foster parent if—

- (a) he is an authority foster parent within the meaning of Article 27(3) of the Children Order;
- (b) he is a person with whom a child has been placed by a voluntary organisation under Article 75(1)(a) of that Order;
- (c) he is a private foster parent.

(8) A person is a private foster parent if he falls within paragraph (9) and looks after a child—

- (a) for reward, or
- (b) in pursuance of an arrangement made by someone other than a member of the child's family.

(9) A person falls within this paragraph if—

- (a) he fosters the child privately within the meaning of Article 106(1) of the Children Order,
- (b) he would be so fostering the child but for Article 107(1) of that Order (minimum period of 28 days), or
- (c) (in the case of a child who has attained the age of 16) he would fall within sub-paragraph (a) or (b) if the child were under the age of 16.

(10) A person's family includes—

- (a) the person's foster child;
- (b) the foster child of any member of the person's family;

and references to a family relationship and family member are to be construed accordingly.

#### Commencement Information

**I2** Art. 55 wholly in operation; art. 55 not in operation at date of making see art. 1(3); art. 55 in operation for certain purposes at 14.4.2008 by [S.R. 2008/127](#), [art. 4\(m\)](#); art. 55 in operation at 13.3.2009 by [S.R. 2009/41](#), [art. 3\(1\)\(g\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:** *The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007, Miscellaneous* is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## Alignment with rest of UK

**56.—(1)** The Secretary of State may, by order, make such provision (including provision amending any statutory provision, including this Order) as he thinks necessary or expedient in consequence of or having regard to any relevant England and Wales legislation or any relevant Scottish legislation.

(2) An order may—

<sup>F2</sup>(a) .....

(b) confer power to make subordinate legislation.

(3) Relevant England and Wales legislation is any provision applying in England or Wales made by or under an Act of Parliament which the Secretary of State thinks—

(a) corresponds to provision made by or under this Order,

(b) <sup>F3</sup> ... or

(c) affects the operation of any provision made by or under this Order.

(4) Relevant Scottish legislation is any provision made by or under an Act of the Scottish Parliament which the Secretary of State thinks—

(a) corresponds to provision made by or under this Order,

(b) <sup>F4</sup> ... or

(c) affects the operation of any provision made by or under this Order.

<sup>F5</sup>(5) .....

### Textual Amendments

- F2** Art. 56(2)(a) repealed (10.9.2012 immediately after the coming into force of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/2157)) by [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\), s. 120, Sch. 9 para. 99\(2\), Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2\(aa\)\(v\)\(bb\)](#)
- F3** Art. 56(3)(b) (except the word "or") repealed (10.9.2012 immediately after the coming into force of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/2157)) by [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\), s. 120, Sch. 9 para. 99\(3\), Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2\(aa\)\(v\)\(bb\)](#)
- F4** Art. 56(4)(b) (except the word "or") repealed (10.9.2012 immediately after the coming into force of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/2157)) by [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\), s. 120, Sch. 9 para. 99\(4\), Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2\(aa\)\(v\)\(bb\)](#)
- F5** [Art. 56\(5\)](#) repealed (10.9.2012 immediately after the coming into force of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/2157)) by [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\), s. 120, Sch. 9 para. 99\(5\), Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2\(aa\)\(v\)\(bb\)](#)

### Commencement Information

- I3** Art. 56 wholly in operation; art. 56 not in operation at date of making see art. 1(3); art. 56(1)(2) in operation for certain purposes at 29.5.2008 by [S.R. 2008/233, art. 5\(m\)](#); art. 56 in operation at 12.10.2009 in so far as it is not already in operation by [S.R. 2009/346, art. 3, Sch.](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007, Miscellaneous is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 1 para. 5A inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 11\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 11A inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 11\(3\)](#)
- art. 32A32B substituted for art. 32-34 by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 9\(1\)](#)
- art. 35(3A)-(3D) inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 9\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- art. 36ZA inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 10](#)
- art. 50(2A) inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 13\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- art. 50(5)(b) and word inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 13\(3\)\(f\)](#)
- art. 51(2A) inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 13\(4\)\(c\)](#)
- art. 51(5)(b) and word inserted by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 7 para. 13\(4\)\(f\)](#)