

*These notes refer to the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009 (c.1) which received Royal Assent on 21 January 2009*

# Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***Section 4: Department's priorities and objectives***

Requires the Department to determine and, where appropriate, revise priorities and objectives in relation to the provision of health and social care. In setting such objectives, there is an onus on the Department to consult with such bodies or persons as it considers appropriate. The section also provides the Department with the power to give directions without consulting in cases where the urgency of the matter necessitates it but requires the Department in cases where the duty to consult has been set aside because of the urgency of the matter, to report retrospectively to all appropriate bodies or persons as to its reason for taking this course of action.