

*These notes refer to the Financial Assistance Act (Northern Ireland)  
2009 (c.2) which received Royal Assent on 4 February 2009*

# Financial Assistance Act (Northern Ireland) 2009

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***Section 4 –Financial assistance***

Section 4 provides that financial assistance provided under a scheme may be given in any form. The financial assistance may be provided directly, or indirectly, to those entitled to receive it. Such assistance may be repayable in specified circumstances.

*Subsection (1)* allows financial assistance provided under a scheme established under either section 1 or section 2 of the Act to be given in any form, including by way of a grant, a loan or a guarantee.

*Subsection (2)* provides that financial assistance given under a scheme may be subject to such conditions as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

*Subsection (3)* permits those conditions to include conditions for the repayment of grants in specified circumstances.

*Subsection (4)* specifies that financial assistance provided under a scheme may be provided directly to those entitled to receive it, or indirectly. If the financial assistance is provided indirectly, it can, for example, be given to a public body to provide financial assistance to those who are entitled to the assistance.

*Subsection (5)* enables financial assistance to be provided under the Act even though other statutory powers may exist for giving that assistance.