

*These notes refer to the Planning Act (Northern Ireland)  
2011 (c.25) which received Royal Assent on 4 May 2011*

# Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 1: Functions of Department with respect to development of land.**

##### ***Section 1: General functions of Department of the Environment with respect to development of land***

This section sets out the Department's duty to formulate and co-ordinate planning policy which must be in general conformity with the Regional Development Strategy. A statutory duty is imposed on the Department in exercising these functions to do so with the objective of furthering sustainable development and promoting or improving well-being. This section also provides for the Department to continue to undertake such surveys or studies as it considers necessary.

##### ***Section 2: Preparation of statement of community involvement by Department***

This section sets out the requirement for the Department to produce a statement of its policy for involving the community in its planning control functions. The Department must publish its statement within one year of the section coming into operation.