

*These notes refer to the Identity Cards Act 2006  
(c.15) which received Royal Assent on 30 March 2006*

## **IDENTITY CARDS ACT 2006**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

#### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

##### ***Supplemental***

##### ***Section 42: General interpretation***

219. This section provides for interpretation of certain terms used in the Act. This includes the definition of biometric data in relation to an individual as meaning data about his external characteristics including in particular the features of an iris or other part of the eye. It also makes clear that “subject to compulsory registration” means an obligation to register and be issued with an ID card imposed by way of future primary legislation.
220. *Subsection (2)* defines what is meant by the provision of a public service. This is broadly defined and is not restricted to what might be commonly understood as “public services” such as the NHS and could include the granting of a firearms certificate or the requirement to notify changes of address imposed on certain sex offenders.