STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1991 No. 760 (N.I. 5)

The Census (Confidentiality) (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

- - - - - - *20th March 1991*

Title and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Census (Confidentiality) (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

(2) This Order shall come into operation on 22nd April 1991.

Interpretation

2. The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954[F1] shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Annotations:
F1 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

Unlawful disclosure of information

3. In section 7 of the Census Act (Northern Ireland) 1969[F2] (penalties for offences) the following subsections shall be substituted for subsections (4) and (5)—

"(4) If—

(a) the Registrar General or any person who is—

(i) under his control, or

(ii) a supplier of services to him; or

(b) any officer of the Department of Health and Social Services or any person acting on behalf of that Department;

uses, without lawful authority, any personal census information or discloses, without such authority, such information to another person, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) If any person uses any personal census information which he knows has been disclosed in contravention of this Act or discloses such information to another person, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(6) It shall be a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (4) or (5) to prove—

(a) that at the time of the alleged offence he believed—

(i) that he was acting with lawful authority; or

(ii) that the information in question was not personal census information; and