
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1981 No. 228

Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

Title and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), this Order shall come into operation on the seventh day after the day on which it is made.

(3) [^{F1}Paragraph 1(b)] of Part I of Schedule 1 shall come into operation on such day as the [^{F2} Lord Chancellor] may by order appoint.

F1 2002 c. 26
F2 SI 1982/159

Interpretation

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

(2) For the purposes of section 42(2) of the Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (validity of Acts of the Parliament of Northern Ireland), provisions of this Order which re-enact provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland shall be deemed to be provisions of such an Act.

(3) References in this Order to counsel and solicitors shall be construed in accordance with Article 10 of the European Communities (Services of Lawyers) Order 1978^[F3], as it has effect by virtue of regulation 5 of the Services of Lawyers and Lawyer’s Practice (Revocation etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020].

[^{F4}(4) In this Order—

“the Department” means the Department of Justice;

“the Director” means the Director of Legal Aid Casework designated under section 2 of the Legal Aid and Coroners' Courts Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.]

F3 Words in art. 2(3) inserted (31.12.2020) by [The Services of Lawyers and Lawyer’s Practice \(Revocation etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/1342\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 4** (with Sch. para. 13)
F4 Art. 2(4) inserted (1.4.2015) by [Legal Aid and Coroners’ Courts Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2014 \(c. 11\)](#), s. 12(1), **Sch. 2 para. 1(1)** (with ss. 2(3), 9, Sch. 1 para. 3(3)); S.R. 2015/193, art. 2(e)

Changes to legislation:

Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, PART I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

- Order power to amend conferred by [2011 c. 24 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 para. 5\(a\)](#)
- Act rev.in pt. by [1996 c. 25 s.79Sch.4 paras.19\(2\)36](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art. 28(7)(c) inserted by [2011 c. 24 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 29(2A) inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- art. 29(2A) words substituted in earlier affecting provision [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 3](#) by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(c\)](#)