

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order brings into operation on 1st June 1999 the rule-making provisions in Articles 4(1) and 11 of the Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997. It also brings into operation certain introductory provisions insofar as they relate to the making of such rules.

Article 4(1) authorises rules of court which may provide that, where a party to civil proceedings adduces hearsay evidence of a statement made by a person and does not call that person as a witness, any other party to the proceedings may, with the leave of the court, call that person as a witness and cross-examine him on the statement as if he had been called by the first-mentioned party and as if the hearsay statement were his evidence in chief.