

*These notes refer to the Defamation Act (Northern Ireland)  
2022 (c.30) which received Royal Assent on 6 June 2022*

# Defamation Act (Northern Ireland) 2022

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### ***Section 8: Power of court to order a summary of its judgment to be published***

In summary disposal proceedings under section 8 of the 1996 Act the court has power to order an unsuccessful defendant to publish a summary of its judgment where the parties cannot agree the content of any correction or apology. The section gives the court power to order a summary of its judgment to be published in defamation proceedings more generally.

*Subsection (1)* enables the court when giving judgment for the claimant in a defamation action to order the defendant to publish a summary of the judgment. *Subsection (2)* provides that the wording of any summary and the time, manner, form and place of its publication are matters for the parties to agree. Where the parties are unable to agree, *subsections (3) and (4)* respectively provide for the court to settle the wording, and enable it to give such directions in relation to the time, manner, form or place of publication as it considers reasonable and practicable. *Subsection (5)* disapplies the section where the court gives judgment for the claimant under section 8(3) of the 1996 Act. The summary disposal procedure is a separate procedure which can continue to be used where this is appropriate.