



2022 CHAPTER 4

Abolition of preliminary investigations and mixed committals

Abolition of preliminary investigations

1. Article 30 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (which enables a magistrates' court to conduct a preliminary investigation of an indictable offence) is repealed; and accordingly all committal proceedings in a magistrates' court shall be by way of preliminary inquiry under that Order.

Abolition of mixed committals: evidence on oath not to be given at preliminary inquiry

2. Article 34(2) of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (which enables witnesses to give evidence on oath at a preliminary inquiry) is repealed.

Consequential amendments and repeals

3. The Schedule (which contains amendments and repeals consequential on sections 1 and 2) has effect.