1999 No. 2789

The Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1999

PART II

SPECIAL MEASURES DIRECTIONS IN CASE OF VULNERABLE AND INTIMIDATED WITNESSES

Preliminary

Special measures available to eligible witnesses

6.—(1) For the purposes of this Part—

- (a) the provision which may be made by a special measures direction by virtue of each of Articles 11 to 18 is a special measure available in relation to a witness eligible for assistance by virtue of Article 4; and
- (b) the provision which may be made by such a direction by virtue of each of Articles 11 to 16 is a special measure available in relation to a witness eligible for assistance by virtue of Article 5;

but this paragraph has effect subject to paragraph (2).

(2) Where (apart from this paragraph) a special measure would, in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (b), be available in relation to a witness in any proceedings, it shall not be taken by a court to be available in relation to the witness unless—

- (a) the court has been notified by the Secretary of State that relevant arrangements may be made available in the district in which it appears to the court that the proceedings will take place, and
- (b) the notice has not been withdrawn.

(3) In paragraph (2) "relevant arrangements" means arrangements for implementing the measure in question which cover the witness and the proceedings in question.

(4) The withdrawal of a notice under that paragraph relating to a special measure shall not affect the availability of that measure in relation to a witness if a special measures direction providing for that measure to apply to the witness's evidence has been made by the court before the notice is withdrawn.

(5) The Secretary of State may by order make such amendments of this Part as he considers appropriate for altering the special measures which, in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (b), are available in relation to a witness eligible for assistance by virtue of Article 4 or (as the case may be) Article 5, whether—

- (a) by modifying the provisions relating to any measure for the time being available in relation to such a witness,
- (b) by the addition—

- (i) (with or without modifications) of any measure which is for the time being available in relation to a witness eligible for assistance by virtue of the other of those Articles, or
- (ii) of any new measure, or
- (c) by the removal of any measure.