

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Commencement Order, which is the sixth to be made under the Access to Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, relates to the coming into operation of paragraph 6(3) of Schedule 4 to the 2003 Order. The transitional provision relating to the commencement of that provision on 9th March 2005 is revoked.

The effect of the revocation is that the amendment made to Article 37 (remuneration of solicitors and counsel) of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 now applies in respect of the amounts payable for all proceedings under Part III (free legal aid in criminal proceedings) of the 1981 Order. That is, the fair remuneration principle has been replaced with the value for money test in respect of all such proceedings.