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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order brings the following provisions of the Access to Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 into operation on 1st April 2015:

Articles 6 (planning), 7(6) and (7) (powers of the Department), 9 (Northern Ireland law and foreign law), 10 to 20A (civil legal services), 32 (restriction of disclosure of information), 33 (misrepresentation etc.), 34 (position of service providers and other parties etc.), 35 (solicitors and barristers), 36 (register of persons providing services), 47 (remuneration orders) and Schedule 2 (Civil Legal Services: Excluded Services), together with Schedule 4 (Minor and Consequential Amendments), partially and Schedule 5 (Repeals), partially.

Those provisions which relate both to civil and to criminal matters are brought into operation regarding civil matters only.

This Order contains transitional and savings provisions relating to the replacement of the legal aid scheme under the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 by the new scheme established for civil legal services under the Access to Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 and, in particular, relating to existing cases (Article 3).

This Order also contains transitional provisions regarding consultation in relation to any remuneration order made for civil matters (Article 4) and prohibitory directions (Article 5).