
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No.

The Marriage (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

Marriage of person under 18

Order dispensing with relevant consent

23.—(1) A county court may make an order dispensing with the consents required by Article 22 in relation to a young person if it is satisfied that the proposed marriage is in the best interests of the young person and either—

- (a) it is not reasonably practicable to obtain the consent of any person whose consent is required; or
 - (b) any person whose consent is required withholds or refuses his consent; or
 - (c) there is uncertainty as to whose consent is required.
- (2) An application for an order under this Article may be made—
- (a) by or on behalf of the young person; or
 - (b) by or on behalf of any person (including another young person) intending to marry a young person,

and without the intervention of a next friend.

(3) The decision of the county court on any application made under this Article shall be final and conclusive.