
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No.

Access to Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

PART II

NORTHERN IRELAND LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Criminal defence services

Advice and assistance

- 23.**—(1) The Commission shall fund such advice and assistance as it considers appropriate—
- (a) for individuals who are arrested and held in custody at a police station or other premises, and
 - (b) in prescribed circumstances, for individuals who—
 - (i) are not within sub-paragraph (a) but are involved in investigations which may lead to relevant proceedings,
 - (ii) are before a court or other body in such proceedings, or
 - (iii) have been the subject of such proceedings.
- (2) The Commission may comply with the duty imposed by paragraph (1) by—
- (a) entering into contracts with persons or bodies for the provision of advice or assistance by them,
 - (b) making payments to persons or bodies in respect of the provision of advice or assistance by them,
 - (c) making grants or loans to persons or bodies to enable them to provide, or facilitate the provision of, advice or assistance,
 - (d) establishing and maintaining bodies to provide, or facilitate the provision of, advice or assistance,
 - (e) making grants to individuals to enable them to obtain advice or assistance,
 - (f) employing persons to provide advice or assistance, or
 - (g) doing anything else which it considers appropriate for funding advice and assistance.
- (3) The Lord Chancellor may by order require the Commission to discharge the function in paragraph (2) in accordance with the order.
- (4) The Commission may fund advice and assistance by different means—
- (a) in different areas in Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) in relation to different descriptions of cases.