
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No.

Access to Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

PART II

NORTHERN IRELAND LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Supplementary

Position of service providers and other parties etc.

34.—(1) Except as expressly provided by regulations, the fact that civil legal services or criminal defence services provided for an individual are or could be funded by the Commission, shall not affect—

- (a) the relationship between that individual and the person by whom they are provided or any privilege arising out of that relationship, or
- (b) any right which that individual may have to be indemnified, in respect of expenses incurred by him, by any other person.

(2) A person who provides civil legal services or criminal defence services funded by the Commission shall not take any payment in respect of the services apart from—

- (a) that made by way of that funding, and
- (b) any authorised by the Commission to be taken.

(3) Where civil legal services funded by the Commission are provided in connection with any proceedings, any expenses incurred in connection with the proceedings, so far as they would ordinarily be paid in the first instance by or on behalf of the person providing the services, shall be so paid except where they are paid by the Commission.

(4) The withdrawal of a right to representation previously granted to an individual shall not affect the right of any person who has provided to him civil legal services or criminal defence services funded by the Commission to remuneration for work done before the date of the withdrawal.

(5) Except as expressly provided by regulations, any rights conferred by or by virtue of this Part on an individual for whom civil legal services or criminal defence services are funded by the Commission in relation to any proceedings shall not affect—

- (a) the rights or liabilities of other parties to the proceedings, or
- (b) the principles on which the discretion of any court or tribunal is normally exercised.

(6) Regulations may make provision about the procedure of any court or tribunal in relation to civil legal services or criminal defence services funded by the Commission.

(7) Regulations made under paragraph (6) may in particular authorise the exercise of the functions of any court or tribunal by any member or officer of that or any other court or tribunal.