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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order brings into force, on 24th March 2003, the following provisions of the Proceeds of Crime Act (“the Act”):

- (a) Part 2, which replaces the existing scheme of criminal confiscation in England and Wales;
- (b) Part 4, which replaces the existing scheme of criminal confiscation in Northern Ireland;
- (c) Part 9, which makes provision about the interaction of insolvency proceedings and criminal confiscation proceedings in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland;
- (d) Part 10, which provides for the disclosure of information to and by the Director of the Assets Recovery Agency (so far as it relates to the disclosure of information to and by the Lord Advocate in connection with the exercise of any of his functions under Part 3 of the Act);
- (e) sections 444, 445 and 447 which give power to make Orders in Council about external requests, orders and investigations;
- (f) certain minor and consequential amendments in Schedule 11, together with entries in the repeals Schedule, Schedule 12.

Articles 3 to 13 make transitional provision and savings in relation to the existing confiscation schemes in England and Wales and Northern Ireland and about the schemes for enforcement of overseas confiscation orders.

Article 14 amends the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (Commencement No. 4, Transitional Provisions and Savings) Order 2003 to make it clear that the transitional provisions and savings in that Order also apply to offences which end on the commencement date.