*These notes refer to the Justice Act (Northern Ireland)* 2011 (c.24) which received Royal Assent on 4 May 2011

# Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

# **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

**Part 1: Victims and Witnesses** 

#### **Chapter 2 - Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses**

### Section 8: Special measures directions for child witnesses

This section allows the views of young witnesses to be taken into account when special measures applications are being made, subject to certain specified safeguards. It also removes the category of child witnesses who are in need of special protection thereby placing all child witnesses on the same footing regardless of the offence to which the proceedings relate.