

*These notes refer to the Criminal Justice Act (Northern Ireland)
2013 (c.7) which received Royal Assent on 25 April 2013*

Criminal Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2013

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES

Examination of accused through intermediary

22. [Article 17](#) (Examination of witness through intermediary) of the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 is one of a suite of special measures. Before a court may use a special measure, it must be issued with a Statutory Notice by the Department of Justice. In bringing forward a similar provision in respect of the examination of an accused through an intermediary (Article 21BA of the 1999 Order, as inserted by section 12 of Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011), providing for the issue of a statutory notice was overlooked. The Act corrects this, thereby providing legislative consistency between the provisions for examination of witnesses and the accused through an intermediary.