
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1989 No. 1341

**The Police and Criminal Evidence
(Northern Ireland) Order 1989**

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

General interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954^{F1} shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

(2) In this Order—

^{F2}

“designated police station” has the meaning assigned to it by Article 36;

“document” [^{F3} means anything in which information of any description is recorded];

“intimate search” means a search which consists of the physical examination of a person's body orifices;

“items subject to legal privilege” has the meaning assigned to it by Article 12;

“parent or guardian” means—

Sub#para. (a) rep. by 1995 NI 2

(b) in the case of a child ^{F4}... in the care of a ^{F5}... [^{F6}Health and Social Care trust], that ^{F7}... [^{F6}Health and Social Care trust];

Definitions rep. by 2000 c. 32

“premises” has the meaning assigned to it by Article 25;

“recordable offence” means any offence to which regulations under Article 29 apply;

^{F8}

“statutory provision” has the meaning given in section 1(*f*) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954^{F9};

[^{F10}“the terrorism provisions” means [^{F11}sections 41 and 43B] of the Terrorism Act 2000, and any provision of Schedule 7 to that Act conferring a power of detention;]

[^{F10}“terrorism” has the meaning given in section 1 of that Act.]

“vessel” includes any ship, boat, raft or other apparatus constructed or adapted for floating on water.

(3) Subject to [^{F12}paragraphs (4) and (4A)], a person is in police detention for the purposes of this Order if—

Changes to legislation: The Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, Section 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (a) he has been taken to a police station after being arrested for an offence or after being arrested under ^{F13} section 41 ^{F14}or 43B] of the Terrorism Act 2000]^{F15}or section 27 of the National Security Act 2023]; or
- (b) he is arrested at a police station after attending voluntarily at the station or accompanying a constable to it, ^{F16} or]
- ^{F16}(c) he is arrested at a police station after being taken to the station in pursuance of a direction under section 16 of the Prison Act (Northern Ireland) 1953,] and is detained there or is detained elsewhere in the charge of a constable.
- (4) A person—
- (a) who is at a court after being charged; or
- (b) who has been taken from a custodial establishment and held in police custody pending his appearance at a court,

is not in police detention for those purposes.

^{F17}(4A) Where a person is in another's lawful custody by virtue of paragraph 8, 22(1) or 23(2) of Schedule 2 to the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003, he shall be treated as being in police detention for the purposes of this Order.]

^{F18}(5) In this Order “custodial establishment” includes a prison, a young offenders centre, a juvenile justice centre and a remand centre.]

- F1** 1954 c. 33 (NI)
- F2** Art. 2(2): definition of "arrestable offence" repealed (1.3.2007) by Police and Criminal Evidence (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/288 (N.I. 2)), arts. 1(2), 15(4), 41(2), Sch. 1 para. 26(1), **Sch. 2**
- F3** 1997 NI 21
- F4** rep. by 1998 NI 9
- F5** Words in art. 2(2) omitted (1.4.2022) by virtue of Health and Social Care Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c. 3), s. 8(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 132(a)**; S.R. 2022/102, art. 2(b)
- F6** Art. 2(2): words in definition of "parent or guardian" substituted (1.4.2009) by Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009 (c. 1), ss. 32, 34(3), **Sch. 6 para. 1(1)(c)** (with Sch. 6 para. 1(3)); S.R. 2009/114, **art. 2**
- F7** Words in art. 2(2) omitted (1.4.2022) by virtue of Health and Social Care Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c. 3), s. 8(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 132(b)**; S.R. 2022/102, art. 2(b)
- F8** Art. 2(2): definition of "serious arrestable offence" repealed (1.3.2007) by Police and Criminal Evidence (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/288 (N.I. 2)), arts. 1(2), 15(4), 41(2), Sch. 1 para. 26(1), **Sch. 2**
- F9** 1954 c. 33 (NI)
- F10** 2000 c. 11
- F11** Words in art. 2(2) substituted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), s. 208(5)(w), **Sch. 19 para. 4(2)(a)**
- F12** Words in art. 2(3) substituted (1.3.2007) by Police and Criminal Evidence (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/288 (N.I. 2)), arts. 1(2), **41(1)**
- F13** 2000 c. 11
- F14** Words in art. 2(3)(a) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), s. 208(5)(w), **Sch. 19 para. 4(2)(b)**
- F15** Words in art. 2(3)(a) inserted (20.12.2023) by The National Security Act 2023 (Consequential Amendments of Primary Legislation) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1386), reg. 1(2), **Sch. para. 9(2)**
- F16** 1995 NI 17
- F17** 2003 c. 6
- F18** 1998 NI 9

Changes to legislation:

The Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, Section 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- various legislation applied by [2016 c. 18 \(N.I.\) s. 161\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

- Order applied by [2016 c. 18 \(N.I.\) s. 150\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- Order excluded by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 1 para. 7\(5\)](#)
- Order extended by [2003 c. 6 Sch. 4 para. 23A \(as inserted\) by S.I. 2007/912 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 para. 5](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- [Sch. 2A para. 1\(4\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 2\(2\)\(c\) and word inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 9\(4\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 10\(5\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 2\(2\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 3\(9ZA\)\(9ZB\) inserted by 2019 c. 17 s. 12\(5\)](#)
- [art. 19\(1\)\(cc\) inserted by S.I. 2007/916 \(N.I.\) art. 18\(2\)](#)
- [art. 53\(3A\)\(3B\) inserted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- [art. 53\(3A\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 15\(4\)](#)
- [art. 53\(4\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(6\)](#)
- [art. 53B inserted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- [art. 56\(13A\)\(b\)\(iii\) and word substituted for word by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 56\(13A\)\(b\)\(iii\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(1\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 56A\(9\)\(b\)\(iii\) and word substituted for word by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 56A\(9\)\(b\)\(iii\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(2\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5A\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(1\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5A\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5B\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(2\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5B\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5C\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6\)-\(6ZD\) substituted for art. 61\(6\) by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(3\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6D\)-\(6G\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(1\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6BA\) inserted by 2008 c. 28 s. 12\(2\) \(This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted \(14.12.2011\) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31\(2\), Sch. 7 para. 5\(3\)\)](#)
- [art. 62\(2A\)\(2B\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(2\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 63\(3A\)\(c\)\(i\) word substituted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 4](#)
- [art. 63\(3B\)-\(3BD\) substituted for art. 63\(3B\) by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(7\)](#)

- art. 63(3C) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 63(3D)-(3G) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 9\(4\)](#)
- art. 63(3AA) inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- art. 63(3ZA) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 8\(5\)](#)
- art. 63(3ZA)(b)(iii) and word inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 63A(1E)(1F) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 11\(1\)](#)
- art. 63A(6A) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(4\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 63B-63R inserted by [2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2](#)
- art. 63D(1)(a) substituted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 63D(1)(a)(i) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(5\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63D(14) words inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- art. 63D(14) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63N substituted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 86](#)
- art. 63R(4A) inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 4 para. 20\(9\)](#)
- art. 63R(4B) inserted by [2023 c. 32 Sch. 18 para. 5\(8\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of art. 63R by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.) Sch. 2 remains prospective at 31.12.2023.)
- art. 63R(5) words substituted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 87\(a\)](#)
- art. 63R(5A)(5B) inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 87\(b\)](#)
- art. 63DA inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(3\)](#)
- art. 63DA heading words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63DA(1)(a) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63DA(4) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63GA inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 84](#)
- art. 63KA inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 85](#)
- art. 64(1AA) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(5\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 64(1AB) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 15\(5\)](#)
- art. 89(2A) inserted by [2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 5](#)