
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1996 No. 3160

The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

PART IV

COURSE OF JUSTICE: EVIDENCE, PROCEDURE, ETC.

Corroboration

Abolition of corroboration rules

45.—(1) Any requirement whereby at a trial on indictment it is obligatory for the court to give the jury a warning about convicting the accused on the uncorroborated evidence of a person merely because that person is—

- (a) an alleged accomplice of the accused, or
- (b) where the offence charged is a sexual offence, the person in respect of whom it is alleged to have been committed,

is hereby abrogated.

(2) In Article 13(2) of the Criminal Justice (Evidence, Etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (abolition of requirement of corroboration warning in respect of evidence of a child) the words from “in relation to” to the end shall be omitted.

(3) Any requirement that—

- (a) is applicable at the summary trial of a person for an offence, and
- (b) corresponds to the requirement mentioned in paragraph (1) or that mentioned in Article 13(2) of the Criminal Justice (Evidence, Etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988,

is hereby abrogated.

(4) Nothing in this Article applies in relation to—

- (a) any trial, or
- (b) any preliminary investigation or preliminary inquiry into an indictable offence conducted by a magistrates' court,

which began before the coming into operation of this Article.

Abolition of corroboration requirements under Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885

46.—(1) In the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885 in—

- (a) section 2 (procurement); and
- (b) section 3 (procurement of women by threats, false pretences or administering drugs),

the words from “Provided that” onwards (which provide that a person shall not be convicted of the offence concerned on the evidence of one witness only unless the witness is corroborated) are hereby repealed.

Changes to legislation: The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading: Corroboration is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 April 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](#)

(2) Nothing in this Article applies in relation to—

- (a) any trial, or
- (b) any preliminary investigation or preliminary inquiry into an indictable offence conducted by a magistrates' court,

which began before the coming into operation of this Article.

Changes to legislation:

The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading: Corroboration is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 April 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 :

- Instrument rev. in pt. by [1998 c. 40 s.9\(1\)\(2\)](#)[Sch.1 Pt.II para.10](#)[Sch.2 Pt.II](#)

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

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

- Sch. 2 para. 9(1)(a)(i) words repealed by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 112\(5\)\(e\)](#)[Sch. 9 Pt. 1](#)
- art. 44A(4) words substituted by [S.I. 2008/1216 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 para. 7\(9\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). It is thought that the correct affected document should be S.I. 1998/1504 (N.I. 9), art. 44A(4). The correction will be made as soon as we get the approved amended document from the relevant office)
- art. 53(1) art. 53 renumbered as art. 53(1) by [2019 c. 17 s. 44\(6\)](#)
- art. 53(1)(a) substituted by [2019 c. 17 s. 43\(2\)](#)
- art. 53(2)-(9) inserted by [2019 c. 17 s. 44\(7\)](#)
- art. 54A inserted by [2019 c. 17 s. 37\(3\)](#)