
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2009 No. 429

**The Prison and Young Offenders Centre
(Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2009**

Inquiry into charge: minor offences

57. After rule 94 (initial transfer to centre) insert—

“Inquiry into charge: minor offences

94A.—(1) Without prejudice to rule 36 an officer designated by the Secretary of State (referred to in this rule as a “designated officer”) may hold an inquiry into a charge that an inmate has committed any of the offences against prison discipline listed in paragraphs (7), (9), (15), (16), (21), (22), (23) or (25) of rule 38.

(2) The designated officer shall first inquire into any charge not later, save in exceptional circumstances, than the next day after the laying of the charge unless that day is a day of religious observance for the inmate in accordance with his religious denomination as recorded under rule 57.

(3) The designated officer may adjourn the inquiry but must give reasons for doing so which shall be recorded in the record made under rule 37; any adjournment must not unfairly prejudice the interests of the inmate.

(4) At any inquiry into a charge against an inmate the designated officer shall satisfy himself that the inmate has had sufficient time to prepare his defence; the inmate shall be given a full opportunity of hearing what is alleged against him and of presenting his own case.”.