DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No.

The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

PART III

REGULATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND AGENCIES

Offences

Proceedings for offences

- **29.**—(1) Proceedings in respect of an offence under this Part or regulations made under it shall not, without the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland, be taken by any person other than the Regulation and Improvement Authority.
- (2) Proceedings for an offence under this Part or regulations made under it may be brought within a period of six months from the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecution to warrant the proceedings came to its knowledge; but no such proceedings shall be brought by virtue of this paragraph more than three years after the commission of the offence.
- (3) Until the commencement of section 41(2) of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (c. 26) the reference in paragraph (1) to the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland shall be construed as a reference to the Attorney General for Northern Ireland.