



# Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002

## 2002 CHAPTER 26

### PART 1

#### THE JUDICIARY

##### *Lord Chief Justice*

#### 12 Role of Lord Chief Justice

[<sup>F1</sup>(1A) The Lord Chief Justice holds the office of President of the Courts of Northern Ireland and is Head of the Judiciary of Northern Ireland.

(1B) As President of the Courts of Northern Ireland he is responsible—

- (a) for representing the views of the judiciary of Northern Ireland to Parliament, the Lord Chancellor and Ministers of the Crown generally;
- (b) for representing the views of the judiciary of Northern Ireland to the Northern Ireland Assembly, the First Minister and deputy First Minister and Northern Ireland Ministers;
- (c) for the maintenance of appropriate arrangements for the welfare, training and guidance of the judiciary of Northern Ireland within the resources made available by the Lord Chancellor;
- (d) for the maintenance of appropriate arrangements for the deployment of the judiciary of Northern Ireland and the allocation of work within courts.

(1C) The President of the Courts of Northern Ireland is president of the courts listed in subsection (1D) and is entitled to sit in any of those courts.

(1D) The courts are—

- the Court of Appeal
- the High Court
- the Crown Court
- the county courts
- the magistrates' courts.]

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**Changes to legislation:** Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002, Section 12 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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

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[<sup>F2</sup>the coroners' courts]

(2) <sup>F3</sup> .....

(3) <sup>F3</sup> .....

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**Textual Amendments**

**F1** S. 12(1A)-(1D) substituted (3.4.2006 for certain purposes and 8.5.2007 otherwise) for s. 12(1) by Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4), **ss. 11**, 148; S.I. 2006/1014, **art. 2(a)**, Sch. 1 para. 6; S.I. 2007/1252, **art. 2**

**F2** Words in s. 12(1D) added (1.11.2015) by Legal Aid and Coroners' Courts Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 (c. 11), **ss. 7**, 12(1) (with ss. 2(3), 9, Sch. 1 para. 3(3)); S.R. 2015/359, art. 2(a)

**F3** S. 12(2)(3) repealed (3.4.2006) by Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4), ss. 15, 146, 148, Sch. 5 para. 119, **Sch. 18 Pt. 3**; S.I. 2006/1014, **art. 2(a)**, Sch. 1 paras. 12, 30

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C1** S. 12(1B)(c): transfer of functions (12.4.2010) by The Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Functions) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/976), art. 1(2), **Sch. 17 para. 17** (with arts. 28-31)

**Changes to legislation:**

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

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

- s. 31(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 41 Sch. 13 para. 5\(2\)](#)
- s. 31(7) inserted by [2023 c. 41 Sch. 13 para. 5\(4\)](#)