



Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 26

PART 2

LAW OFFICERS AND PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE

Attorney General

22 Attorney General

- (1) The Attorney General for England and Wales shall no longer be Attorney General for Northern Ireland.
- (2) The First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly, must appoint a person to be Attorney General for Northern Ireland.
- (3) The Attorney General for Northern Ireland is to be funded by the First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly.
- (4) The Attorney General for Northern Ireland may appoint staff, but subject to the approval of the First Minister and deputy First Minister as to—
 - (a) numbers,
 - (b) salary, and
 - (c) other conditions of service.
- (5) The functions of the Attorney General for Northern Ireland shall be exercised by him independently of any other person.
- (6) A person is not qualified for appointment as Attorney General for Northern Ireland unless he is—
 - (a) a member of the Bar of Northern Ireland of at least ten years' standing, or
 - (b) a solicitor of the [^{F1}Court of Judicature] of at least ten years' standing.
- (7) The First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly, must make arrangements for the discharge of the functions of the Attorney General of Northern Ireland during any vacancy in that office.

Changes to legislation: Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002, Section 22 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 22 substituted (1.10.2009) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 59, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 6](#); [S.I. 2009/1604](#), [art. 2](#)
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Commencement Information

- I1** [S. 22](#) in force at 12.4.2010 by [S.R. 2010/113](#), [art. 2](#), [Sch. para. 2](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 22 applied by 2000 c. 1, Sch. para 5A (as inserted) by [2002 c. 26 Sch. 12 para. 79](#)

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\(4\)](#)