

# Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002

# **2002 CHAPTER 26**

#### PART 2

#### LAW OFFICERS AND PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE

### Attorney General

# 26 Annual report by Attorney General

- (1) The Attorney General for Northern Ireland must, as soon as possible after the end of each financial year, prepare a report on how he has exercised his functions during the financial year.
- (2) The Attorney General for Northern Ireland must send a copy of each annual report of his to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister.
- (3) The First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly, must lay before the Assembly a copy of each annual report received by their Office under subsection (2).
- (4) After a copy of an annual report has been laid in accordance with subsection (3), the First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly, must arrange for the annual report to be published.
- (5) But the First Minister and deputy First Minister, acting jointly, may exclude a part of an annual report from the copy laid or published if, in their opinion, the laying or publication of the part—
  - (a) would be against the public interest, or
  - (b) might jeopardise the safety of any person.
- (6) If the First Minister and deputy First Minister exclude a part of an annual report from laying or publication, they must lay or publish with the annual report a statement that it has been excluded.
- (7) "Financial year" means—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) the period beginning with the day on which the first person appointed under section 22 takes office and ending with the first 31st March which falls at least six months after that day, and
- (b) each subsequent period of twelve months beginning with 1st April.