*These notes refer to the Justice Act (Northern Ireland)* 2015 (c.9) which received Royal Assent on 24 July 2015

# Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015

# **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

### **Part 7: Live Links in Criminal Proceedings**

#### Section 53: Live Links: witnesses outside the United Kingdom

This section enables witnesses to give evidence from outside the United Kingdom to a magistrates' court in Northern Ireland in certain proceedings. Currently evidence may only be taken in a magistrates' court by live from witnesses outside Northern Ireland if they are situated elsewhere within the UK. This will help to reduce delays caused by scheduling the appearance of overseas witnesses in person during proceedings.