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*Status:* This version of this cross heading contains provisions that are prospective.  
*Changes to legislation:* There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2016, Cross Heading: Appointment, status and term of office. (See end of Document for details)

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## SCHEDULES

PROSPECTIVE

### SCHEDULE 3

#### THE PRISON OMBUDSMAN

##### *Appointment, status and term of office*

- 1 The Department shall appoint a person to be the Ombudsman.
- 2 The Ombudsman is not to be regarded as the servant or agent of the Crown or as enjoying any status, immunity or privilege of the Crown.
- 3.—(1) A person appointed as Ombudsman holds office for such term, not exceeding 7 years, as may be specified in the terms of appointment.  
(2) At the end of that term the person concerned is not eligible for re-appointment.
- 4.—(1) A person holding office as Ombudsman may resign that office by notice in writing to the Department.  
(2) A person holding office as Ombudsman may be removed from office by the Department if the Department is satisfied that the person—
  - (a) is incapable for medical or other reasons of performing the functions of the office;
  - (b) has, without reasonable excuse, failed to discharge the functions of the office for a continuous period of 3 months;
  - (c) is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or a debt relief restrictions order;
  - (d) has been convicted of a criminal offence; or
  - (e) is otherwise unable, unfit or unwilling to perform the functions of the office.

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