2022 CHAPTER 4

Abolition of preliminary investigations and mixed committals

Abolition of preliminary investigations

1. Article 30 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (which enables a magistrates' court to conduct a preliminary investigation of an indictable offence) is repealed; and accordingly all committal proceedings in a magistrates' court shall be by way of preliminary inquiry under that Order.

Commencement Information

I1 S. 1 not in operation at Royal Assent, see **s. 5(2)**

I2 S. 1 in operation at 17.10.2022 by S.R. 2022/221, **art. 2(a)**

Abolition of mixed committals: evidence on oath not to be given at preliminary inquiry

2. Article 34(2) of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (which enables witnesses to give evidence on oath at a preliminary inquiry) is repealed.

Commencement Information

I3 S. 2 not in operation at Royal Assent, see **s. 5(2)**

I4 S. 2 in operation at 17.10.2022 by S.R. 2022/221, **art. 2(b)**

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Criminal Justice (Committal Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, Cross Heading: Abolition of preliminary investigations and mixed committals. (See end of Document for details)*

Consequential amendments and repeals

3. The Schedule (which contains amendments and repeals consequential on sections 1 and 2) has effect.

Commencement Information

I5 S. 3 not in operation at Royal Assent, see **s. 5(2)**

I6 S. 3 in operation at 17.10.2022 by S.R. 2022/221, **art. 2(c)**

Changes to legislation:
There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Criminal Justice (Committal Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, Cross Heading: Abolition of preliminary investigations and mixed committals.