2004 No. 704

The Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004

Testing prisoners for drugs

6. After section 19A of the Prison Act there shall be inserted—

"Testing prisoners for drugs

19B.—(1) If an authorisation is in force for the prison, any designated prison officer may, at the prison, in accordance with prison rules, require any prisoner who is confined in the prison to provide a sample of urine for the purpose of ascertaining whether he has any drug in his body.

(2) If the authorisation so provides, the power conferred by subsection (1) shall include power to require a prisoner to provide a sample of any other description specified in the authorisation, not being an intimate sample, whether instead of or in addition to a sample of urine.

(3) In this section—

"authorisation" means an authorisation by the Secretary of State;

"drug" means any drug which is a controlled drug for the purposes of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (c. 38);

"intimate sample" has the same meaning as in Part VI of the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (NI 12);

"designated prison officer", in relation to a prison, means a person appointed under section 2(2) who has been designated for the purposes of this section by the governor of the prison."