EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

Schedule 3 to the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (c. 47) lists the matters which are "reserved matters" for the purposes of that Act.

On 9 March 2010, the Northern Ireland Assembly passed a resolution praying that certain policing and justice matters (as defined in section 4(6) of that Act) should cease to be reserved matters and should become transferred matters (as defined in section 4(1) of that Act).

Those matters include aspects of the criminal law, the prevention and detection of crime, the criminal justice system, the treatment of offenders, the maintenance of public order, the police, the courts and the law relating to firearms and explosives.

This Order amends Schedule 3 so that those matters cease to be reserved matters and become transferred matters.

In the amended version of Schedule 3 (see Articles 3 to 8 of this Order), some policing and justice matters will remain reserved under paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12.

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private or voluntary sector is foreseen.