



Northern Ireland Assembly

Justice Bill

Notice of Amendments tabled on 22 April 2026 for Consideration Stage

New Clause

After clause 3 insert—

‘Retention, use and destruction of photographs

Retention, use and destruction of photographs

3A.—(1) Article 64A of the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is amended as follows.

(2) After paragraph (7) insert—

“(7A) The Department of Justice must make regulations about the retention, use and destruction of photographs taken under this Article.

(7B) Before laying the draft regulations the Department must consult—

- (a) the Information Commissioner;
- (b) the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
- (c) the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission;
- (d) the Committee for Justice of the Northern Ireland Assembly; and
- (e) such organisations as appear to the Department to be representative of interests substantially affected by the proposals.

(7C) If, as a result of consultation under paragraph (7B), it appears to the Department that it is appropriate to change the whole or any part of its proposals, the Department must undertake such further consultation with respect to the changes as the Department considers appropriate.

(7D) The draft regulations, when laid, must be accompanied by a statement summarising the consultation which the Department conducted under paragraph (7B) and any changes which it made to the draft regulations following the consultation.

(7E) A draft of the regulations must be laid before the Assembly within the period of 5 years beginning with the day on which the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2026 receives Royal Assent.

(7F) Regulations under paragraph (7A)—

(a) may make such consequential, supplementary or incidental provision as the Department considers appropriate, and

(b) may amend any statutory provision (within the meaning given by section 1(f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954).

(7G) Regulations may not be made under this section unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.’

Chair, Committee for Justice

Clause 4, Page 18, Line 40

After ‘maturity’ insert ‘, vulnerabilities’

Chair, Committee for Justice

Clause 5, Page 19, Line 37

After ‘maturity’ insert ‘, vulnerabilities’

Chair, Committee for Justice

Clause 6, Page 22, Line 22

After ‘maturity’ insert ‘, vulnerabilities’

Chair, Committee for Justice

New Clause

After clause 21 insert—

‘Review of use of live links

21A.—(1) The Department of Justice must appoint such person or body as it considers appropriate to—

(a) monitor and review the operation of live link arrangements conducted under Articles 40(3A) to (3E), 40ZA and 40ZB of the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (“the live link arrangements”) for the purpose of ascertaining whether, and to what extent, the arrangements are effective;

(b) prepare a report covering the review period in accordance with subsection (2), and before doing so to consult the persons listed in subsection (3).

(2) The report must include—

(a) the number of times the live link arrangements have been conducted in each year of the review period, broken down by reference to policing district and offence;

(b) an assessment of the extent to which the live link arrangements safeguard the rights of arrested persons, including children, taking particular account of the information obtained under subsection (3); and

(c) any other information the Department considers appropriate.

(3) The persons who must be consulted are—

(a) the Police Service of Northern Ireland,

(b) the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission,

(c) the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People,

(d) the Incorporated Law Society of Northern Ireland, and

(e) such other persons as it considers appropriate.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the review period is the period of 3 years beginning with the day on which sections 20 and 21 have come into operation.

(5) The Department must lay the report before the Northern Ireland Assembly and publish it in such manner as it considers appropriate.’

Chair, Committee for Justice

Clause 33, Page 43, Line 22

At end insert—

‘(2A) The Department must by order appoint a day for the coming into operation of Part 1 that falls within the period of 5 years beginning with the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent.’

Chair, Committee for Justice