

Useful Information

Magherafelt Courthouse

Location

The courthouse is located on Hospital Road and is very close to the town centre.

Transport

The bus station is approximately 200 yards from the courthouse; the bus station is in Union Street. For information about bus and rail timetables contact Translink on 028 9066 6630 or www.translink.co.uk

Car parking

There is no car parking at the courthouse, but there is a car park located in Union Road, located 250 yards from the courthouse. There is limited on street parking on Hospital Road.

Opening hours

The building is open from 9.00am. The office is open to the public from 9.30am to 4.30pm. The courts generally start at 10.00am, stopping for lunch around 1.00pm and resuming at 2.00pm, until the daily business is finished. The office is closed for lunch from 1pm until 2pm.

Refreshment & other facilities

There is a vending machine in the courthouse, and located in the town centre, there is a range of coffee shops and restaurants. There is a payphone in the main waiting area. There is a no smoking policy in Magherafelt Courthouse.

Mobile Phones and Photographic equipment

Care must be taken in the use of mobile phones whilst in the precincts of the court. It is prohibited to use any photographic or recording device within the court building and the area immediately surrounding it. Some mobile phones are capable of performing this function and therefore you are advised not to

use mobile phones for this purpose whilst attending court. Mobile phones must be switched off before entering a courtroom.

Witness Service

If you are a victim or witness for the prosecution, Victim Support Northern Ireland offers a Witness Service at all the Crown and Magistrate' Courts.

Before the Trial: opportunity to talk to someone; pre-trial familiarisation visit to court; information on court procedures.

During the Trial: safe waiting area; liaison with court officers and legal representatives; arrangements for witnesses with special needs; accompanying witnesses into court.

After the Trial: preparing victims for case outcome; encouraging continued contact with Victim Support Community Service; referral on to other agencies.

Witness & Child waiting areas

There are no dedicated separate witness waiting areas, but the Customer Services Officer can make arrangements for vulnerable or intimidated witnesses if contacted in advance. Located in the main court building, there is currently a room dedicated to Womens Aid and Victim Support.

Help and information

The staff in the general office on the ground floor will help with any queries you may have. There are notice boards outside the courtroom, which display lists of the daily business. If you require additional information or need to meet someone on arrival, you can get help from the court office, which will be open from 9.30am each court day. If you have not already done so, you may wish to contact a solicitor before coming to court.

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Please note that you must attend court at the time you have been given, although you may not be called until after this. If you feel you have been waiting too long, please contact a court official.

Do you have a disability or a special need?

If you have a disability or a special need, please contact the Customer Service Officer who will provide you with information on the facilities available. The courtroom in Magherafelt has an induction loop system, and our leaflets can also be made available in large print.

Giving Evidence

If you are aged 14 or over and have to give evidence in court, you will be required either to take a religious oath or 'affirm' that you will tell the truth. The court clerk will ask you which method you want to use, and invite you to repeat after them the appropriate words. A religious oath is a sworn promise to tell the truth and is made on a holy book. An affirmation is a declaration to tell the truth but it is not sworn on a holy book.

Contact information

For further information on Magherafelt courthouse please contact The Customer Service Officer
The Courthouse, Hospital Road,
Magherafelt BT45 5DG

Telephone 028 7963 2121
Facsimile 028 7963 4063
Email magherafeltcourthouse@courtsni.gov.uk

This information sheet will be made available in a range of alternative formats. Requests for alternative formats should be made to the Information Centre. For further information on other courthouses please contact



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Northern Ireland Court Service

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The Northern Ireland Court Service is committed to improving its quality of service to all court users. By making comments about our services, you enable us to improve them. By making a complaint, you enable us to put things right.