

2007 No.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS

**The Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) (Amendment)
Rules (Northern Ireland) 2007**

Made - - - - - ***
Coming into operation - xxxxxxxxxxxx 2007

The Magistrates' Courts Rules Committee makes the following Rules in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 13 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) after consultation with the Lord Chancellor and with the agreement of the Lord Chief Justice.

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2007 and shall come into operation on xxxxxxxxxxxx 2007.

Amendment to the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1996(b)

2. After rule 15 insert—

“Evidence by video link or other method

15A. The court may allow a witness to give evidence through a video link or by any other method of direct communication.”

Signed

Minister of State
Ministry of Justice

Dated

(a) S.I. 1981 No. 1675 (N.I. 26) to which the most recent relevant amendments were made by paragraph 65 of Schedule 5 to the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c.4).
(b) S.R. 1996 No.324 to which the most recent amendments were made by S.R. 2005 No. 559.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules.)

These Rules amend the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1996 to enable the court to allow a witness to give evidence by video link or any other method of direct communication.