

County Court Bulletin

July to September 2010

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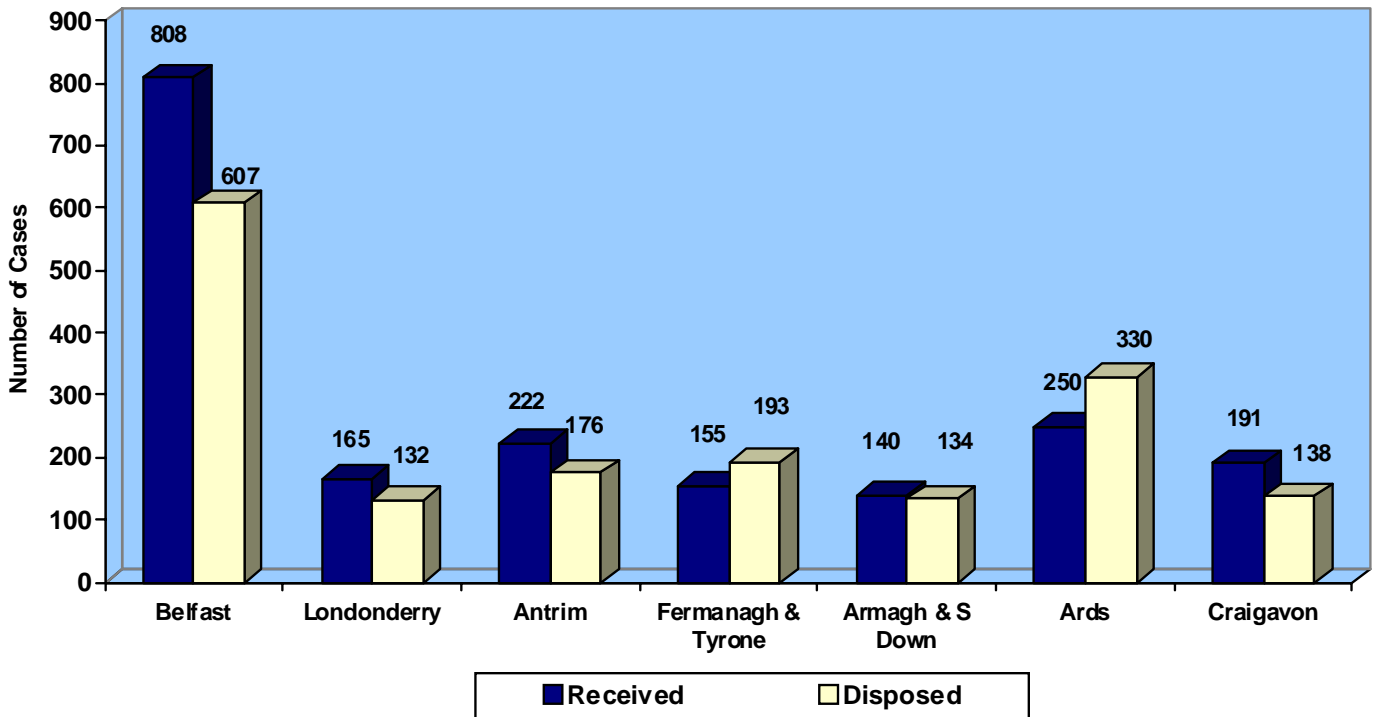
County court figures on Children Order cases, magistrates' appeals and county court appeals appear in other bulletins.

Figures are run from an administrative database and may change due to late returns and further validations.

Summary

- There were 1,931 civil bills with a notice of intention to defend (NID) received during the quarter of July to September 2010. A total of 2,509 civil bills were disposed of during the quarter, of which 1,011 civil bills were disposed of in court.
- During the same period there were 44 equity cases received and 26 cases dealt with.
- There were 261 ejectment cases received and 166 ejectment cases disposed of during the reporting period.
- There were 3,428 small claims received and 3,004 disposed of during the period, of which 416 were disposed of in court and 1,904 were default judgments.
- In total, 278 decrees nisi were granted during the quarter, with 49% of these giving a reason of '2 years with consent'. There were 376 decrees absolute granted in the county court.
- There were 551 sitting days during the quarter, with 53% of time having been spent on criminal business.

Number of Civil Bills with NID's received and dealt with (excluding the Civil Processing Centre)



Civil Bills

Table 1: Number of ordinary civil bill cases and applications received

Case	Antrim	221
	Ards	233
	Armagh and South Down	142
	Belfast	2327
	Craigavon	216
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	141
	Londonderry	163
	Total	3443
Application	Antrim	94
	Ards	170
	Armagh and South Down	94
	Belfast	582
	Craigavon	140
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	98
	Londonderry	89
	Total	1267

Table 2: Number of ordinary civil bill cases with NIDs received by judicial level

	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	152	70	222
Ards	176	74	250
Armagh and South Down	103	37	140
Belfast	600	208	808
Craigavon	130	61	191
Fermanagh and Tyrone	102	53	155
Londonderry	88	77	165
Total	1351	580	1931

Table 3: Number of ordinary civil bills cases and applications disposed

		Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court disposals	Default judgement	Office disposal	Total
Case	Antrim	55	31	77	2	11	176
	Ards	139	60	100	6	25	330
	Armagh and South Down	32	54	35	1	12	134
	Belfast	228	143	193	4	39	607
	Civil Processing Centre			28	750	21	799
	Craigavon	28	32	59	2	17	138
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	79	49	59	1	5	193
	Londonderry	33	48	31	5	15	132
	Total	594	417	582	771	145	2509
Application	Antrim	11	10	17			38
	Ards	35	17	21			73
	Armagh and South Down	11	19	14			44
	Belfast	104	37	94			235
	Civil Processing Centre			14			14
	Craigavon	19	6	31			56
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	15	8	17			40
	Londonderry	23	9	9			41
	Total	218	106	217			541

Table 4: Number of ordinary civil bills cases by amount awarded

		No value	Less than £1000	£1000-2999	£3000-4999	Over £5000	Total
Case	Antrim	28	10	21	10	17	86
	Ards	36	23	44	52	44	199
	Armagh and South Down	30	10	20	12	14	86
	Belfast	114	26	90	78	63	371
	Craigavon	10	9	19	10	12	60
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	25	8	30	31	34	128
	Londonderry	36	5	13	15	12	81
	Total	279	91	237	208	196	1011

Excludes cases that were adjourned generally, default judgements or had office disposals

Table 5: Outstanding civil bills with NID but no COR

	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	329	115	444
Ards	296	124	420
Armagh and South Down	217	81	298
Belfast	1274	405	1679
Craigavon	343	136	479
Fermanagh and Tyrone	288	95	383
Londonderry	201	148	349
Total	2948	1104	4052

Table 6: Outstanding civil bills with COR

	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	145	64	209
Ards	160	85	245
Armagh and South Down	118	42	160
Belfast	373	135	508
Craigavon	132	52	184
Fermanagh and Tyrone	135	74	209
Londonderry	78	58	136
Total	1141	510	1651

Table 7: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill cases

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	42
	Ards	37
	Armagh and South Down	43
	Belfast	44
	Craigavon	42
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	48
	Londonderry	60
	Total	44

Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Table 8: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill applications

		Issue to disposal
Application	Antrim	7
	Ards	8
	Armagh and South Down	15
	Belfast	9
	Craigavon	21
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	14
	Londonderry	12
	Total	11

Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Equity

Table 9: Equity cases and applications received

Case	Antrim	10
	Ards	3
	Armagh and South Down	9
	Belfast	9
	Craigavon	2
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	6
	Londonderry	5
	Total	44
Application	Ards	1
	Armagh and South Down	3
	Belfast	3
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	5
	Total	12

Table 10: Equity cases and applications disposed

		Court result - CCJ	Court result - DDJ	Non court disposals	Total
Case	Antrim	2			2
	Ards	1		2	3
	Armagh and South Down	1	3		4
	Belfast	5		1	6
	Craigavon	1			1
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	5		1	6
	Londonderry	3		1	4
	Total	18	3	5	26
Application	Ards	1			1
	Armagh and South Down		1	1	2
	Belfast	2		1	3
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	4		1	5
	Londonderry	1			1
	Total	8	1	3	12

Table 11: Outstanding equity cases

Case	Antrim	58
	Ards	51
	Armagh and South Down	46
	Belfast	92
	Craigavon	19
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	64
	Londonderry	29
Total		359

Table 12: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	62
	Ards	40
	Armagh and South Down	41
	Belfast	53
	Craigavon	115
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	121
	Londonderry	76
	Total	73
Application	Ards	114
	Armagh and South Down	4
	Belfast	5
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	12
	Londonderry	17
	Total	21

Ejectment

Table 13: Ejectment cases received

Case	Antrim	22
	Ards	52
	Armagh and South Down	9
	Belfast	130
	Craigavon	21
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	18
	Londonderry	9
	Total	261

Table 14: Ejectment cases disposed

		Court result - CCJ	Court result - DDJ	Non court disposals	Total
Case	Antrim	8	14		22
	Ards	3	35	18	56
	Armagh and South Down	4	1	2	7
	Belfast		50		50
	Craigavon	1	10	1	12
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	6	10		16
	Londonderry		3		3
	Total	22	123	21	166

Table 15: Outstanding ejectment cases with NID

Case	Antrim	3
	Ards	7
	Armagh and South Down	6
	Belfast	16
	Craigavon	4
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	5
	Londonderry	4
Total		45

Table 16: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	12
	Ards	18
	Armagh and South Down	19
	Belfast	15
	Craigavon	31
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	35
	Londonderry	11
	Average	19

Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Small Claims

Table 17: Number of small claims cases and applications received

Case	Antrim	37
	Ards	80
	Armagh and South Down	32
	Belfast	3105
	Craigavon	48
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	80
	Londonderry	46
	Total	3428
Application	Antrim	17
	Ards	12
	Armagh and South Down	11
	Belfast	38
	Craigavon	6
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	7
	Londonderry	7
	Total	98

Table 18: Number of small claims cases with NODs received

Case	Antrim	35
	Ards	53
	Armagh and South Down	30
	Belfast	179
	Craigavon	43
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	62
	Londonderry	25
Total	427	

Table 19: Number of small claims cases and applications disposed

		Court disposal	Non court disposal	Office disposal	Default judgement	Total
Case	Antrim	25	4	2	1	32
	Ards	26	1	9	5	41
	Armagh and South Down	26	5	2		33
	Belfast	266	4	619	1891	2780
	Craigavon	20	1	14	5	40
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	21		10	2	33
	Londonderry	32		13		45
	Total	416	15	669	1904	3004
Application	Antrim	6				6
	Ards	4	2			6
	Armagh and South Down	3	2			5
	Belfast	30				30
	Craigavon	2	5			7
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	4				4
	Londonderry	8				8
	Total	57	9			66

Table 20: Outstanding small claims with NOD

Antrim	82
Ards	88
Armagh and South Down	46
Belfast	197
Craigavon	59
Fermanagh and Tyrone	133
Londonderry	62
Total	667

Table 21: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	27
	Ards	29
	Armagh and South Down	23
	Belfast	80
	Craigavon	34
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	21
	Londonderry	24
	Total	61
Application	Antrim	9
	Ards	8
	Armagh and South Down	9
	Belfast	6
	Craigavon	12
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	10
	Londonderry	11
	Total	8

Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Criminal Damage

Table 22: Number of criminal damage cases and applications received

Case	Belfast	3
	Total	3
Application	Craigavon	1
	Total	1

Table 23: Number of criminal damage cases and applications disposed

		Court disposal	Total
Case	Belfast	1	1
	Londonderry	2	2
	Total	3	3

Table 24: Outstanding criminal damage cases

Ards	2
Armagh and South Down	5
Belfast	54
Craigavon	16
Fermanagh and Tyrone	4
Londonderry	3
Total	84

Table 25: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Belfast	70
	Londonderry	91
	Total	84

Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Divorces

Table 26: Divorce petitions by type of decrees Nisi

	2 years with consent	5 years separation	Adultery	Unreasonable behaviour	Combination of grounds /other	Total
Antrim	28	15	1	3	3	50
Ards	17	11	1	2		31
Armagh and South Down	10	11	1	5	1	28
Belfast	30	19	1		1	51
Craigavon	19	15	1	1	2	38
Fermanagh and Tyrone	13	6	1	4	2	26
Londonderry	19	26		6	3	54
Total	136	103	6	21	12	278

Table 27: Divorce petitions by number of absolutes issued

	2 years with consent	5 years separation	Adultery	Unreasonable behaviour	Combination of grounds /other	Total
Antrim	39	28	2	5	6	80
Ards	36	19	1	3		59
Armagh and South Down	17	12		2	1	32
Belfast	38	30		6	1	75
Craigavon	23	16	1	4	5	49
Fermanagh and Tyrone	10	9		3	3	25
Londonderry	17	27		8	4	56
Total	180	141	4	31	20	376

Table 28: Matrimonial applications received

	Ancillary relief	Other	Total
Antrim	10	1	11
Ards	6		6
Armagh and South Down	12		12
Belfast	4	35	39
Craigavon	5		5
Fermanagh and Tyrone	6	1	7
Londonderry	8	4	12
Total	51	41	92

Table 29: Matrimonial applications disposed

	Ancillary relief	Matrimonial application to a master	Other	Total
Antrim	6			6
Ards		1		1
Armagh and South Down	2			2
Belfast	2			2
Craigavon	3			3
Fermanagh and Tyrone	7		2	9
Londonderry	5		3	8
Total	25	1	5	31

Table 30: Time intervals in weeks for divorce petitions

	Issue to date decree granted	Date decree granted to date absolute issued
Antrim	21	8
Ards	31	7
Armagh and South Down	26	9
Belfast	28	8
Craigavon	26	8
Fermanagh and Tyrone	30	8
Londonderry	25	9
Average	26	8

Table 31: Time intervals in weeks for divorce applications

	Issue to disposal
Antrim	30
Ards	2
Armagh and South Down	121
Belfast	16
Craigavon	48
Fermanagh and Tyrone	35
Londonderry	110
Average	59

Excludes non-court disposals

Licences

Table 32: Licences received and dealt with

	Licences Received	Licences Disposed
Antrim	6	6
Ards	8	5
Armagh and South Down	4	0
Belfast	4	10
Craigavon	7	4
Fermanagh and Tyrone	0	9
Londonderry	8	2
Total	37	36

Sitting Days

Table 33: County Court Sitting Days

	Total time			Total criminal time	Total civil time	Total family time
	Number of sitting days	Average sitting	Total time			
Antrim	67	03:12:33	215:01:00	156:53:00	51:58:00	06:10:00
Ards	34	03:19:44	113:11:00	18:51:00	86:20:00	08:00:00
Armagh and South Down	55	02:38:53	145:39:00	68:11:00	68:25:00	09:03:00
Belfast	230	03:10:37	730:45:00	386:29:00	231:47:00	112:29:00
Craigavon	57	03:29:55	199:26:00	91:47:00	46:22:00	61:17:00
Fermanagh and Tyrone	60	03:14:22	194:22:00	114:26:00	64:25:00	15:31:00
Londonderry	48	02:50:02	136:02:00	82:02:00	26:30:00	27:30:00
Total	551	03:08:52	1734:26:00	918:39:00	575:47:00	240:00:00

A court sitting day is counted as any day where the judiciary sit in court. It does not include time in chambers or days where the judiciary are sitting in chambers

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