

County Court Bulletin

October to December 2010

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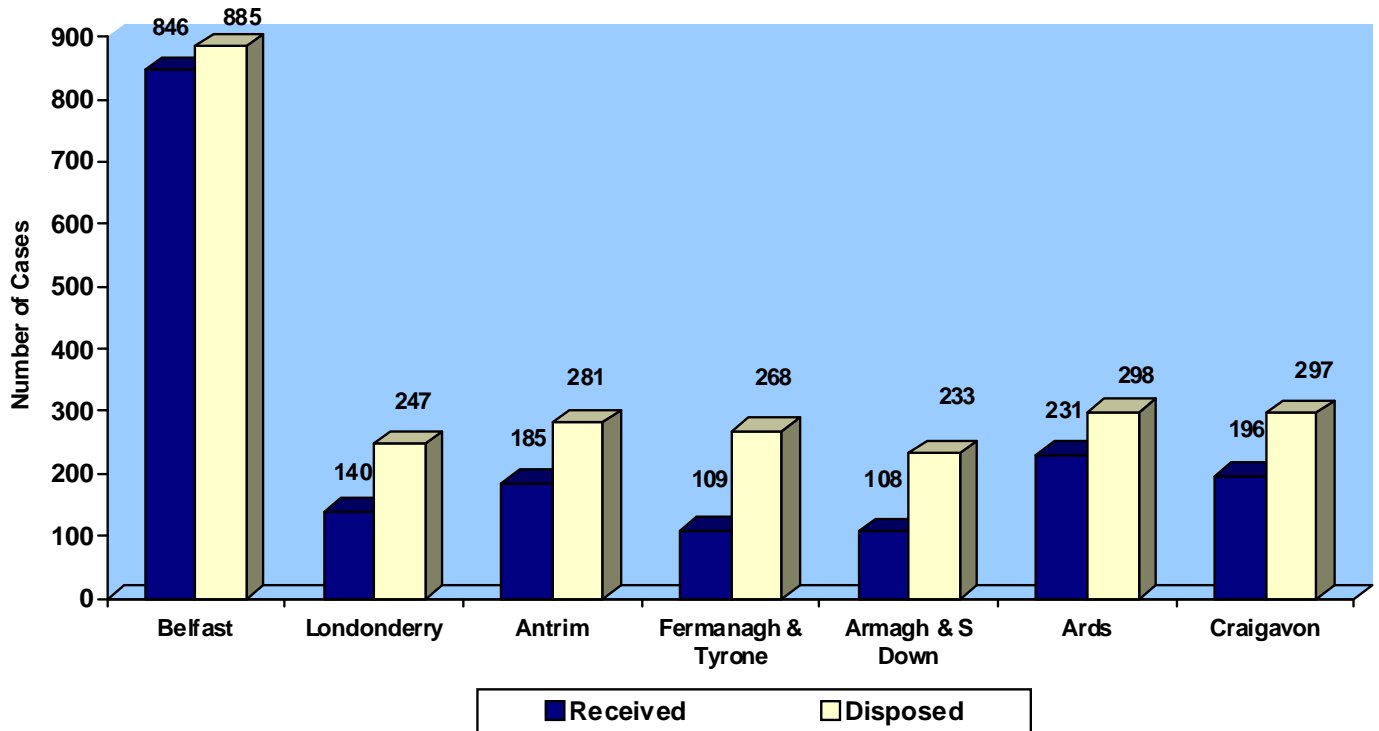
County court figures on Children Order cases, magistrates' appeals and county court appeals appear in other bulletins.

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

Summary

- There were 1,815 civil bills with a notice of intention to defend (NID) received during the quarter of October to December 2010. A total of 3,124 civil bills were disposed of during the quarter, of which 1,784 civil bills were disposed of in court.
- During the same period there were 49 equity cases received and 54 cases dealt with.
- There were 190 ejectment cases received and 176 ejectment cases disposed of during the reporting period.
- There were 2,800 small claims received and 2,844 disposed of during the period, of which 617 were disposed of in court and 1,608 were default judgments.
- In total, 340 decrees nisi were granted during the quarter, with 45% of these giving a reason of '2 years with consent'. There were 331 decrees absolute granted in the county court.
- There were 1106 sitting days during the quarter, with 57% 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	160
	Ards	208
	Armagh and South Down	105
	Belfast	2308
	Craigavon	159
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	101
	Londonderry	119
	Total	3160
Application	Antrim	94
	Ards	170
	Armagh and South Down	86
	Belfast	677
	Craigavon	107
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	83
	Londonderry	113
	Total	1330

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

	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	129	56	185
Ards	138	93	231
Armagh and South Down	67	41	108
Belfast	603	243	846
Craigavon	124	72	196
Fermanagh and Tyrone	74	35	109
Londonderry	73	67	140
Total	1208	607	1815

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	111	68	70	7	25	281
	Ards	95	107	66	4	26	298
	Armagh and South Down	128	35	43	6	21	233
	Belfast	403	235	162	9	76	885
	Civil Processing Centre			33	555	27	615
	Craigavon	130	72	63	6	26	297
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	120	88	42	3	15	268
	Londonderry	98	94	36		19	247
	Total	1085	699	515	590	235	3124
Application	Antrim	38	13	20			71
	Ards	26	34	30			90
	Armagh and South Down	33	7	10			50
	Belfast	85	41	100			226
	Civil Processing Centre			10			10
	Craigavon	38	18	25			81
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	30	15	14			59
	Londonderry	50	15	10			75
	Total	300	143	219			662

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	34	16	46	46	37	179
	Ards	40	23	67	46	26	202
	Armagh and South Down	35	23	40	34	31	163
	Belfast	185	43	171	140	99	638
	Craigavon	50	25	60	38	29	202
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	50	14	56	44	44	208
	Londonderry	44	13	63	38	34	192
	Total	438	157	503	386	300	1784

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	311	122	433
Ards	293	131	424
Armagh and South Down	192	69	261
Belfast	1382	434	1816
Craigavon	333	126	459
Fermanagh and Tyrone	255	78	333
Londonderry	177	140	317
Total	2943	1100	4043

Table 6: Outstanding civil bills with COR

	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	112	42	154
Ards	153	59	212
Armagh and South Down	79	26	105
Belfast	312	99	411
Craigavon	100	57	157
Fermanagh and Tyrone	98	50	148
Londonderry	57	53	110
Total	911	386	1297

Table 7: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill cases

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	45
	Ards	45
	Armagh and South Down	47
	Belfast	43
	Craigavon	49
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	58
	Londonderry	48
	Total	47

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	9
	Belfast	4
	Craigavon	10
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	7
	Londonderry	4
	Total	6

Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Equity

Table 9: Equity cases and applications received

Case	Antrim	5
	Ards	6
	Armagh and South Down	4
	Belfast	15
	Craigavon	3
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	10
	Londonderry	6
	Total	49
Application	Antrim	2
	Ards	3
	Armagh and South Down	4
	Belfast	2
	Craigavon	1
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	7
	Londonderry	3
	Total	22

Table 10: Equity cases and applications disposed

		Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court disposals	Total
Case	Antrim	8		3	11
	Ards	2	1	2	5
	Armagh and South Down	12	1		13
	Belfast	5			5
	Craigavon	4			4
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	11			11
	Londonderry	5			5
	Total	47	2	5	54
Application	Antrim	3			3
	Ards	2		2	4
	Armagh and South Down	2		1	3
	Belfast	1		1	2
	Craigavon			1	1
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	3			3
	Londonderry	1			1
	Total	12		5	17

Table 11: Outstanding equity cases

Case	Antrim	44
	Ards	49
	Armagh and South Down	38
	Belfast	87
	Craigavon	16
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	60
	Londonderry	27
Total		321

Table 12: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	62
	Ards	58
	Armagh and South Down	62
	Belfast	109
	Craigavon	126
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	73
	Londonderry	74
	Total	76
Application	Antrim	13
	Ards	6
	Armagh and South Down	72
	Belfast	3
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	22
	Londonderry	6
	Total	22

Ejectment

Table 13: Ejectment cases received

Case	Antrim	7
	Ards	45
	Armagh and South Down	7
	Belfast	86
	Craigavon	21
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	7
	Londonderry	17
	Total	190

Table 14: Ejectment cases disposed

		Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court disposals	Total
Case	Antrim	1	12	1	14
	Ards	3	46		49
	Armagh and South Down		8		8
	Belfast	2	47	1	50
	Craigavon		21	1	22
	Fermanagh and Tyrone		20	1	21
	Londonderry		12		12
	Total	6	166	4	176

Table 15: Outstanding ejectment cases with NID

Case	Antrim	3
	Ards	5
	Armagh and South Down	4
	Belfast	12
	Craigavon	2
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	3
	Londonderry	8
Total	37	

Table 16: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	19
	Ards	15
	Armagh and South Down	26
	Belfast	18
	Craigavon	16
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	18
	Londonderry	23
	Average	18

Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Small Claims

Table 17: Number of small claims cases and applications received

Case	Antrim	48
	Ards	69
	Armagh and South Down	38
	Belfast	2533
	Craigavon	41
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	37
	Londonderry	34
	Total	2800
Application	Antrim	11
	Ards	10
	Armagh and South Down	3
	Belfast	39
	Craigavon	7
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	14
	Londonderry	2
	Total	86

Table 18: Number of small claims cases with Notice of Disputes (NOD) received

Case	Antrim	41
	Ards	75
	Armagh and South Down	46
	Belfast	170
	Craigavon	46
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	53
	Londonderry	41
Total	472	

Table 19: Number of small claims cases and applications disposed

		Court disposal	Non court disposal	Office disposal	Default judgement	Total
Case	Antrim	55	4	7	6	72
	Ards	83		10	9	102
	Armagh and South Down	43	8	1		52
	Belfast	203	7	577	1591	2378
	Craigavon	60	3	7		70
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	93		9	2	104
	Londonderry	57	1	8		66
	Total	594	23	619	1608	2844
Application	Antrim	13	1			14
	Ards	10	1			11
	Armagh and South Down	5				5
	Belfast	26				26
	Craigavon	6	1			7
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	8				8
	Londonderry	4				4
	Total	72	3			75

Table 20: Outstanding small claims with a Notice of Dispute (NOD)

Antrim	74
Ards	92
Armagh and South Down	53
Belfast	155
Craigavon	51
Fermanagh and Tyrone	105
Londonderry	49
Total	579

Table 21: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	21
	Ards	19
	Armagh and South Down	28
	Belfast	16
	Craigavon	21
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	18
	Londonderry	35
	Total	20
Application	Antrim	7
	Ards	8
	Armagh and South Down	6
	Belfast	4
	Craigavon	11
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	6
	Londonderry	10
	Total	6

Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Criminal Damage

Table 22: Number of criminal damage cases and applications received

Case	Belfast	4
	Craigavon	1
	Total	5
Application	Craigavon	1
	Total	1

Table 23: Number of criminal damage cases and applications disposed

		Court disposal	Total
Case	Belfast	13	13
	Total	13	13
Application	Craigavon	1	1
	Total	1	1

Table 24: Outstanding criminal damage cases

Ards	2
Armagh and South Down	4
Belfast	55
Craigavon	16
Fermanagh and Tyrone	4
Londonderry	2
Total	83

Table 25: Time intervals in weeks

		Issue to disposal
Case	Belfast	134
	Total	134
Application	Craigavon	1
	Total	1

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	23	19	2	9	4	57
Ards	15	18	1	2	4	40
Armagh and South Down	15	11	3	3	4	36
Belfast	46	28	2	4	2	82
Craigavon	26	16		3	2	47
Fermanagh and Tyrone	10	18		1	2	31
Londonderry	18	14		9	6	47
Total	153	124	8	31	24	340

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	23	19		4	2	48
Ards	23	12	1	2	1	39
Armagh and South Down	8	6	2	4	5	25
Belfast	40	28	2	1	1	72
Craigavon	23	25		2	2	52
Fermanagh and Tyrone	14	10	2	7	3	36
Londonderry	19	23		13	4	59
Total	150	123	7	33	18	331

Table 28: Matrimonial applications received

	Ancillary relief	Matrimonial application to a master	Other	Total
Antrim	5		3	8
Ards	2	1	1	4
Armagh and South Down	3		2	5
Belfast	5	1	14	20
Craigavon	2			2
Fermanagh and Tyrone	2			2
Londonderry	13		4	17
Total	32	2	24	58

Table 29: Matrimonial applications disposed

	Ancillary relief	Matrimonial application to a master	Other	Total
Antrim	3		1	4
Ards	1	1		2
Armagh and South Down	8			8
Belfast	6			6
Craigavon	4			4
Family Division		1		1
Fermanagh and Tyrone	3	1		4
Londonderry	10		4	14
Total	35	3	5	43

Table 30: Time intervals in weeks for divorce petitions

	Issue to date decree granted	Date decree granted to date absolute issued
Antrim	38	7
Ards	27	6
Armagh and South Down	29	7
Belfast	28	9
Craigavon	20	7
Fermanagh and Tyrone	41	7
Londonderry	40	8
Average	31	8

Table 31: Time intervals in weeks for divorce applications

	Issue to disposal
Antrim	42
Ards	35
Armagh and South Down	49
Belfast	10
Craigavon	40
Fermanagh and Tyrone	35
Londonderry	82
Total	51

Excludes non-court disposals

Licences

Table 32: Licences received and dealt with

	Licences Received	Licences Disposed
Antrim	10	7
Ards	6	6
Armagh and South Down	3	7
Belfast	18	18
Craigavon	5	6
Fermanagh and Tyrone	7	7
Londonderry	4	6
Total	53	57

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	134	03:10:57	426:28:39	265:56:57	153:01:42	07:30:00
Ards	108	02:55:02	315:05:00	169:59:00	139:41:00	05:25:00
Armagh and South Down	126	03:17:14	414:13:00	237:14:00	141:41:00	35:18:00
Belfast	380	03:45:53	1430:37:21	855:31:00	402:15:21	172:51:00
Craigavon	118	03:32:16	417:29:00	150:45:00	149:55:00	116:49:00
Fermanagh and Tyrone	116	03:24:43	395:48:24	225:40:24	151:54:00	18:14:00
Londonderry	124	03:06:27	385:20:14	242:58:00	107:12:14	35:10:00
Total	1106	03:25:20	3785:01:38	2148:04:21	1245:40:17	391:17:00

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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