

DIRECTION NO.1 OF 2026
GIVEN UNDER THE LEGAL AID FOR CROWN COURT
PROCEEDINGS (COSTS) RULES (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2025

UPDATING TABLE OF OFFENCES

1. The Department of Justice hereby directs under rule 4(1) of the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2005 ('the 2005 Rules') that the Legal Services Agency ("the Agency") shall maintain and publish an up-to-date version of the Table of Offences set out in Schedule 3 of the 2005 Rules.
2. Upon receipt of notification of a criminal aid certificate which includes an offence not specifically listed in the statutory Table of Offences, the Agency shall allocate the offence to a class of offence following discussion with the Public Prosecution Service.
3. The Agency shall not deem any offence which is not listed in the statutory Table of Offences to fall within Class H unless there is no agreement with the PPS as to the appropriate class of offence, or if the offence properly falls to Class H.
4. Practitioners who are dissatisfied with the classification of an offence under this Direction may apply to the Agency to reclassify the offence.



5. This Direction applies to criminal aid certificates granted for proceedings before the Crown Court and criminal aid certificates for youth indictable cases to be remunerated under the 2005 Rules.



NAOMI LONG MLA
MINISTER OF JUSTICE
28 July 2026