STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2025 No. 214

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022 (Commencement) Regulations 2025

Made - - - - *25th February 2025*

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the power conferred by section 10(2) of the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022(**a**).

Citation and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022 (Commencement) Regulations 2025.

(2) These Regulations extend to Northern Ireland.

Provisions coming into force on the day after the day these Regulations are made

2.—(1) The following provisions of the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022 come into force on the day after the day these Regulations are made—

(a) section 4 (use of languages other than English in proceedings); and

(b) section 5 (use of Ulster Scots in education).

Hilary Benn
Secretary of State
Northern Ireland Office

25th February 2025

(**a**) 2022 c. 45.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations bring into force provisions of the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022 (c. 45) ("the 2022 Act").

Regulation 2 commences section 4 of the 2022 Act, which repeals the Administration of Justice (Language) Act (Ireland) 1737 (c. 6). The Administration of Justice (Language) Act (Ireland) 1737 required Court proceedings to be in English. Regulation 2 also commences section 5 of the 2022 Act, which places a duty on the Northern Ireland Department of Education to encourage and facilitate the use and understanding of Ulster Scots in the education system.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sectors is foreseen.

NOTE AS TO EARLIER COMMENCEMENT REGULATIONS

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The following provisions of the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022 have been brought into force by commencement regulations made before the date of these Regulations.

Provision	*Date of Commencement*	*S.I. No.*
Section 1 (partially)	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Section 2 (partially)	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Section 3 (partially)	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Section 6	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Section 7	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Schedule 1	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Schedule 2	22nd May 2023	2023/566
Schedule 3	22nd May 2023	2023/566

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