

At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 25TH DAY OF JULY 2007

PRESENT,

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

IN COUNCIL

WHEREAS by the Civil Service Commissioners (Northern Ireland) Order 1999(a) provision was made relating to the functions of the Civil Service Commissioners for Northern Ireland and the appointment of persons to situations in the Northern Ireland Civil Service:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for the Northern Ireland Civil Service in relation to those matters:

NOW, THEREFORE, Her Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:

Title, commencement and interpretation

1.-(1) This Order may be cited as the Civil Service Commissioners (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order in Council 2007 and shall come into force forthwith.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(b) shall apply to this Order as if it were an enactment within the meaning of section 1(b) of that Act.

(3) In this Order, expressions which are also used in the Civil Service Commissioners (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 ("the principal Order") shall have the same meaning as in that Order.

Amendment of the principal Order

2. In article 3 (selection on merit) of the principal Order--

(a) omit "or" at the end of paragraph (3)(b);

(b) insert after paragraph (3)(c)-

“; or

(d) two junior Ministers in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister”;

(c) in paragraph (4) after “paragraph (2)(b)” insert “, two junior Ministers in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister may each appoint one

(a) Printed in the Belfast Gazette on 12th March 1999. Amended by the Civil Service Commissioners (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order in Council 2003.

(b) 1954 c.33 (N.I.)

person to hold, at any one time, such a situation if authorised by the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister (acting jointly) to appoint a person to such a situation”.

(Signed by) Judith Simpson

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends the Civil Service Commissioners (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 to allow two junior Ministers in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister each to appoint one person to a situation in the Northern Ireland Civil Service, if authorised by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister without applying the requirement that selection be on merit on the basis of fair and open competition.