General Scheme of the Summons Printing and Fixed Charge Notice Bill 2016

Head

Provide along the following lines:

(1) To amend section 1 of the Act of 1986 to provide that the issue of a summons, in addition to being effected by any method by which the issue of a summons could be effected immediately before the commencement of this Head, may be effected by the appropriate office by transmitting the content of the summons by electronic means to the person who applied for it or a person acting on his or her behalf.

(2) To amend section 1 of the Act of 1986 to provide that a single message transmitted by electronic means in relation to an application for a summons or the issue of a summons may be in respect of more than one person who is alleged to have committed an offence or offences.

(3) To amend the definition of "true copy" in section 1(14) of the Act of 1986 to include that a true copy means, in relation to a summons, the issue of which was effected by transmitting its content by electronic means, a reproduction in written form of the summons from the same content.

(4) To amend section 1 of the Act of 1986 to delete the reference to a summons being a document in subsection (1) and to delete the definition of "summons" in subsection (14).

(5) That section 88(3) of the Courts of Justice Act 1924 shall not apply in respect of a fixed charge offence within the meaning of section 47(1) of the Road Traffic Act 2010.

(6) In this Head-

"Act of 1986" means the Courts (No. 3) Act 1986 as amended by section 49 of the Civil Liability and Courts Act 2004 and by section 19 of the Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2008;

"appropriate office" has the same meaning as in section (1) of the Act of 1986;

"electronic means" has the same meaning as in section (1) of the Act of 1986.