

[HOME](#)[ABOUT THE NIO](#)[NI DEPARTMENTS](#)[MEDIA CENTRE](#)[ARCHIVED NEWS](#)[PUBLIC CONSULTATION](#)[LINKS](#)[CONTACT US](#)[PUBLICATIONS](#)[FREEDOM OF INFORMATION](#)[VACANCIES](#)[PROCUREMENT](#)

Written Ministerial Statement - Two Year Extension to Non Jury Trial System

TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Owen Paterson): The Justice and Security (Northern Ireland) Act 2007, which provides for trial on indictment without a Jury is temporary and renewal and will expire at the end of the period of two years unless extended.



Whilst the use of Non-Jury trials has reduced significantly in recent years, it is necessary to renew the powers in order to protect jurors from any potential risk posed by paramilitary groups.

It is always the hope and intention to return to Jury trial in all cases in Northern Ireland. However, having considered the views of stakeholders and conducted a detailed analysis of the current threat, I believe it is necessary to extend the Non-Jury Trial system at this time for use in a very small number of cases to ensure justice is administered fairly.

Therefore I am laying before Parliament an Order to extend the Non-Jury trial provisions for a further period of two years.

I will of course keep the situation under review. Government remains committed to a return to Jury trial in all cases as soon as it is deemed appropriate.

News Releases

[PATERSON ATTENDS ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT HOMECOMING EVENTS IN MARKET DRAYTON AND SHREWSBURY](#)

TUESDAY 12 APRIL 2011

[Heed the Words of Cardinal Brady - Paterson](#)

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 2011

[Written Ministerial Statement - Publication of the Report of the Rosemary Nelson Inquiry](#)

TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011

[Written Ministerial Statement - Two Year Extension to Non Jury Trial System](#)

TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011

[Owen Paterson - Oral Statement on the Murder of Police Constable Ronan Kerr](#)

MONDAY 4 APRIL 2011

[PATERSON CONDEMNS MURDER OF PSNI OFFICER](#)

SATURDAY 2 APRIL 2011

