

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011 2011 asp 13

Harassment amounting to domestic abuse

1 Harassment amounting to domestic abuse

(1) In section 8 (harassment) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 (c.40), after subsection (1) insert—

"(1A) Subsection (1) is subject to section 8A."

(2) After that section insert—

"8A Harassment amounting to domestic abuse

- (1) Every individual has a right to be free from harassment and, accordingly, a person must not engage in conduct which amounts to harassment of another and—
 - (a) is intended to amount to harassment of that person; or
 - (b) occurs in circumstances where it would appear to a reasonable person that it would amount to harassment of that person.
- (2) Subsection (1) only applies where the conduct referred to amounts to domestic abuse.
- (3) Subsections (2) to (7) of section 8 apply in relation to subsection (1) as they apply in relation to subsection (1) of that section but with the following modifications—
 - (a) in subsections (2) and (4), the words "course of" are omitted;
 - (b) for subsection (3) there is substituted—
 - "(3) For the purposes of this section—

"conduct"-

- (a) may involve behaviour on one or more than one occasion; and
- (b) includes—
 - (i) speech; and
 - (ii) presence in any place or area; and

"harassment" of a person includes causing the person alarm or distress."; and

- (c) in subsection (4)(b), for "pursued" substitute "engaged in"."
- (3) In section 9(1) (breach of non-harassment order) of that Act, after "section 8" insert "or section 8A".
- (4) In section 18B(1) (actions of harassment) of the Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Act 1973 (c.52), after "section 8" insert "or section 8A".
- (5) In section 2(1)(b)(ii) (transmission of deceased's rights to executor) of the Damages (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 7), after "section 8" insert "or section 8A".