



Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

1995 CHAPTER 46

PART XII

EVIDENCE

[^{F1}Special measures for child witnesses and other vulnerable witnesses]

[^{F1}271H The special measures

- (1) The special measures which may be authorised to be used under section 271A, 271C or 271D of this Act for the purpose of taking the evidence of a vulnerable witness are—
- (a) taking of evidence by a commissioner in accordance with section 271I of this Act,
 - (b) use of a live television link in accordance with section 271J of this Act,
 - (c) use of a screen in accordance with section 271K of this Act,
 - (d) use of a supporter in accordance with section 271L of this Act,
 - (e) giving evidence in chief in the form of a prior statement in accordance with section 271M of this Act, and

[excluding the public during the taking of the evidence in accordance with section 271HB of this Act,]

^{F3}(f)

[The Scottish Ministers may, by order subject to the affirmative procedure—

- ^{F4}(1A) (a) modify subsection (1),
- (b) in consequence of any modification made under paragraph (a)—
- (i) prescribe the procedure to be followed when special measures are used, and
 - (ii) so far as is necessary, modify sections 271A to 271M of this Act.]

^{F5}(2)

Changes to legislation: Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, Section 271H is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (3) Provision may be made by Act of Adjournal regulating, so far as not regulated by sections 271I to 271M of this Act, the use in any proceedings of any special measure authorised to be used by virtue of section 271A, 271C or 271D of this Act.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 271-271M and preceding cross-heading substituted for s. 271 (1.4.2005, 30.11.2005, 1.4.2006, 1.4.2007 and 2.7.2007 for certain purposes, otherwise 1.4.2008) by [Vulnerable Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2004 \(asp 3\)](#), **ss. 1, 25**; S.S.I. 2005/168, **art. 2**, Sch. (with savings in art. 4); S.S.I. 2005/590, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2006/59, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4(1)); S.S.I. 2007/101, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2007/329, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2008/57, **art. 2** (with art. 3)
- F2** S. 271H(1)(ea) inserted (1.9.2015) by [Victims and Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(asp 1\)](#), **ss. 20(1), 34**; S.S.I. 2015/200, **art. 2(2)**, sch. (with arts. 1(3), 4)
- F3** S. 271H(1)(f) repealed (1.9.2015) by [Victims and Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(asp 1\)](#), **ss. 21(a), 34**; S.S.I. 2015/200, **art. 2(2)**, sch.
- F4** S. 271H(1A) inserted (1.9.2015) by [Victims and Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(asp 1\)](#), **ss. 21(b), 34**; S.S.I. 2015/200, **art. 2(2)**, sch.
- F5** S. 271H(2) repealed (1.9.2015) by [Victims and Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(asp 1\)](#), **ss. 21(c), 34**; S.S.I. 2015/200, **art. 2(2)**, sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 271-271M applied by [Criminal Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2003 \(asp 7\)](#), s. 15A (as inserted (1.4.2005, 30.11.2005, 1.4.2006, 1.4.2007 and 2.7.2007 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2008) by [Vulnerable Witnesses \(Scotland\) Act 2004 \(asp 3\)](#), **ss. 3, 25**; S.S.I. 2005/168, **art. 2**, Sch. (with savings in art. 4); S.S.I. 2005/590, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2006/59, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2007/101, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4); S.S.I. 2007/329, **art. 2**, Sch. (with art. 4)); S.S.I. 2008/57, **art. 2** (with art. 3)
- C2** Ss. 271-271M applied (with modifications) (23.12.2015) by [The Justice of the Peace Courts \(Special Measures\) \(Scotland\) Order 2015 \(S.S.I. 2015/447\)](#), arts. 1(2), **3** (with art. 1(3))

Changes to legislation:

Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, Section 271H is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 5A inserted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 7 para. 26](#)
- s. 13(1B)(1C) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(2\)](#)
- s. 13(2)(aa) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 13(3A) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(4\)](#)
- s. 13(5)(ba) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 13(6)(a)(iii) and word inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 13(8) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(7\)](#)
- s. 22(5A) inserted by [2007 asp 6 s. 7\(2\)\(g\)](#)
- s. 22A(1A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 23B(1)(1A) substituted for s. 23B(1) by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 23B(6A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 23B(8)-(10) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 23C(1A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 23C(3) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 24(2C) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 4\(4\)](#)
- s. 24(2AA) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 4\(2\)](#)
- s. 73A inserted by [2004 asp 3 s. 2\(3\)](#)
- s. 167(7D)(7E) inserted by [2007 asp 17 sch. 4 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- s. 167(7D) words substituted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 3 para. 16\(2\)](#)
- s. 167(7E) words substituted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 3 para. 16\(3\)](#)
- s. 194ZA repealed by [2014 asp 18 sch. 3 para. 25](#)
- s. 200A inserted by [2016 asp 1 s. 85](#)
- s. 205A added by [1997 c. 48 s. 1\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 1997 c. 48, s. 1 repealed (27.6.2003) without ever being in force by [2003 asp 7, s. 19\(3\)](#); S.S.I. 2003/288, art. 2, Sch.)
- s. 210ZA inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 5](#)
- s. 249(4A)-(4D) inserted by [2014 asp 1 s. 24](#)
- s. 271D(4A) inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 6\(4\)](#)
- s. 271F(2)(aa) inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 10\(4\)](#)
- s. 271AA inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 6\(2\)](#)
- s. 271BZD inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 3\(2\)](#)
- s. 288AB288AC inserted by [2024 asp 1 s. 32\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 5A added by [1997 c. 48 s. 1\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 1997 c. 48, s. 1 repealed (27.6.2003) without ever being in force by [2003 asp 7, s. 19\(3\)](#); S.S.I. 2003/288, art. 2, Sch.)