



Family Law Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 27

PART II

DIVORCE AND SEPARATION

PROSPECTIVE

Court orders

^{F12} Divorce and separation.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F13} Circumstances in which orders are made.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F14} Conversion of separation order into divorce order.

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Status: Point in time view as at 05/12/2005. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.
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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Marital breakdown

F15 Marital breakdown.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

F16 Statement of marital breakdown.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

VALID FROM 13/05/2014

Reflection and consideration

PROSPECTIVE

F17 Period for reflection and consideration.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

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PROSPECTIVE

^{F1}8 Attendance at information meetings.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), ss. **18(1)**, **139(4)**

9 Arrangements for the future.

- (1) The requirements as to the parties' arrangements for the future are as follows.
- (2) One of the following must be produced to the court—
 - (a) a court order (made by consent or otherwise) dealing with their financial arrangements;
 - (b) a negotiated agreement as to their financial arrangements;
 - (c) a declaration by both parties that they have made their financial arrangements;
 - (d) a declaration by one of the parties (to which no objection has been notified to the court by the other party) that—
 - (i) he has no significant assets and does not intend to make an application for financial provision;
 - (ii) he believes that the other party has no significant assets and does not intend to make an application for financial provision; and
 - (iii) there are therefore no financial arrangements to be made.
- (3) ^{F2}
- (4) ^{F2}
- (5) The requirements of section 11 must have been satisfied.
- (6) Schedule 1 supplements the provisions of this section.
- (7) If the court is satisfied, on an application made by one of the parties after the end of the period for reflection and consideration, that the circumstances of the case are—
 - (a) those set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1,
 - (b) those set out in paragraph 2 of that Schedule,
 - (c) those set out in paragraph 3 of that Schedule, or
 - (d) those set out in paragraph 4 of that Schedule,it may make a divorce order or a separation order even though the requirements of subsection (2) have not been satisfied.

^{F3}(8)

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Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 9(3)(4) repealed (24.2.2003) by 2002 c. 27, ss. 1(7), 2(2); S.I. 2003/186, **art. 2**
F3 S. 9(8) repealed (1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2000/1116, **art. 2(g)**

PROSPECTIVE

Orders preventing divorce

^{F1}10 Hardship: orders preventing divorce.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Welfare of children

^{F1}11 Welfare of children.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Supplementary

^{F1}12 Rules about procedure

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Resolution of disputes

^{F1}13 **Directions with respect to mediation.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F1}14 **Adjournments.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Financial provision

^{F1}15 **Financial arrangements.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F4}16

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Textual Amendments

F4 S. 16 repealed (1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2000/1116, **art. 2(g)**

F5 **17**

Textual Amendments

F5 S. 17 repealed (6.4.2002) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2001/4049, **art. 2(3)(c)**

F1 **18** **Grounds for financial provision orders in magistrates’ courts.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Jurisdiction and commencement of proceedings

F1 **19** **Jurisdiction in relation to divorce and separation.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

F1 **20** **Time when proceedings for divorce or separation begin.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

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PROSPECTIVE

Intestacy

^{F1}21 Intestacy: effect of separation.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

Marriage support services

22 Funding for marriage support services.

- (1) The [^{F6}Secretary of State] may, with the approval of the Treasury, make grants in connection with—
 - (a) the provision of marriage support services;
 - (b) research into the causes of marital breakdown;
 - (c) research into ways of preventing marital breakdown.
- (2) Any grant under this section may be made subject to such conditions as the [^{F6}Secretary of State] considers appropriate.
- (3) In exercising his power to make grants in connection with the provision of marriage support services, the [^{F6}Secretary of State] is to have regard, in particular, to the desirability of services of that kind being available when they are first needed.

Textual Amendments

F6 Words in s. 22 substituted (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\), art. 6, Sch. para. 2](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 22: functions transferred (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\), arts. 3, 4](#)

PROSPECTIVE

^{F1}23 Provision of marriage counselling.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Interpretation

^{F1}24 Interpretation of Part II etc.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F1}25 Connected proceedings.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

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