



Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999

1999 CHAPTER 23

PART II

GIVING OF EVIDENCE OR INFORMATION FOR PURPOSES OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

CHAPTER I

SPECIAL MEASURES DIRECTIONS IN CASE OF VULNERABLE AND INTIMIDATED WITNESSES

Special measures

24 Evidence by live link.

- (1) A special measures direction may provide for the witness to give evidence by means of a live link.
- [^{F1}(1A) Such a direction may also provide for a specified person to accompany the witness while the witness is giving evidence by live link.
- (1B) In determining who may accompany the witness, the court must have regard to the wishes of the witness.]
- (2) Where a direction provides for the witness to give evidence by means of a live link, the witness may not give evidence in any other way without the permission of the court.
- (3) The court may give permission for the purposes of subsection (2) if it appears to the court to be in the interests of justice to do so, and may do so either—
 - (a) on an application by a party to the proceedings, if there has been a material change of circumstances since the relevant time, or
 - (b) of its own motion.

Changes to legislation: Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999, Section 24 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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

- (4) In subsection (3) “the relevant time” means—
 - (a) the time when the direction was given, or
 - (b) if a previous application has been made under that subsection, the time when the application (or last application) was made.

F2(5)

F2(6)

F2(7)

- (8) In this Chapter “live link” means a live television link or other arrangement whereby a witness, while absent from the courtroom or other place where the proceedings are being held, is able to see and hear a person there and to be seen and heard by the persons specified in section 23(2)(a) to (c).

Textual Amendments

- F1 S. 24(1A)(1B) inserted (27.6.2011) by Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25), ss. 102(1), 182(5) (with s. 180, Sch. 22 para. 23); S.I. 2011/1452, art. 2(a)
- F2 S. 24(5)-(7) repealed (1.4.2005) by Courts Act 2003 (c. 39), s. 110(1), Sch. 8 para. 385, Sch. 10; S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1 S. 24(1)-(4) applied (with modifications) (31.10.2009) by The Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 (Application to Service Courts) Order 2009 (S.I. 2009/2083), arts. 1, 3, 4
- C2 S. 24(8) applied (with modifications) (31.10.2009) by The Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 (Application to Service Courts) Order 2009 (S.I. 2009/2083), arts. 1, 3, 4

Commencement Information

- I1 S. 24 wholly in force at 24.7.2002; Pt. II Chs. 1-4 (ss. 16-52) in force for certain purposes at Royal Assent, see s. 68(4); s. 24 in force in so far as not already in force at 24.7.2002 by S.I. 2002/1739, art. 2(a)

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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. 33BA33BB inserted by [2009 c. 25 s. 104\(1\)](#)