



Courts Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 39

PART 3

MAGISTRATES' COURTS

Family proceedings courts and youth courts

50 Youth courts

(1) For section 45 of the 1933 Act (constitution of youth courts) substitute—

“45 Youth courts

- (1) Magistrates' courts—
- (a) constituted in accordance with this section or section 66 of the Courts Act 2003 (judges having powers of District Judges (Magistrates' Courts)), and
 - (b) sitting for the purpose of—
 - (i) hearing any charge against a child or young person, or
 - (ii) exercising any other jurisdiction conferred on youth courts by or under this or any other Act,
- are to be known as youth courts.
- (2) A justice of the peace is not qualified to sit as a member of a youth court for the purpose of dealing with any proceedings unless he has an authorisation extending to the proceedings.
- (3) He has an authorisation extending to the proceedings only if he has been authorised by the Lord Chancellor or a person acting on his behalf to sit as a member of a youth court to deal with—
- (a) proceedings of that description, or
 - (b) all proceedings dealt with by youth courts.

Changes to legislation: Courts Act 2003, Section 50 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 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) The Lord Chancellor may by rules make provision about—
 - (a) the grant and revocation of authorisations,
 - (b) the appointment of chairmen of youth courts, and
 - (c) the composition of youth courts.
- (5) Rules under subsection (4) may confer powers on the Lord Chancellor with respect to any of the matters specified in the rules.
- (6) Rules under subsection (4) may be made only after consultation with the Criminal Procedure Rule Committee.
- (7) Rules under subsection (4) are to be made by statutory instrument.
- (8) A statutory instrument containing rules under subsection (4) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”
- (2) Omit Schedule 2 to the 1933 Act (constitution of youth courts).
- (3) Omit section 146 of the 1980 Act (rules relating to youth court panels and the composition of youth courts).
- (4) “The 1933 Act” means the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (c. 12).

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 50(2)(3) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2007/2706 (8.12.2010) by [The Courts Act 2003](#) (Commencement No. 14) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/2921), [art. 4](#)

Commencement Information

- II** S. 50 fully in force; s. 50 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 110(1)(2); s. 50(1)(4) in force at 1.4.2005 by [S.I. 2005/910](#), [art. 3\(r\)](#); s. 50(2)(3) in force at 5.9.2007 by [S.I. 2007/2706](#), [art. 1](#)

Changes to legislation:

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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. 75(6) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 4 para. 3\(2\)](#)
- s. 76(2B) inserted by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 3 para. 14](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 3 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by [2013 c. 22](#), s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))
- s. 81(6) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 4 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 85EA(5) words substituted by [2022 c. 32 Sch. 11 para. 29](#)
- Sch. 5 para. 13(1)(ca) inserted by [2013 c. 22 s. 26\(3\)](#)

Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the Courts Act 2003

Commencement Orders bringing provisions within this Act into force:

- [S.I. 2005/547 art. 2](#) commences ([2003 c. 39](#))