



Courts Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 39

PART 1

MAINTAINING THE COURT SYSTEM

Courts boards

4 Establishment of courts boards

- (1) England and Wales is to be divided into areas for each of which there is to be a courts board.
- (2) The areas are to be those specified by an order made by the Lord Chancellor.
- (3) Each area established by an order under subsection (2) is to be known by such name as is specified in the order (but subject to subsection (4)).
- (4) The Lord Chancellor may make orders altering the areas.
- (5) “Altering”, in relation to an area, includes (as well as changing its boundaries)—
 - (a) combining it with one or more other areas,
 - (b) dividing it between two or more other areas, and
 - (c) changing its name.
- (6) Before making an order under subsection (4), the Lord Chancellor must consult any courts board affected by the proposed order.
- (7) When making an order under subsection (2) the Lord Chancellor must have regard to the desirability of specifying areas which are the same as—
 - (a) the police areas listed in Schedule 1 to the Police Act 1996 (c. 16) (division of England and Wales, except London, into police areas), and
 - (b) the area consisting of the Metropolitan Police District and the City of London police area.
- (8) Schedule 1 contains provisions about the constitution and procedure of courts boards.