



## 2015 CHAPTER 9

### **PART 1**

#### **SINGLE JURISDICTION FOR COUNTY COURTS AND MAGISTRATES' COURTS**

##### **Directions as to distribution of business**

- 3.**—(1) The Lord Chief Justice may give directions as to—
- (a) the distribution of the business of county courts among such courts;
  - (b) the transfer of such business from one county court to another;
  - (c) the distribution of the business of magistrates' courts among such courts;
  - (d) the transfer of such business from one magistrates' court to another.
- (2) For the purpose of subsection (1) “the business of county courts” includes—
- (a) all such proceedings and matters whatsoever (whether civil or criminal) as under any statutory provision are to be heard by a county court (of any description);
  - (b) all such other things as under any statutory provision are to be done by, or in relation to, a county court (of any description).
- (3) For the purpose of subsection (1) “the business of magistrates' courts” includes—
- (a) all such proceedings and matters whatsoever (whether civil or criminal) as under any statutory provision are to be heard by a magistrates' court (of any description);
  - (b) all such other things as under any statutory provision are to be done by, or in relation to a magistrates' court (of any description).

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*Changes to legislation: Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015, Section 3 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 26 May 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*

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- (4) The Department may give directions as to—
- (a) the distribution among chief clerks of the functions exercisable under any statutory provision by a chief clerk;
  - (b) the distribution among clerks of petty sessions of the functions exercisable under any statutory provision by a clerk of petty sessions.
- (5) In any statutory provision—
- (a) a reference, in connection with any proceedings or matter, to the chief clerk is a reference to the chief clerk who, in accordance with directions under subsection (4), is to act in relation to those proceedings or that matter;
  - (b) a reference, in connection with any proceedings or matter, to the clerk of petty sessions is a reference to the clerk of petty sessions who, in accordance with directions under subsection (4), is to act in relation to those proceedings or that matter.

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**Commencement Information**

- II** S. 3 in operation at 31.10.2016 by S.R. 2016/387, art. 2(e) (with art. 3)

**Changes to legislation:**

Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015, Section 3 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 26 May 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.

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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. 13(2)(2A) substituted for s. 13(2) by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(5\)](#)
- s. 13(4)(5) added by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(6\)](#)
- s. 13A inserted by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(7\)](#)
- s. 13A inserted by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(7\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 8(1) Sch. 2 para. 8 renumbered as Sch. 2 para. 8(1) by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(f\)\(i\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 8(2) inserted by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(f\)\(iii\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 8(1) words substituted by [2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(f\)\(ii\)](#)