



# Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

## 1973 CHAPTER 18

### PART I

#### DIVORCE, NULLITY AND OTHER MATRIMONIAL SUITS

##### *Divorce*

### 8 Intervention of Queen's Proctor.

- (1) In the case of [<sup>F1</sup>an application for a divorce order] —
  - (a) the court may, if it thinks fit, direct all necessary papers in the matter to be sent to the Queen's Proctor, who shall under the directions of the Attorney-General instruct counsel to argue before the court any question in relation to the matter which the court considers it necessary or expedient to have fully argued;
  - (b) any person may at any time during the progress of the proceedings or before the [<sup>F2</sup>divorce order is made final] give information to the Queen's Proctor on any matter material to the due decision of the case, and the Queen's Proctor may thereupon take such steps as the Attorney-General considers necessary or expedient.
- (2) Where the Queen's Proctor intervenes or shows cause against a [<sup>F3</sup>conditional order in any proceedings for a divorce order,] the court may make such order as may be just as to the payment by other parties to the proceedings of the costs incurred by him in so doing or as to the payment by him of any costs incurred by any of those parties by reason of his so doing.
- (3) The Queen's Proctor shall be entitled to charge as part of the expenses of his office—
  - (a) the costs of any proceedings under subsection (1)(a) above;
  - (b) where his reasonable costs of intervening or showing cause as mentioned in subsection (2) above are not fully satisfied by any order under that subsection, the amount of the difference;
  - (c) if the Treasury so directs, any costs which he pays to any parties under an order made under subsection (2).

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*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2022.*

*Changes to legislation: Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, Section 8 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)*

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#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 8(1) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 \(c. 11\)](#), s. 8(1)(8), [Sch. para. 8\(a\)](#) (with s. 8(4)); S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F2** Words in s. 8(1)(b) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 \(c. 11\)](#), s. 8(1)(8), [Sch. para. 8\(b\)](#) (with s. 8(4)); S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F3** Words in s. 8(2) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 \(c. 11\)](#), s. 8(1)(8), [Sch. para. 8\(c\)](#) (with s. 8(4)); S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2

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