



Family Law Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 27

PART II

DIVORCE AND SEPARATION

PROSPECTIVE

Court orders

^{F12} Divorce and separation.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F13} Circumstances in which orders are made.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F14} Conversion of separation order into divorce order.

.....

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Marital breakdown

F15 Marital breakdown.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

F16 Statement of marital breakdown.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

VALID FROM 13/05/2014

Reflection and consideration

PROSPECTIVE

F17 Period for reflection and consideration.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

PROSPECTIVE

^{F1}8 Attendance at information meetings.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), ss. **18(1)**, **139(4)**

9 Arrangements for the future.

- (1) The requirements as to the parties' arrangements for the future are as follows.
- (2) One of the following must be produced to the court—
 - (a) a court order (made by consent or otherwise) dealing with their financial arrangements;
 - (b) a negotiated agreement as to their financial arrangements;
 - (c) a declaration by both parties that they have made their financial arrangements;
 - (d) a declaration by one of the parties (to which no objection has been notified to the court by the other party) that—
 - (i) he has no significant assets and does not intend to make an application for financial provision;
 - (ii) he believes that the other party has no significant assets and does not intend to make an application for financial provision; and
 - (iii) there are therefore no financial arrangements to be made.
- (3) ^{F2}
- (4) ^{F2}
- (5) The requirements of section 11 must have been satisfied.
- (6) Schedule 1 supplements the provisions of this section.
- (7) If the court is satisfied, on an application made by one of the parties after the end of the period for reflection and consideration, that the circumstances of the case are—
 - (a) those set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1,
 - (b) those set out in paragraph 2 of that Schedule,
 - (c) those set out in paragraph 3 of that Schedule, or
 - (d) those set out in paragraph 4 of that Schedule,it may make a divorce order or a separation order even though the requirements of subsection (2) have not been satisfied.

^{F3}(8)

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 9(3)(4) repealed (24.2.2003) by 2002 c. 27, ss. 1(7), 2(2); S.I. 2003/186, **art. 2**
F3 S. 9(8) repealed (1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2000/1116, **art. 2(g)**

PROSPECTIVE

Orders preventing divorce

^{F1}10 Hardship: orders preventing divorce.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Welfare of children

^{F1}11 Welfare of children.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Supplementary

^{F1}12 Rules about procedure

.....

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.
Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Resolution of disputes

^{F1}13 **Directions with respect to mediation.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

^{F1}14 **Adjournments.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Financial provision

^{F1}15 **Financial arrangements.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

^{F4}16

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

Textual Amendments

F4 S. 16 repealed (1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2000/1116, **art. 2(g)**

F5 **17**

Textual Amendments

F5 S. 17 repealed (6.4.2002) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2001/4049, **art. 2(3)(c)**

F1 **18** **Grounds for financial provision orders in magistrates' courts.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Jurisdiction and commencement of proceedings

F1 **19** **Jurisdiction in relation to divorce and separation.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

F1 **20** **Time when proceedings for divorce or separation begin.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

PROSPECTIVE

Intestacy

^{F1}21 Intestacy: effect of separation.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

Marriage support services

22 Funding for marriage support services.

- (1) The [^{F6}Secretary of State] may, with the approval of the Treasury, make grants in connection with—
 - (a) the provision of marriage support services;
 - (b) research into the causes of marital breakdown;
 - (c) research into ways of preventing marital breakdown.
- (2) Any grant under this section may be made subject to such conditions as the [^{F6}Secretary of State] considers appropriate.
- (3) In exercising his power to make grants in connection with the provision of marriage support services, the [^{F6}Secretary of State] is to have regard, in particular, to the desirability of services of that kind being available when they are first needed.

Textual Amendments

- F6** Words in s. 22 substituted (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\), art. 6, Sch. para. 2](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 22: functions transferred (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\), arts. 3, 4](#)

PROSPECTIVE

^{F1}23 Provision of marriage counselling.

.....

Status: Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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)

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Interpretation

^{F1}24 Interpretation of Part II etc.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

^{F1}25 Connected proceedings.

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

Status:

Point in time view as at 22/04/2014. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation:

Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 June 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.