



Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 29

PART 4

CONFISCATION: NORTHERN IRELAND

Confiscation orders

158 Defendant's benefit

- (1) If the court is proceeding under section 156 this section applies for the purpose of—
 - (a) deciding whether the defendant has benefited from conduct, and
 - (b) deciding his benefit from the conduct.
- (2) The court must—
 - (a) take account of conduct occurring up to the time it makes its decision;
 - (b) take account of property obtained up to that time.
- (3) Subsection (4) applies if—
 - (a) the conduct concerned is general criminal conduct,
 - (b) a confiscation order mentioned in subsection (5) has at an earlier time been made against the defendant, and
 - (c) his benefit for the purposes of that order was benefit from his general criminal conduct.
- (4) His benefit found at the time the last confiscation order mentioned in subsection (3)(c) was made against him must be taken for the purposes of this section to be his benefit from his general criminal conduct at that time.
- (5) If the conduct concerned is general criminal conduct the court must deduct the aggregate of the following amounts—
 - (a) the amount ordered to be paid under each confiscation order previously made against the defendant;

Changes to legislation: Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Section 158 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 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) View outstanding changes

- (b) the amount ordered to be paid under each confiscation order previously made against him under any of the provisions listed in subsection (7).
- (6) But subsection (5) does not apply to an amount which has been taken into account for the purposes of a deduction under that subsection on any earlier occasion.
- (7) These are the provisions—
 - (a) the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 (c. 32);
 - (b) Part 1 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1987 (c. 41);
 - (c) Part 6 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33);
 - (d) the Criminal Justice (Confiscation) (Northern Ireland) Order 1990 (S.I. 1990/2588 (N.I. 17));
 - (e) Part 1 of the Drug Trafficking Act 1994 (c. 37);
 - (f) Part 1 of the Proceeds of Crime (Scotland) Act 1995 (c. 43);
 - (g) the Proceeds of Crime (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (S.I. 1996/1299 (N.I. 9));
 - (h) Part 2 or 3 of this Act.
- (8) The reference to general criminal conduct in the case of a confiscation order made under any of the provisions listed in subsection (7) is a reference to conduct in respect of which a court is required or entitled to make one or more assumptions for the purpose of assessing a person’s benefit from the conduct.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Pt. 4 applied by S.I. 1989/1341 (N.I. 12), **arts. 57(5B), 59(8B)** (as substituted (24.3.2003) by **Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (c. 29)**, Supreme Court s. 458(1), Sch. 11 para. 19(2)(3); S.I. 2003/333, **art. 2, Sch.**)

Commencement Information

I1 S. 158 in force at 24.3.2003 by S.I. 2003/333, **art. 2, Sch.**

Changes to legislation:

Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Section 158 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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(5)(a)(iia) inserted by [2015 c. 30 Sch. 5 para. 15\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 323(1)(hc) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(2\)](#)
- s. 323(4)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(3\)](#)
- s. 323(5)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(4\)](#)