



# Courts Act 2003

## 2003 CHAPTER 39

### PART 1

#### MAINTAINING THE COURT SYSTEM

##### *Courts boards*

#### **5 Functions of courts boards**

- (1) Each courts board is under a duty, in accordance with guidance under this section—
  - (a) to scrutinise, review and make recommendations about the way in which the Lord Chancellor is discharging his general duty in relation to the courts with which the board is concerned, and
  - (b) for the purposes mentioned in paragraph (a), to consider draft and final business plans relating to those courts.
- (2) In discharging his general duty in relation to the courts, the Lord Chancellor must give due consideration to recommendations made by the boards under subsection (1).
- (3) If the Lord Chancellor rejects a recommendation made by a courts board under subsection (1) as a result of the board's consideration of a final business plan, he must give the board his written reasons for so doing.
- (4) The courts with which a courts board is concerned are—
  - (a) the Crown Court,
  - (b) county courts, and
  - (c) magistrates' courts,in the board's area.
- (5) The Lord Chancellor must prepare and issue the boards with guidance about how they should carry out their functions under subsection (1).
- (6) The guidance may in particular contain provisions about the procedures to be followed in connection with draft and final business plans.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (7) The Lord Chancellor may from time to time issue the boards with revised guidance and revoke previous guidance.
- (8) Guidance issued under this section must be laid before both Houses of Parliament.