
EXPLANATORY NOTE

These Rules amend the Rules of the Supreme Court so as—

- (a) to change the practice regarding the giving of further and better particulars and the place in which they should appear in a set of pleadings (rules 2 and 3);
- (b) to prevent discontinuance without the leave of the Court once an interim payment has been ordered (rule 4);
- (c) to provide for interest to be included in a payment into court in satisfaction of a claim (rule 5);
- (d) to provide for automatic directions (without a summons) in personal injury actions (rule 6);
- (e) to allow the Court to order payments on account of any damages, debt or other sum (excluding costs) whatever the nature of the litigation (rule 7);
- (f) to allow a defendant to make an offer to accept reduced liability where liability is ordered to be tried before any issue or question concerning damages (rule 8);
- (g) to require a writ of subpoena to be served no later than four days before the hearing, unless the Court directs otherwise (rule 9);
- (h) to require all experts' reports (medical and non-medical) to be disclosed in personal injury cases, unless sufficient reason is shown to the contrary (rule 10);
- (i) to allow judgments and orders of certain kinds to be made “by consent” without judicial action or approval (rule 11);
- (j) to provide for appeals by case stated under the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 to be taken by a Divisional Court of the Family Division (rule 12);
- (k) to revise the Fixed Costs which may be allowed under Appendix 3 to Order 62 (rule 13);
- (l) to require that the originating summons in wardship proceedings should state the relationship of each party to the minor, or the party's interest in the proceedings (rule 14); and
- (m) to require any appeal from a magistrates' court in matrimonial proceedings to be heard by a single judge (unless the President otherwise directs), if it relates only to the amount of a lump sum payment ordered by the court, or to the amount of access ordered in respect of a child (rule 15).