



Contempt of Court Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 49

Other aspects of law and procedure

8 Confidentiality of jury's deliberations^[F1]: Scotland and Northern Ireland].

- [^{F2}(1) [^{F3}In Scotland and Northern Ireland,] Subject to subsection (2) below, it is a contempt of court to obtain, disclose or solicit any particulars of statements made, opinions expressed, arguments advanced or votes cast by members of a jury in the course of their deliberations in any legal proceedings.
- (2) This section does not apply to any disclosure of any particulars—
- (a) in the proceedings in question for the purpose of enabling the jury to arrive at their verdict, or in connection with the delivery of that verdict, or
 - (b) in evidence in any subsequent proceedings for an offence alleged to have been committed in relation to the jury in the first mentioned proceedings, or to the publication of any particulars so disclosed.
- (3) Proceedings for a contempt of court under this section (other than Scottish proceedings) shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Attorney General or on the motion of a court having jurisdiction to deal with it.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 8 heading inserted (13.4.2015) by [Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 \(c. 2\), ss. 74\(4\), 95\(1\)](#); [S.I. 2015/778, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 59](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(a\)](#))
- F2** S. 8 repealed (E.W.) (13.4.2015) by [Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 \(c. 2\), ss. 74\(2\), 95\(1\)](#); [S.I. 2015/778, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 59](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(a\)](#))
- F3** Words in s. 8(1) inserted (S.N.I.) (13.4.2015) by [Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 \(c. 2\), ss. 74\(3\), 95\(1\)](#); [S.I. 2015/778, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 59](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(a\)](#))

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Contempt of Court Act 1981, Section 8.