



Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

1973 CHAPTER 18

PART II

FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR PARTIES TO MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN OF FAMILY

Ancillary relief in connection with divorce proceedings, etc.

[^{F2}25A Exercise of court's powers in favour of party to marriage on [^{F1}divorce or nullity of marriage order].

- (1) Where on or after the [^{F3}making of a divorce or nullity of marriage order] the court decides to exercise its powers under section 23(1)(*a*), (*b*) or (*c*), 24 or [^{F4} , 24A [^{F5} , 24B or 24E]] above in favour of a party to the marriage, it shall be the duty of the court to consider whether it would be appropriate so to exercise those powers that the financial obligations of each party towards the other will be terminated as soon after the [^{F6}making of the order] as the court considers just and reasonable.
- (2) Where the court decides in such a case to make a periodical payments or secured periodical payments order in favour of a party to the marriage, the court shall in particular consider whether it would be appropriate to require those payments to be made or secured only for such term as would in the opinion of the court be sufficient to enable the party in whose favour the order is made to adjust without undue hardship to the termination of his or her financial dependence on the other party.
- (3) Where on or after the [^{F7}making of a divorce or nullity of marriage order] an application is made by a party to the marriage for a periodical payments or secured periodical payments order in his or her favour, then, if the court considers that no continuing obligation should be imposed on either party to make or secure periodical payments in favour of the other, the court may dismiss the application with a direction that the applicant shall not be entitled to make any further application in relation to that marriage for an order under section 23(1)(*a*) or (*b*) above.

[See also section 52A (interpretation of certain references to divorce orders, nullity of ^{F8}(4) marriage orders and judicial separation orders).]

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the
Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, Section 25A. (See end of Document for details)*

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 25A heading substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), **Sch. para. 25(2)**; S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F2** Ss. 25, 25A substituted for s. 25 by [Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984](#) (c. 42, SIF 49:3), **ss. 3, 48(2)**
- F3** Words in s. 25A(1) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), **Sch. para. 25(3)(a)**; S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F4** Words in s. 25A(1) substituted (11.11.1999 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, ss. 19, 89, **Sch. 3 para. 6**; S.I. 2000/1116, **art. 2**
- F5** Words in s. 25A(1) substituted (6.4.2011) by [Pensions Act 2008](#) (c. 30), s. 149(1), **Sch. 6 para. 5**; S.I. 2011/664, art. 2(3), Sch. Pt. 2
- F6** Words in s. 25A(1) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), **Sch. para. 25(3)(b)**; S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F7** Words in s. 25A(3) substituted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), **Sch. para. 25(4)**; S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F8** S. 25A(4) inserted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), **Sch. para. 25(5)**; S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, Section 25A.