



County Courts Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 28

PART II

JURISDICTION AND TRANSFER OF PROCEEDINGS

Actions of contract and tort

15 General jurisdiction in actions of contract and tort.

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), [^{F1}the county court] shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any action founded on contract or tort ^{F2}
- (2) [^{F3}The county court] shall not, except as in this Act provided, have jurisdiction to hear and determine—
- ^{F4}(a)
 - (b) any action in which the title to ^{F5} . . . any toll, fair, market or franchise is in question; or
 - (c) any action for libel of slander.
- ^{F6}(3)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in ss. 15-25 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(1\)\(b\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F2** Words in s. 15(1) repealed by [S.I. 1991/724](#), art. 2(8), [Schedule Part I](#)
- F3** Words in ss. 15-25 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(1\)\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F4** S. 15(2)(a) repealed by [S.I. 1991/724](#), art. 2(8), [Schedule Part I](#)
- F5** Words in s. 15(2)(b) repealed by [S.I. 1991/724](#), art. 2(8), [Schedule Part I](#)
- F6** S. 15(3) repealed by [S.I. 1991/724](#), art. 2(8), [Schedule Part I](#)

Changes to legislation: County Courts Act 1984, Cross Heading: Actions of contract and tort is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 February 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

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1 S. 15 excluded by [Legal Aid Act 1988 \(c. 34, SIF 77:1\)](#), **s. 39(4)**
S. 15 extended by [S.I. 1991/724](#), **art. 2(1)(l)**

16 Money recoverable by statute.

[^{F3}The county court] shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine an action for the recovery of a sum recoverable by virtue of any enactment for the time being in force, if—

- (a) it is not provided by that or any other enactment that such sums shall only be recoverable in the High Court or shall only be recoverable summarily; ^{F7} . . .
- ^{F7}(b)

Textual Amendments

- F3 Words in ss. 15-25 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 9 para. 10(1)(a)**; [S.I. 2014/954](#), **art. 2(c)** (with **art. 3**) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F7 S. 16(b) and words in s. 16(a) repealed by [S.I. 1991/724](#), **art. 2(8)**, **Schedule Part I**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C2 S. 16 extended by [S.I. 1991/724](#), **art. 2(1)(l)**

17 Abandonment of part of claim to give court jurisdiction.

- (1) Where a plaintiff has a cause of action for more than the county court limit in which, if it were not for more than the county court limit, [^{F1}the county court] would have jurisdiction, the plaintiff may abandon the excess, and thereupon [^{F1}the county court] shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the action, but the plaintiff shall not recover in the action an amount exceeding the county court limit.
- (2) Where the court has jurisdiction to hear and determine an action by virtue of this section, the judgment of the court in the action shall be in full discharge of all demands in respect of the cause of action, and entry of the judgment shall be made accordingly.

Textual Amendments

- F1 Words in ss. 15-25 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 9 para. 10(1)(b)**; [S.I. 2014/954](#), **art. 2(c)** (with **art. 3**) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

18 Jurisdiction by agreement in certain actions.

If the parties to any action, other than an action which, if commenced in the High Court, would have been assigned to the Chancery Division or to the Family Division or have involved the exercise of the High Court’s Admiralty jurisdiction, agree, by a memorandum signed by them or by their respective [^{F8}legal representatives], that [^{F1}the county court]^{F9} . . . shall have jurisdiction in the action, that court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the action accordingly.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in ss. 15-25 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(1\)\(b\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F8** Words in s. 18 substituted (1.4.1991) by [Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 \(c. 41, SIF 37\)](#), s. 125(3), [Sch. 18 para. 49\(3\)](#); [S.I. 1991/608](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)
- F9** Words in s. 18 omitted (22.4.2014) by virtue of [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

F10 **19**

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Textual Amendments

- F10** S. 19 repealed (1.7.1991) by [Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 \(c. 41, SIF 76:1\)](#), s. 125(7), [Sch. 20](#); [S.I. 1991/1364](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)

F11 **20**

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Textual Amendments

- F11** S. 20 repealed (1.7.1991) by [Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 \(c. 41, SIF 76:1\)](#), s. 125(7), [Sch. 20](#); [S.I. 1991/1364](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)

Changes to legislation:

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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):

- Pt. 6A inserted by [2007 c. 15 s. 107\(1\)](#) (This affecting provision is amended (22.4.2014) by [2013 c. 22, Sch. 9 paras. 10\(53\), 48](#); [S.I. 2014/954, art. 2\(c\)](#))
- s. 60A inserted by [2007 c. 29 s. 191](#)
- s. 60A(2) words substituted by [2013 c. 22 Sch. 9 para. 10\(17\)](#) (Effect not applied as s. 60A has not been brought into force)
- s. 60A(3)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(aa) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(bb) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(cc) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(iv\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(7) words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(7) words substituted by [S.I. 2010/844 Sch. 2 para. 2](#) (Effect not applied as s. 60A has not been brought into force)
- s. 112A112B inserted by [1990 c. 41 s. 13\(5\)](#)