



Child Support Act 1991

1991 CHAPTER 48

Collection and enforcement

38 Enforcement of liability orders by diligence: Scotland.

- (1) In Scotland, where a liability order has been made against a person, the order shall be warrant anywhere in Scotland—
- (a) for the [^{F1}Secretary of State] to charge the person to pay the appropriate amount and to recover that amount by [^{F2}an attachment] and, in connection therewith, for the opening of shut and lockfast places;
 - (b) for an arrestment (other than an arrestment of the person's earnings in the hands of his employers) and action of furthcoming or sale,
 - [^{F3}(c) for an inhibition.]
- [^{F3}and shall be apt to found a Bill of Inhibition or an action of adjudication at the instance of the Secretary of State.]
- (2) In subsection (1) the “appropriate amount” means the amount in respect of which the order was made, to the extent that it remains unpaid.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 38(1)(a) substituted (1.8.2012) by [The Public Bodies \(Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission: Abolition and Transfer of Functions\) Order 2012 \(S.I. 2012/2007\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 47**
- F2** Words in s. 38(1)(a) substituted (30.12.2002) by [Debt Arrangement and Attachment \(Scotland\) Act 2002 \(asp 17\)](#), s. 64(2), **Sch. 3 para. 20** (with s. 63)
- F3** S. 38(1)(c) substituted for closing words in s. 38(1) (22.4.2009 for specified purposes) by [Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2007 \(asp 3\)](#), s. 227(3), **Sch. 5 para. 18(a)(ii)** (with s. 223); S.S.I. 2009/67, art. 3(2)(3), Sch. 1 (with art. 6)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 38 applied (with modifications) (E.W.) (5.4.1993) by [S.I. 1992/2643](#), **reg.3**
- C2** Ss. 29-41B modified by [The Child Support \(Transitional Provisions\) Regulations 2000 \(S.I. 2000/3186\)](#), **reg. 16(2A)** (as inserted (21.2.2003) by [S.I. 2003/328](#), regs. 1(3)(a), 9(7)(b))

Changes to legislation: Child Support Act 1991, Section 38 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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](#)

C3 S. 38 modified (10.6.2008) by [Child Maintenance and Other Payments Act 2008 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 59(6), 62(3)**; S.I. 2008/1476, art. 2(6)

Changes to legislation:

Child Support Act 1991, Section 38 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 38(2) substituted by [2007 asp 3 Sch. 5 para. 18\(b\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2010/875 reg. 16Sch. 2](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 4(3A)(3B) inserted by [2023 c. 24 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 4(4)(d) and word inserted by [2023 c. 24 s. 1\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 6(2A) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 3 para. 4\(2\)](#)
- s. 7(4A)(4B) inserted by [2023 c. 24 s. 2\(2\)](#)
- s. 7(5)(d) and word inserted by [2023 c. 24 s. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 9A inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 138](#)
- s. 9A(1)(2) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2012 c. 5 s. 138](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 107\(2\)](#)
- s. 9A(3) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2012 c. 5 s. 138](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 107\(2\)](#)
- s. 9A(5) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2012 c. 5 s. 138](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 107\(3\)](#)
- s. 9A(6) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2012 c. 5 s. 138](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 107\(4\)](#)
- s. 20(1)(ba) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(3\)](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 97\(2\)](#)
- s. 20(1)(ba) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- s. 20(2)(aa) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(4\)](#)
- s. 20(3A)(3B) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2012 c. 5 s. Sch. 11 para. 6\(2\)](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 108\(3\)](#)
- s. 20(5A) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(5\)](#)
- s. 20(7A) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(6\)](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 97\(3\)](#)
- s. 20(7A) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(6\)](#)
- s. 20(7A) words substituted by [S.I. 2008/2833 Sch. 3 para. 81\(b\)](#)
- s. 30(5A) added by [1995 c. 34 Sch. 3 para. 9](#)
- s. 31(8)(9) substituted for s. 31(8) by [2008 c. 6 s. 21](#)
- s. 32M32N inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 25](#)
- s. 32M(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2008 c. 6 s. 25](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 79\(2\)](#)
- s. 32M(1) substituted by [2023 c. 35 s. 2](#)
- s. 32M(2) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2008 c. 6 s. 25](#) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 79\(3\)](#)
- s. 32M(3) words substituted by [2023 c. 35 s. 4\(3\)](#)
- s. 32N(2)(ba) inserted by [2023 c. 35 s. 3](#)
- s. 32N(3)-(5) inserted by [2023 c. 35 s. 4\(2\)](#)
- s. 38(1)(aa) inserted by [2007 asp 3 Sch. 5 para. 18\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- s. 38(1)(aa) word substituted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 3 para. 40\(b\)](#) (This amendment will come into force (a) in relation to Scotland, immediately after 2007 asp 3, Sch. 5 par. 18(a)(i) comes into force, and (b) in relation to England and Wales, immediately after 2007 asp 3, Sch. 5 par. 18(a)(i) extends to England and Wales. See [S.I. 2008/2675, art. 2](#))

- s. 39B(3)(b)(c) words substituted by [2010 c. 40 Sch. para. 7\(2\)](#)
- s. 39C(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 39C(1) by [2009 c. 24 s. 51\(3\)](#)
- s. 39E(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 5 para. 5\(3\)](#)
- s. 39F(2)(e) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 Sch. 5 para. 6 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 100\(4\)](#)
- s. 39F(2)(f) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 Sch. 5 para. 6 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 100\(4\)](#)
- s. 39H-39Q inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 28](#)
- s. 39H(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 39H(2)-(5) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 39K(2) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(3\)](#)
- s. 39K(4)(5) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(3\)](#)
- s. 39K(6) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(3\)](#)
- s. 39M(2)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(4\)](#)
- s. 39N(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(5\)](#)
- s. 39N(7)(8) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(5\)](#)
- s. 39P(2)(g) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(6\)](#)
- s. 39Q(2)(c) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 28 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 81\(7\)](#)
- s. 39CA39CB inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 51\(4\)](#)
- s. 39CA(11) omitted by [S.I. 2015/583 Sch. 2 para. 7](#)
- s. 39CB(5)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(4) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 39CB(6)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(4) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 39DA heading amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(5) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 39DA inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 51\(5\)](#)
- s. 39DA(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(5) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 39DA(2) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(5) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(5\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 39DA(3) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 51(5) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 99\(5\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 40(2A) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 40(2A)-(2D) inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 29\(1\)](#)
- s. 40(2B) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 40(2D)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 40(10)-(10C) substituted for s. 40(10) by [2008 c. 6 s. 29\(2\)](#)
- s. 40A(A1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(3) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 40A(A2) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(3) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 40A(A1)-(A4) inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 29\(3\)](#)
- s. 40A(A4)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 29(3) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 82\(3\)\(b\)](#)

- s. 40A(6)(a) words in s. 40A(6) renumbered as s. 40A(6)(a) by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(14\)](#)
- s. 40A(6)(b) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(14\)](#)
- s. 40A(7A)-(7D) inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 29\(4\)](#)
- s. 40B(A1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 30(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 83\(2\)](#)
- s. 40B(A3) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 30(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 83\(3\)](#)
- s. 40B(A1)-(1) substituted for heading and s. 40B(1) by [2008 c. 6 s. 30\(1\)](#)
- s. 40B(A5)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 30(1) by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 83\(3\)](#)
- s. 40B(10)-(10C) substituted for s. 40B(10) by [2008 c. 6 s. 30\(2\)](#)
- s. 40B(13) inserted by [2008 c. 6 Sch. 7 para. 1\(18\)](#)
- s. 49A inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 34](#)
- s. 49A(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(2\)](#)
- s. 49A(2)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(3\)](#)
- s. 49A(3) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(4\)](#)
- s. 49A(4) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(5\)](#)
- s. 49A(5)(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(6\)](#)
- s. 49A(8)(b) words inserted by [2023 c. 24 s. 3\(4\)](#)
- s. 49A(9)(d) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(6\)](#)
- s. 49A(10)(b) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(6\)](#)
- s. 49A(10)(c) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 34 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 86\(6\)](#)
- s. 49B49C inserted by [2008 c. 6 s. 39](#)
- s. 49B(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 39 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 87\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 49B(1) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 39 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 87\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 49B(2)(c) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 39 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 87\(3\)](#)
- s. 49B(3)(b) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2008 c. 6 s. 39 by [S.I. 2012/2007 Sch. para. 87\(3\)](#)
- s. 50(5)(da) inserted by [S.I. 2008/2833 Sch. 3 para. 95\(e\)](#)
- s. 52(2A)(aa) inserted by [2023 c. 35 s. 4\(4\)](#)