



Defamation Act 1996

CHAPTER 31

DEFAMATION ACT 1996

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- 1 Responsibility for publication.

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- 2 Offer to make amends.
- 3 Accepting an offer to make amends.
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- 8 Summary disposal of claim.
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- 11 Summary disposal: application to Northern Ireland.

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- 12 Evidence of convictions.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Defamation Act 1996. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Evidence concerning proceedings in Parliament

13 Evidence concerning proceedings in Parliament.

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14 Reports of court proceedings absolutely privileged.
15 Reports, &c. protected by qualified privilege.

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17 Interpretation.

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18 Extent.
19 Commencement.
20 Short title and saving.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Qualified privilege

Part I — STATEMENTS HAVING QUALIFIED PRIVILEGE WITHOUT
EXPLANATION OR CONTRADICTION

1 A fair and accurate report of proceedings in public of...
2 A fair and accurate report of proceedings in public before...
3 A fair and accurate report of proceedings in public of...
4 A fair and accurate report of proceedings in public anywhere...
5 A fair and accurate copy of or extract from any...
6 A notice or advertisement published by or on the authority...
7 A fair and accurate copy of or extract from matter...
8 A fair and accurate copy of or extract from matter...

Part II — STATEMENTS PRIVILEGED SUBJECT TO EXPLANATION OR
CONTRADICTION

9 (1) A fair and accurate copy of or extract from...
10 A fair and accurate copy of or extract from a...
11 (1) A fair and accurate report of proceedings at any...
12 (1) A fair and accurate report of proceedings at any...
13 (1) A fair and accurate report of proceedings at a...
14 A fair and accurate report of any finding or decision...
15 (1) A fair and accurate report of, or copy of...

Part III — SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

16 (1) In this Schedule— “court” includes any tribunal or body...
17 (1) Provision may be made by order identifying—

SCHEDULE 2 — Repeals

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 9(2A)-(2D) inserted by 2005 c. 4 Sch. 4 para. 255
- s. 9(3) text amended by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 52(a)
- s. 9(4) inserted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 52(b)
- s. 20(2) repealed by 2010 asp 13 Sch. 7 para. 64
- s. 20(2) repealed by 2009 c. 25 Sch. 23 Pt. 2
- Sch. 1 para. 15(1)(c) and word inserted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(a)(ii)
- Sch. 1 para. 15(3) inserted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(a)(iv)
- Sch. 1 para. 17(2)(c) and word inserted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(b)(ii)
- Sch. 1 para. 17(4) inserted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(b)(iv)
- Sch. 1 para. 15(1)(a) substituted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(a)(i)
- Sch. 1 para. 17(2)(a) substituted by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(b)(i)
- Sch. 1 para. 11(1)(c) text amended by 2006 c. 32 Sch. 10 para. 40
- Sch. 1 para. 15(2) text amended by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(a)(iii)
- Sch. 1 para. 17(3) text amended by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 18 para. 53(b)(iii)
- Sch. 1 para. 13(4)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2009/1941 Sch. 1 para. 159

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

- Blanket amendment text amended by S.I. 2011/1043 art. 3 4
- Act transfer of functions by S.I. 2010/976 Sch. 17 para. 14

Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the Defamation Act 1996:

Commencement Orders bringing provisions within this Act into force:

- S.I. 2009/2858 art. 3 commences (1996 c. 31)

Commencement Orders bringing legislation that affects this Act into force:

- S.I. 2006/1014 art. 2 Sch. 1 2 commences (2005 c. 4)
- S.S.I. 2011/178 art. 2 commences (2010 asp 13)