



Civil Partnership Act 2004

2004 CHAPTER 33

PART 2

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP: ENGLAND AND WALES

CHAPTER 2

DISSOLUTION, NULLITY AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS

Introduction

37 Powers to make orders and effect of orders

- (1) The court may, in accordance with this Chapter—
- (a) make an order (a “dissolution order”) which dissolves a civil partnership on the ground that it has broken down irretrievably;
 - (b) make an order (a “nullity order”) which annuls a civil partnership which is void or voidable;
 - (c) make an order (a “presumption of death order”) which dissolves a civil partnership on the ground that one of the civil partners is presumed to be dead;
 - (d) make an order (a “separation order”) which provides for the separation of the civil partners.

^{F1}(2)

- (3) A nullity order made where a civil partnership is voidable annuls the civil partnership only as respects any time after the order has been made final, and the civil partnership is to be treated (despite the order) as if it had existed up to that time.

- (4) In this Chapter, other than in sections 58 to 61, “the court” means—

- (a) the High Court, or
- ^{F2}(b) the family court.]

Changes to legislation: Civil Partnership Act 2004, Section 37 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 March 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

(5) This Chapter is subject to sections 219 to 224 (jurisdiction of the court).

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 37(2) omitted (6.4.2022) by virtue of Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 (c. 11), ss. 4(2), 8(1)(8) (with s. 8(7)); S.I. 2022/283, reg. 2
- F2** S. 37(4)(b) substituted (22.4.2014) by Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), s. 61(3), Sch. 11 para. 162; S.I. 2014/954, art. 2(e) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)

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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):

- s. 102(8A) inserted by [2023 asp 3 s. 56\(2\)](#)
- s. 103(10) inserted by [2023 asp 3 s. 56\(5\)](#)
- s. 108(5) inserted by [2023 asp 3 s. 56\(8\)](#)
- s. 213(1A) inserted by [2013 c. 30 Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)](#)