



Civil Partnerships, Marriages and Deaths (Registration etc) Act 2019

2019 CHAPTER 12

4 Coroners' investigations into still-births

- (1) The Secretary of State must make arrangements for the preparation of a report on whether, and if so how, the law ought to be changed to enable or require coroners to investigate still-births.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “still-births” is to be read in accordance with section 41 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish the report prepared under this section.
- (4) After the report has been published, the Lord Chancellor may by regulations amend Part 1 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (coroners etc) to—
 - (a) enable or require coroners to conduct investigations into still-births (whether by treating still-births as deaths or otherwise);
 - (b) specify the circumstances in which those investigations are to take place (including by limiting the duty or power to investigate to certain descriptions of still-birth);
 - (c) provide for the purposes of those investigations;
 - (d) make provision equivalent or similar to provision in that Part relating to investigations into deaths.
- (5) The regulations may not—
 - (a) create any offence, or
 - (b) confer any power to make provision of a legislative character, other than by applying (with necessary modifications), or making equivalent or similar provision to, provision already contained in Part 1 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009.
- (6) No regulations may be made under this section after the period of five years beginning with the day on which the report is published under subsection (3).