



# Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020

## CHAPTER 11

### DIVORCE, DISSOLUTION AND SEPARATION ACT 2020

#### *Divorce and judicial separation*

- 1 Divorce: removal of requirement to establish facts etc
- 2 Judicial separation: removal of factual grounds

#### *Civil partnership: dissolution and separation*

- 3 Dissolution: removal of requirement to establish facts
- 4 Dissolution orders: time limits
- 5 Separation: removal of factual grounds

#### *General*

- 6 Minor and consequential amendments
- 7 Extent
- 8 Commencement and transitional provision
- 9 Short title

---

#### SCHEDULE — Minor and consequential amendments

##### PART 1 — AMENDMENTS TO THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ACT 1973

- 1 The Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 is amended as follows.
- 2 Omit section 2 (supplemental provisions as to facts raising presumption...)
- 3 In section 3 (bar on petitions for divorce within one...)
- 4 Omit section 4 (divorce not precluded by previous judicial separation)....

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020. (See end of Document for details)*

---

- 5 Omit section 5 (refusal of decree in five year separation...
- 6 In section 6 (attempts at reconciliation of parties to marriage)—...
- 7 In section 7 (consideration by the court of certain agreements...
- 8 In section 8 (intervention of Queen's Proctor)—
- 9 In section 9 (proceedings after decree nisi: general powers of...
- 10 In section 10 (proceedings after decree nisi: special protection for...
- 11 In section 10A (proceedings after decree nisi: religious marriage)—
- 12 After section 12A insert— The period before nullity of marriage...
- 13 (1) Section 13 (bars to relief where marriage is voidable)...
- 14 For section 15 (application of sections 1(5), 8 and 9...
- 15 (1) Section 16 (effect of decree of nullity in case...
- 16 In section 18 (effects of judicial separation)—
- 17 Omit section 20 (relief for respondent in divorce proceedings) and...
- 18 In section 21 (financial provision and property adjustment orders)—
- 19 In section 22 (maintenance pending suit), in subsection (1)—
- 20 (1) Section 23 (financial provision orders in connection with divorce...
- 21 (1) Section 24 (property adjustment orders in connection with divorce...
- 22 (1) Section 24A (orders for sale of property) is amended...
- 23 (1) Section 24B (pension sharing orders in connection with divorce...
- 24 (1) Section 24E (pension compensation sharing orders in connection with...
- 25 (1) Section 25A (exercise of court's powers in favour of...
- 26 In section 26 (commencement of proceedings for ancillary relief etc) —...
- 27 (1) Section 28 (duration of continuing financial provision orders in...
- 28 In section 30 (direction for settlement of instrument for securing...
- 29 (1) Section 31 (variation, discharge etc of certain orders for...
- 30 In section 47 (matrimonial relief and declarations of validity in...
- 31 (1) Section 49 (parties to proceedings under this Act) is...
- 32 After section 52 insert— Interpretation of certain references to divorce...
- 33 In Schedule 1 (transitional provisions and savings)—
- PART 2 — AMENDMENTS TO THE CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
- 34 The Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- 35 In section 40 (proceedings before order has been made final),...
- 36 In section 41 (time bar on applications for dissolution orders),...
- 37 In section 42 (attempts at reconciliation of civil partners), in...
- 38 Omit section 45 (supplemental provisions as to facts raising presumption...
- 39 Omit section 46 (dissolution order not precluded by previous separation...
- 40 Omit section 47 (refusal of dissolution in 5 year separation...
- 41 In section 48 (proceedings before order made final: protection for...
- 42 Omit section 62 (relief for respondent in dissolution proceedings).
- PART 3 — AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS
- 43 In section 18A of the Wills Act 1837 (effect of...
- 44 (1) The Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975...
- 45 In the Legitimacy Act 1976, in section 10 (interpretation), in...
- 46 In section 18 of the Senior Courts Act 1981 (restrictions...
- 47 In the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, in section...
- 48 (1) The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 is amended...
- 49 In the Finance Act 1985, in section 83 (transfers in...
- 50 In the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986, in Schedule 6 (eligibility...
- 51 (1) The Family Law Act 1986 is amended as follows....

- 52 In the Children Act 1989, in section 6 (guardians: revocation...
- 53 In section 225B of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act...
- 54 (1) Schedule 7 to the Family Law Act 1996 (transfer...
- 55 In the Finance Act 2003, in Schedule 3 (stamp duty...
- 56 In section 5 of the Gender Recognition Act 2004 (issue...
- 57 (1) Section 55D of the Income Tax Act 2007 (procedure...
- 58 In Schedule 1 to the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax...
- 59 (1) In Schedule 3 to the Land Transaction Tax and...
- 60 In the Wills and Administration Proceedings (Northern Ireland) Order 1994...

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020.